Engineer Advisory

Set a zero-warnings bar across six languages

Set a zero-warnings quality bar across six languages — Go, TypeScript, SQL, Python, Shell and Markdown — enforced by pre-commit hooks.

2025

six languages held to a zero-warnings bar

Situation. Warnings that pile up are quietly corrosive. Every diagnostic you ignore lowers the bar a little, and once the build spits out forty of them nobody reads any of them, and a real problem sits in that list in plain sight because “warnings” have become background noise. In a polyglot codebase there are that many more sources of noise to let it happen.

Task. The repo needed one uncompromising quality bar across every language, so things got fixed instead of accumulating.

Action. A zero-warnings policy went in, with the tooling as the thing that enforces it, because a policy that relies on everyone’s vigilance loses to the first busy week. Every linter diagnostic is an error — there’s no “warn” tier to hide in — and it’s the same across the whole stack: Go with golangci-lint, TypeScript with ESLint, SQL with SQLFluff, Python with Ruff, shell with ShellCheck, Markdown with markdownlint. Inline suppressions are banned, so you can’t paper over a diagnostic; you have to actually fix the thing. Pre-commit and pre-push hooks run the linters and the tests; failures in the covered rule and test set block the corresponding commit or push. There are even function- and file-length limits, to keep modules from sprawling past the point of being readable.

Result. Problems get fixed at the source instead of deferred into a backlog nobody clears, and the codebase stays clean by default rather than by periodic heroics. The standard is identical whatever language you’re in, and it’s the tooling holding it — not anyone’s willpower — which is why it actually holds.

Bring this experience to your project

Use “Set a zero-warnings bar across six languages” as a starting point for a similar challenge in your organisation. The services behind this work are available for your project. Somebody on your side of the table when a supplier, a budget or an architecture decision needs a second informed opinion.

Explore our services Get in touch →

Look behind the result

Read the situation, decisions and result in this example. We can discuss which parts transfer to your constraints and which need another approach. Set a zero-warnings bar across six languages — six languages held to a zero-warnings bar

Explore our services Get in touch →

Want a codebase that stays clean?

Talk through your project with the engineer responsible for delivery. We agree the scope, price basis and handover in writing before work begins.

Role context: Head of Engineering. It draws on DevOps, Automation & CI/CD, Testing & QA, Technical Leadership and Documentation. And while you are here, we are rather good at DevOps & CI/CD Automation and Technical Leadership & Consulting.

Get in touch Explore our services

One piece of **a longer record** — and it is all on this site.

Every entry is written the same way: the situation, the task, what we did and what changed.

See the whole record

Define the improvement you need

Bring the decision, the people affected and the options already considered. We can make the tradeoffs explicit and leave a documented recommendation.

See what it costs Get in touch →

Want a codebase that stays clean?

Ask about the decisions behind “Set a zero-warnings bar across six languages”. You will speak with the people who can explain the work and assess your own project.

Explore our services

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Take this page with you

Contact card

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