

# NANOG 67's Hackthon

**NANOG 67**

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**facebook**

**what is a  
hackathon?**

**hack·a·thon (\'hak-ə- ,thän\) n.**

- 1. an event in which a large number of people meet to engage in collaborative programming to solve new and interesting problems, sometimes with Beer. See HACK.**

**"to hack"**

## **hack (\'hak\) v. -**

- 1. to modify a computer program or electronic device or write (a program) in a skillful or clever way**
- 2. to write computer programs for enjoyment**
- 3. to make something work in a short period of time by usually taking shortcuts (a quick prototype)**

**types of "hacks"**

## **software:**

- **automating the generation of an email ("hey, will you peer us?")**
- **building a tool for safely rolling config changes**
- **integrating an open-source project with your infrastructure**

## **hardware:**

- **Raspberry Pi's, Arduino's, LEDs, ...**

## **documentation:**

**"hacking" vs  
"the day job"**



## **day job:**

- **email, tickets, customers...**
- **change requests, peer reviews, being on-call!**
- **writing code... maybe, if there's time?**

## **hackathon:**

- **a mental escape from the day to day**
- **a place for "getting things done" (and blocked off on your calendar)**

# Sunday's hackathon

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**~50 in attendance:**

- **network & systems engineers**
- **academics & students**
- **managers & ...**
- **from big name companies and "never heard of them" too.**
- **with lots of coding background and none**

# Sunday's hackathon

## projects:

- **am I dead? (rt blackhole detection)**
- **picon (dynamic console servers)**
- **takeoff ("preflight" testing for network devices)**
- **two by two (desktop messaging client)**
- **nicinfo (command-line RDAP client)**
- **netdb (a source of truth for your network)**

# Sunday's hackathon

## groups:

- **self-organized**
- **a recruiting model -- "pitch your hack"**
- **"musical chairs"**

# Sunday's hackathon

## working together:

- **divide and conquer**
- **pair programming (shared VPS host)**
- **parallel competition (the better mouse trap wins)**

**pair programming?**

## **Pair Programming:**

**an agile software development technique in which two programmers work together at one workstation.**

**One, the driver, writes code while the other, the observer or navigator,[1] reviews each line of code as it is typed in.**

**The two programmers switch roles frequently.**



# **Sunday's hackathon**

## **showing off their work!**

- **ended the day via a prototype forum**
- **leader or full group shared their work**
- **a nice mini round of recognition for a hard day's work**

# Sunday's hackathon

## ingredients for success:

- informality is the key
- but, it must be organized!

**the only rule of a hackathon.....**

**is that *you must hack!***

**and have fun!**