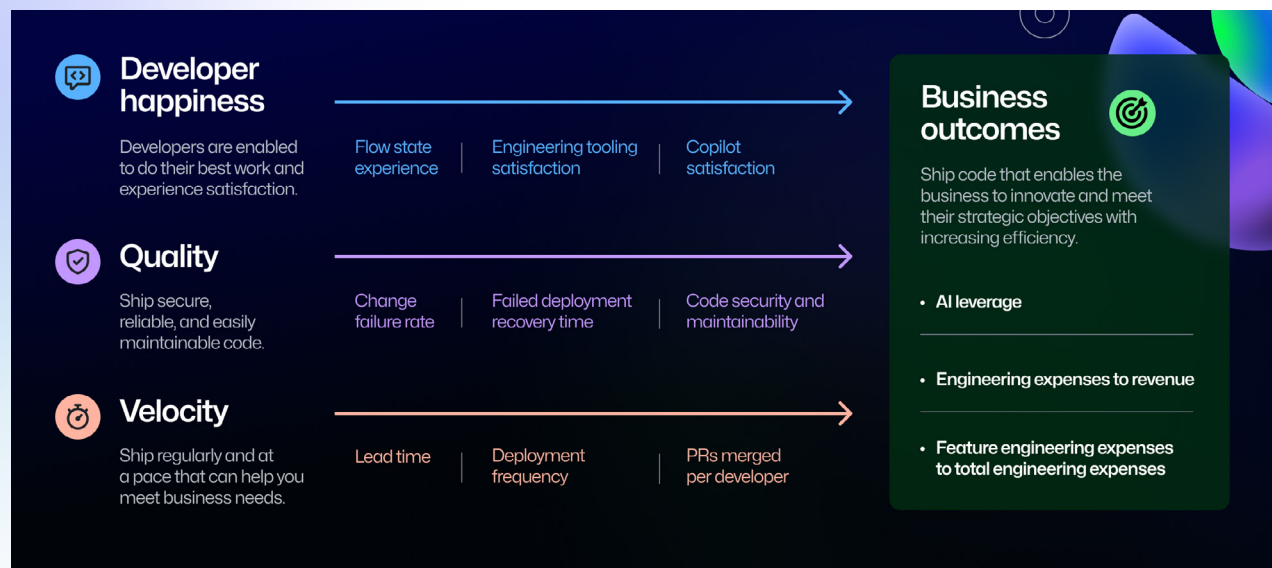# GitHub Engineering System Success Playbook
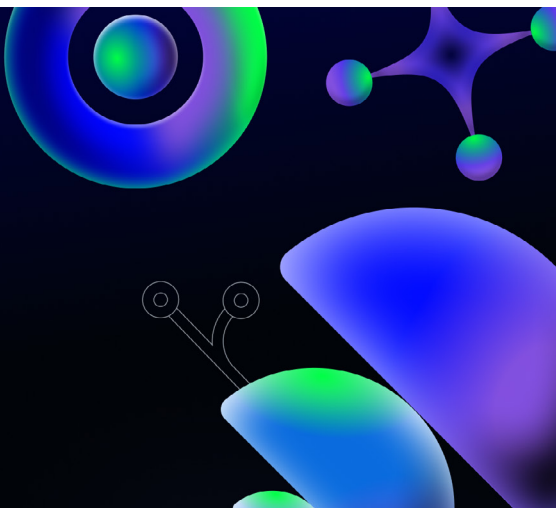
Set-up for Engineering Success

At GitHub, we believe that better business outcomes aren't about good-quality code, speed, or developer happiness in isolation. It's when the zones of quality, velocity, and developer happiness are **working in unison** that organizations drive outcomes.

Want engineering to deliver more value to your business? Start by strengthening these foundational zones and creating an engineering system that drives business success. Whether you're adopting a new AI tool, like GitHub Copilot, or addressing bottlenecks to performance, GitHub's Engineering System Success Playbook (ESSP) offers a proven, three-step approach to help create measurable improvements.

Developer happiness

Developers are enabled to do their best work and experience satisfaction.

Flow state experience | Engineering tooling satisfaction | Copilot satisfaction

Quality

Ship secure, reliable, and easily maintainable code.

Change failure rate | Failed deployment recovery time | Code security and maintainability

Velocity

Ship regularly and at a pace that can help you meet business needs.

Lead time | Deployment frequency | PRs merged per developer

Business outcomes

Ship code that enables the business to innovate and meet their strategic objectives with increasing efficiency.

- AI leverage
- Engineering expenses to revenue
- Feature engineering expenses to total engineering expenses

Three steps to engineering success

1. **Identify** the current barriers to success

2. **Evaluate** what needs to be done to achieve your target goal

3. **Implement** your changes, monitor the results, and adjust

At the heart of our ESSP is a systems thinking approach that prioritizes long-term, sustainable improvements. As you implement we recommend keeping a few concepts in mind:

- Always bring a team perspective to improvement
- Select and use metrics with care to avoid gamification
- Balance the cost of measurement with the benefits of measurement
- Focus on improvements over time rather than overindexing on benchmarks

Engineering teams have the potential to fuel incredible change and accelerate business outcomes. With GitHub's ESSP, you can unlock engineering's potential through creating a culture of excellence that inspires and supports engineers to do their best work.

Ready to unlock your engineering team's potential?

Download the ESSP