



Actionable Code Ownership

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SRE @ Pinterest

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About Me



Anika Mukherji

**Core Product SRE
@ Pinterest**

**Boxing, cocktails,
cosmology**

Why is it important to think about ownership?

Reliability



Scalability



Velocity



Why is ownership difficult?

Re-orgs



Generalists

Those who seems to know a surprising amount about everything

Tech Debt

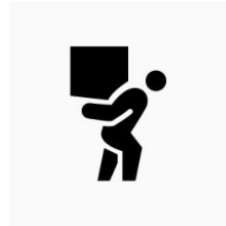


What things are important to think about in ownership?

Accountability vs Initiative



Common Responsibilities



Lines of code vs Functionality

Homefeed teams owns homefeed code vs Homefeed team owns homefeed.py

How to define Ownership?

- Ownership can take many different forms
- What sort of responsibilities are you trying to distribute?
- What is feasible to ask teams to take on?
- **IMPORTANT:** Define contract between owners & platform
 - Two-way conversation
 - Versioning

Technical Solutions

- Ownership should be codified and queryable
- **Many solutions** - decorators, file annotations, context managers, formatted comments
- Easy look up: Slack integration, etc
- Validation + DB update on commit
- Easily repeatable audit of PagerDuty settings

```
@owned_by("homefeed")
def homefeed_endpoint():
    ...
```

-> on import

```
OWNED_ENTITIES = set()
REGISTERED_OWNERS = set()
```

-> query DB & Pagerduty

Making Ownership Actionable

Empowering owners

- Ability to set custom “settings” on API endpoints
- Self-serve dashboards and metrics
- Standard alerts that route to owners
- Runbooks, guides
- **IMPORTANT:** Encourage self-service, emphasize code -> feature relationship

```
@owned_by("homefeed")
@api_endpoint(
    qps=settings.ENDPOINT_LOW_QPS,
    criticality=settings.ENDPOINT_CRITICAL
)
def homefeed_endpoint():
    ...
```


Communications

- **Clear message of expectations**
- **Marketing ownership as a new feature rather than a new responsibility - focus on the **WHY****
- **Identify **single engineer POC** (in addition to manager) for onboarding**
- **Patience**



Thank you!

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