

**Docs**  
*or it didn't happen*

**Милана Сав @djevnaLoperka**

If you are:

**@Developer**  
**erka**



# If you are:

- trying to be an open source **contributor**

**@Developer**  
**erka**



# If you are:

- trying to be an open source **contributor**
- trying to be an open source **user**

**@Developer**  
**erka**



# If you are:

- trying to be an open source **contributor**
- trying to be an open source **user**
- trying to be an open source **maintainer**

**@Developer**  
**erka**



Is it *really* needed?

@Djevalo  
perka



# Misconceptions:

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# Misconceptions:

- “Code should be **self-documented**.”

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# Misconceptions:

- “Code should be **self-documented**.”
- “It’s obvious how to use our software. **Users will know**.”

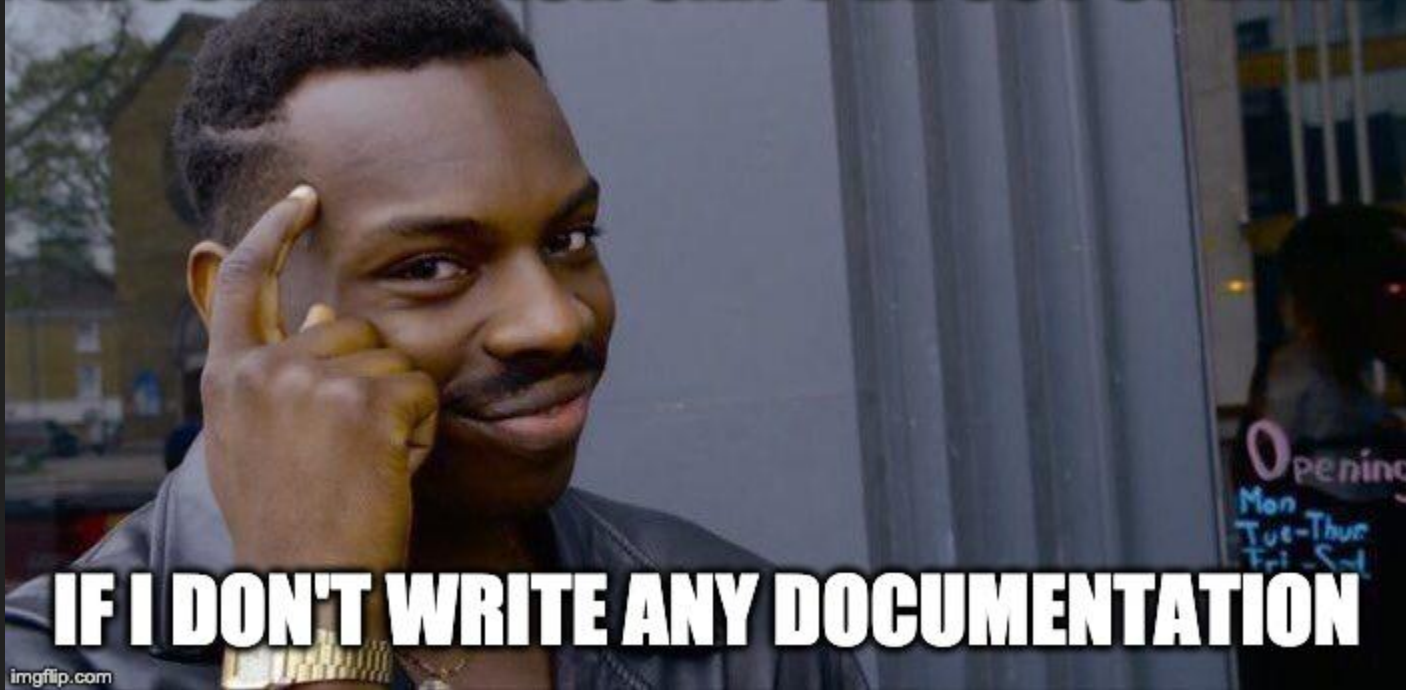


# Misconceptions:

- “Code should be **self-documented**.”
- “It’s obvious how to use our software. **Users will know**.”
- “**Real developers** write code and have no time for docs.”



**DOCUMENTATION CAN'T BE OUT OF DATE**



**IF I DON'T WRITE ANY DOCUMENTATION**

imgflip.com

**@Developerka**





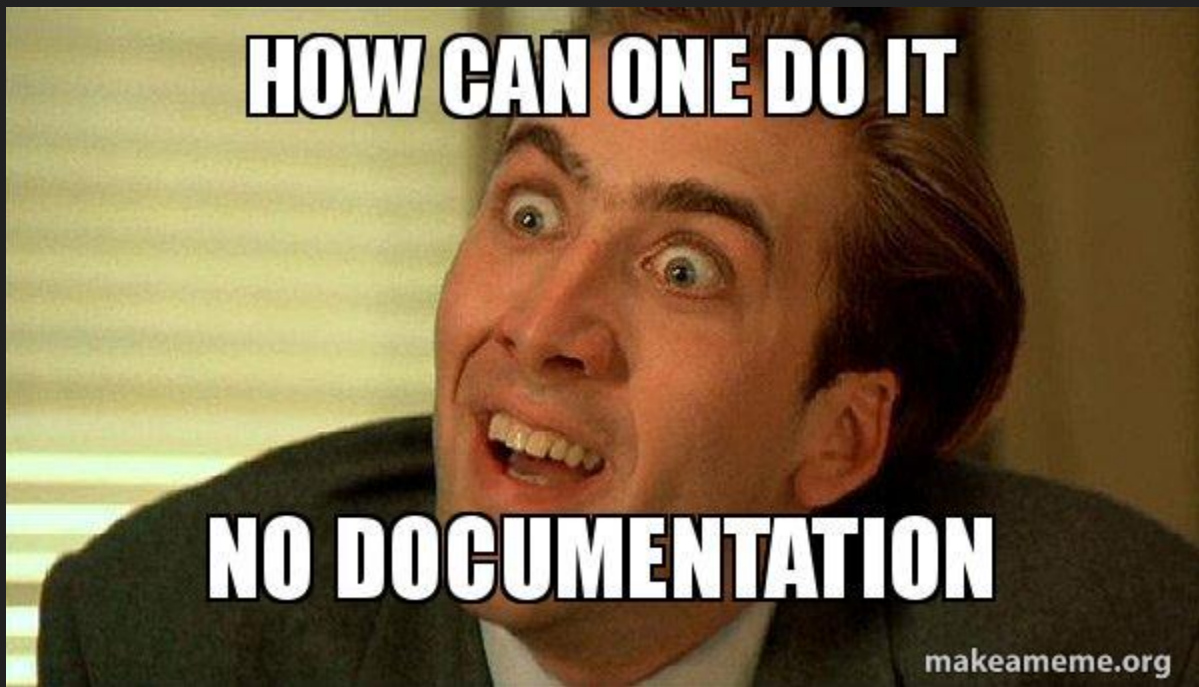
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erka**



**I HAVE WRITTEN MY OWN DOCUMENTATION FOR YOUR SOFTWARE**

**FOR YOUR GUIDE IS LONG AND FULL OF ERRORS**

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# *Making* WordPress Docs

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# Pros

# Cons

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# Pros

- Everyone can edit

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**erka**

# Cons



# Pros

- Everyone can edit
- One account needed

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# Cons



# Pros

- Everyone can edit
- One account needed
- Version control

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**erka**

# Cons



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# Codex

# New docs

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**erka**





# Codex

- Wiki

**@Developer**  
**erka**

# New docs

- WordPress



# Codex

- Wiki
- One account

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**erka**

# New docs

- WordPress
- At least two accounts



# Codex

- Wiki
- One account
- Everyone can create docs

# New docs

- WordPress
- At least two accounts
- Few can create docs



# Codex

- Wiki
- One account
- Everyone can create docs
- Maintenance nightmare

# New docs

- WordPress
- At least two accounts
- Few can create docs
- Maintenance controlled



# The issue of *reporting issues*

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# End user docs:

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# End user docs:

- Project code name “HelpHub”

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# End user docs:

- Project code name “HelpHub”
- [wordpress.org/support](https://wordpress.org/support)

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# End user docs:

- Project code name “HelpHub”
- [wordpress.org/support](https://wordpress.org/support)
- Two parts:



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- Project code name “HelpHub”
- [wordpress.org/support](https://wordpress.org/support)
- Two parts:
  - General



# End user docs:

- Project code name “HelpHub”
- [wordpress.org/support](https://wordpress.org/support)
- Two parts:
  - General
  - Block editor



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- Two parts:
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  - **Block editor**



# Developer docs:

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erka**



# Developer docs:

- Project code name “DevHub”

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erka**



# Developer docs:

- Project code name “DevHub”
- [developer.wordpress.org](https://developer.wordpress.org)

**@Djevalop  
erka**





# Developer docs:

- Project code name “DevHub”
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- 8 handbooks: **Code reference**, Coding standards, **Block editor**, **Common APIs**, **Themes**, **Plugins**, REST API and WP-CLI



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# Contributor docs:

**@DjevaLop**  
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# Contributor docs:

- Team's blog and handbook

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# Contributor docs:

- Team's blog and handbook
- [make.wordpress.org](https://make.wordpress.org)

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# Contributor docs:

- Team's blog and handbook
- [make.wordpress.org](https://make.wordpress.org)
- Contribution processes

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**erka**





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# The perfect tool:

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# The perfect tool:

- Reporting issues on the spot

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# The perfect tool:

- Reporting issues on the spot
- Not creating additional work for active contributors

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**erka**



# The perfect tool:

- Reporting issues on the spot
- Not creating additional work for active contributors
- Automate everything

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**erka**



# The perfect tool:

- Reporting issues on the spot
- Not creating additional work for active contributors
- Automate everything
- Doesn't exist but GitHub will do 🙄





# The transition tool:

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# The transition tool:

- A central place for reporting all issues

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# The transition tool:

- A central place for reporting all issues - possibility for extending



# The transition tool:

- A central place for reporting all issues - possibility for extending
- A central place for working on any issue



# The transition tool:

- A central place for reporting all issues - possibility for extending
- A central place for working on any issue - removing bottleneck



# The transition tool:

- A central place for reporting all issues - possibility for extending
- A central place for working on any issue - removing bottleneck
- Contribution recognition



# What about *Gutenberg*

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# Gutenberg:

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erka**





# Gutenberg:

- PHP + React.js

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**erka**



# Gutenberg:

- PHP + React.js
- Change will always be rejected by some

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**erka**



# Gutenberg:

- PHP + React.js
- Change will always be rejected by some
- Documentation debt

**@Developerka**



**The best documentation  
is written by those who are  
using it.**

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erka**



# Long story short..

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erka**



# Moving forward:

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erka**



# Moving forward:

- Google Season of Docs 2020

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# Moving forward:

- Google Season of Docs 2020
- WordPress releases

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# Moving forward:

- Google Season of Docs 2020
- WordPress releases
- Collaborating with other teams

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**erka**



# Moving forward:

- Google Season of Docs 2020
- WordPress releases
- Collaborating with other teams
- Paired programming / documenting

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**Document the documentation**



**We need to go deeper**

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# Resources:

- <https://www.writethedocs.org/guide/>
- <https://developers.google.com/tech-writing>
- <https://readthedocs.org/>
- <https://opensource.com/resources/what-open-source>
- Join WordPress community at <https://make.wordpress.org/>

**@DeveloperKa**



# Miliana Cap

**WordPress engineer at XWP**  
**WordPress Documentation Team**  
**representative**

**Twitter:** [@DievaLope](https://twitter.com/DievaLope)

**GitHub:** [rka](https://github.com/rka)

**WordPress:** [@zzap](https://wordpress.org/users/zzap)

**WordPress:** [@miliana\\_ca](https://wordpress.org/users/miliana_ca)

**Slack:** [p](#)

**Email:** [@zzap](mailto:zzap@xwp.co)

[miliana.cap](mailto:miliana.cap@xwp.co)

[@xwp.co](mailto:@xwp.co)



# Thank you

**Milana Cap**

[@Dievalope](#)

[rka](#)

**Twitter:** [@zzap](#)

**GitHub:** [@milana\\_ca](#)

**WordPress:** [p](#)

**WordPress:** [@zzap](#)

**Slack:** [milana.cap](#)

**Email:** [@xwp.co](#)