How Not to
Review a Patch

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What's Patch Review?

What's Patch Review?

- ▶ Test new features
- ▶ Maintain consistent code
- ▶ Advance the project

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Sounds neat. Can I help?

Can I help?

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No.

Why Can't I Help?

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► It takes too much time

Why Can't I Help?

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- ▶ It takes too much time
  - ▶ Most PostgreSQL contributors are independently wealthy, and work in PostgreSQL all day

Why Can't I Help?

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What's Patch
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Can I help?

Why Can't I Help?

What if I've
Already Started
Helping?

The Truth

Here's How

- ▶ It takes too much time
  - ▶ Most PostgreSQL contributors are independently wealthy, and work in PostgreSQL all day
- ▶ You have to understand all the code

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  - ▶ Or at least some of it

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  - ▶ Only C experts will be admitted

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- ▶ No one wants your help anyway

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  - ▶ PostgreSQL people haven't ever heard of you before

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  - ▶ They don't like newcomers

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  - ▶ They don't like newcomers
  - ▶ (they're really mean)

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- ▶ Ok, you've volunteered

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- ▶ Ok, you've volunteered
  - ▶ Your name is on the wiki

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- ▶ Ok, you've volunteered
  - ▶ Your name is on the wiki
  - ▶ You've answered an email on -hackers

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- Just disappear

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- Just disappear
  - Josh Berkus will love you

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- ▶ Just disappear
  - ▶ Josh Berkus will love you
  - ▶ ... he'll send you emails every week

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- ▶ Just disappear
  - ▶ Josh Berkus will love you
  - ▶ ... he'll send you emails every week
- ▶ Better, tell -hackers, "I got it to compile"

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- Just disappear
  - Josh Berkus will love you
  - ... he'll send you emails every week
- Better, tell -hackers, "I got it to compile"
  - ...and then disappear

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  - ▶ Josh Berkus will love you
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- ▶ Better, tell -hackers, "I got it to compile"
  - ▶ ...and then disappear
- ▶ Or just quit worrying

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- ▶ Just disappear
    - ▶ Josh Berkus will love you
    - ▶ ... he'll send you emails every week
- ▶ Better, tell -hackers, "I got it to compile"
    - ▶ ...and then disappear
- ▶ Or just quit worrying
    - ▶ If you can't review the code, your input isn't valued anyway

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Everything you have just been told is false

The Truth

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▶ PostgreSQL wants your help

The Truth

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- PostgreSQL wants your help
- ... even if you're not a programmer

The Truth

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- ▶ PostgreSQL wants your help
- ▶ ... even if you're not a programmer
- ▶ ... even if you've never contributed before

The Truth

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- ▶ PostgreSQL wants your help
- ▶ ... even if you're not a programmer
- ▶ ... even if you've never contributed before
- ▶ ... even if you're not sure what you're doing

Here's How

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▶ Read -hackers

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- ▶ Read -hackers
- ▶ Find a patch

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- ▶ Read -hackers
- ▶ Find a patch
- ▶ Apply it

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- ▶ Read -hackers
- ▶ Find a patch
- ▶ Apply it
- ▶ Test anything you can think of

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- ▶ Find a patch
- ▶ Apply it
- ▶ Test anything you can think of
  - ▶ Even if you think it's st00pid

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- ▶ Read -hackers
- ▶ Find a patch
- ▶ Apply it
- ▶ Test anything you can think of
    - ▶ Even if you think it's st00pid
- ▶ Publish your results

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- ▶ Read -hackers
- ▶ Find a patch
- ▶ Apply it
- ▶ Test anything you can think of
  - ▶ Even if you think it's st00pid
- ▶ Publish your results
- ▶ Answer questions

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- ▶ Read -hackers
- ▶ Find a patch
- ▶ Apply it
- ▶ Test anything you can think of
  - ▶ Even if you think it's st00pid
- ▶ Publish your results
- ▶ Answer questions
- ▶ Rinse, repeat

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KTHXBYE