

Commit Guidelines

1. Commit your code in logically digestible increments.
2. Write well formed commit messages.

Commit Messages

Well formed commit messages are critical to the agency's development process. As per best practice, the agency adheres to the following commit message guideline (remember to always include the request ID):

```
Request #[request_id] - Short (50 chars or less) summary of changes
```

```
More detailed explanatory text, if necessary. Wrap it to about 72
characters or so. In some contexts, the first line is treated as the
subject of an email and the rest of the text as the body. The blank
line separating the summary from the body is critical (unless you omit
the body entirely); tools like rebase can get confused if you run the
two together.
```

```
Further paragraphs come after blank lines.
```

```
- Bullet points are okay, too
```

```
- Typically a hyphen or asterisk is used for the bullet, preceded by a
single space, with blank lines in between, but conventions vary here
```

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Multiple Birds / One Stone:

- The commit message takes the place of the release notes. Even better, these notes are directly tied to the files that changed.
- The commit message is also used as the Development Notes in the defect tracker.