

Re: Time to ditch "SSCCE"?

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.help/2005-10/msg00266.html>

- *From:* Chris Smith <cdsmith@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 7 Oct 2005 11:46:07 -0600
-

Roedy Green <my_email_is_posted_on_my_website@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

> Perhaps some conditioning is in order.

>

No, it's not. There's this little problem called human dignity. Conditioning is for pets and small children. Respect is for fellow adults. If you don't like some person or group, no one is forcing you to interact with them.

> So long as people can sometimes get answers without posting code, they
> will always try that first. They don't care how frustrating it is for
> those trying to help them.

Yep, maybe they will. If you're frustrated, ignore them.

> On our side, we should relax the request for short code. If it is too
> long for a post, put it up on a website somewhere as a zip. For those
> without websites, perhaps someone would volunteer space.

I think that's exactly the wrong thing to ask for. I, for example, very rarely pay much attention to posts that contain more than a screen-full or so of code, unless they also contain a short, succinct description so that I don't really have to read the code. If code absolutely has to be incomplete (i.e., not compilable) to fit that need, then fine. I DEFINITELY don't want to see unnecessary details, and I don't want to comb through 2000 lines of code to find a problem when the OP had clues about where the problem occurs.

It bears mentioning that most reasonable people will read code by hand before compiling and running it, anyway. To do otherwise is simply asking for someone to post code that really screws you over. So anything that I can't read by hand and vet for harmful side-effects in less than a couple minutes is pretty much out of consideration. Anything I have to download from a web site is pretty much completely out. Someone better have a way to convince me that I might be able to say something about their problem BEFORE I go download a zip file from their web site.

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• **References:**

◆ **[Re: Time to ditch "SSCCE"?](#)**

◇ *From:* Andrew Thompson

◆ **[Re: Time to ditch "SSCCE"?](#)**

◇ *From:* Roedy Green

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