

Essential skills for study and employment in software development.

From my understanding and research, software development requires a combination of technical expertise and transferable skills developed throughout higher education; programming languages and software engineering principles are also essential to becoming a skilled and successful software dev. Employers also value communication, teamwork, problem-solving abilities, and continuous learning. These skills enable graduates to adapt quickly to rapidly advancing technologies and work effectively within multidisciplinary teams or systems [1] [2]

Communication is important to clients and collaborating with colleagues. Strong written communication also helps developers produce clear documentation and maintainable code. Problem-solving skills allow developers to analyze complex issues, identify efficient solutions, and debug software effectively [3].

Time management and organization are beyond valuable during life and employment. Managing coursework deadlines prepares one for delivering projects within strict commercial timescales. Working in academic groups from a young age helps develop teamwork skills that are used every day in software development. Software developers need to work together, share ideas, and communicate well to complete projects successfully. [4].

Digital literacy and the ability to learn independently are becoming more important as programming languages, software frameworks, and cybersecurity continue to change. As a future software developer, I'll need to keep learning new technologies and improve my skills even after graduating to stay up to date with industry standards. AI tools like ChatGPT or Claude can also be useful for learning, as they can explain difficult concepts, generate sample code, and help identify errors when debugging. [5].

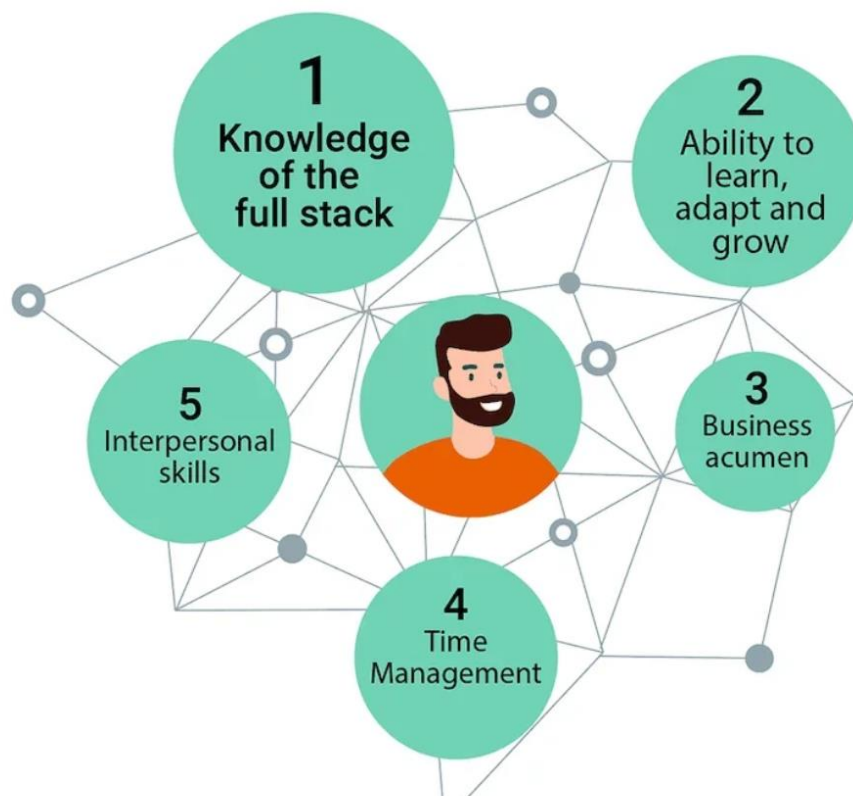
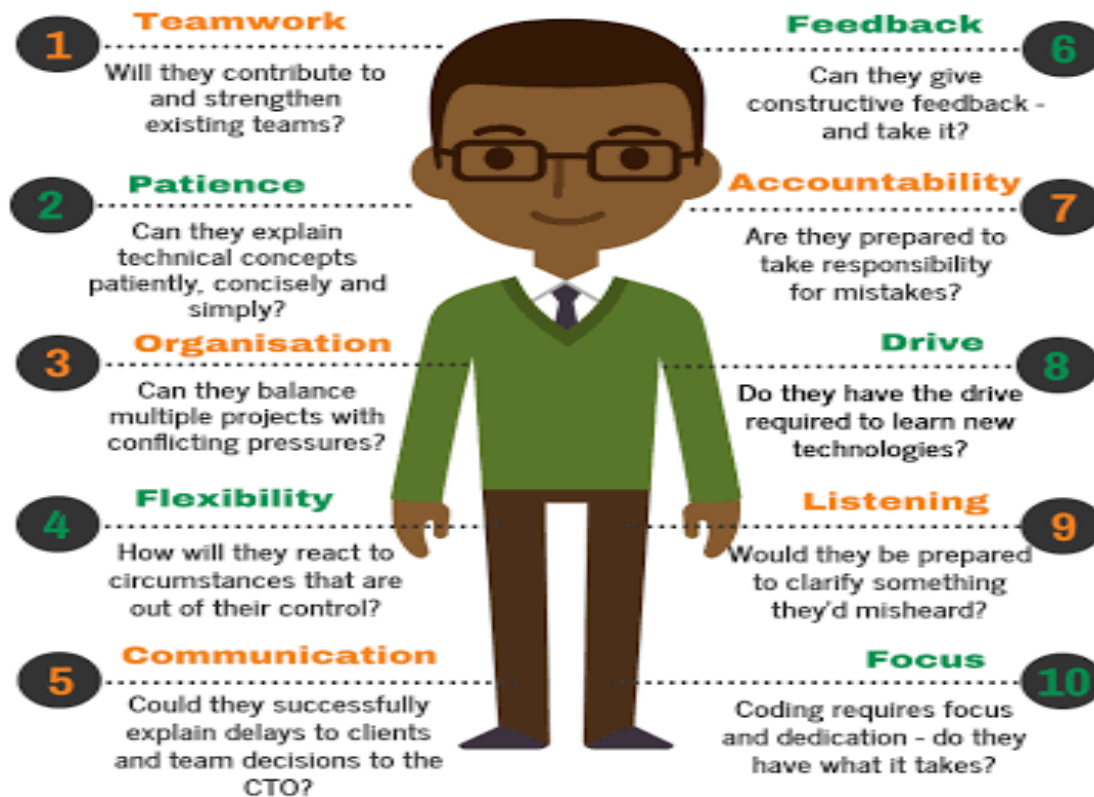


Figure 1- **A poster representing the skills need to become sucessful in software development**

Do your developer candidates have these 10 soft skills?



Checklist:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Teamwork | ☐ | 6. Constructive feedback | ☐ |
| 2. Patience | ☐ | 7. Accountability | ☐ |
| 3. Organisation | ☐ | 8. Drive | ☐ |
| 4. Flexibility | ☐ | 9. Listening skills | ☐ |
| 5. Communication skills | ☐ | 10. Focus | ☐ |

Figure 2 - A poster representing the soft skills needed to become a software dev.

References

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