

Best Practices for Notebook Users

- NBP1 Ensure that your Notebook runs correctly after completion
 - Develop the Notebook
 - Take a temporary copy of the Notebook
 - Clear the Notebook
 - Run and confirm the results match the temporary copy
 - Fix (if this is not the case)
 - Clear the new Notebook again
 - Commit the new Notebook to version control
 - Rerun (so the Notebook contains the results)
 - Delete the temporary copy
- NBP2 Store the (cleared) Notebook in version control (see NBP1)
- NBP3 Parameterize inputs and outputs at the top of the Notebook
 - e.g. Set and use variables such as INPATH and OUTPATH
 - Write the most important outputs to file (if not already done)
- NBP4 Replace some individual cells or groups of cells with functions
 - Move them into an importable file, import and use
 - Prioritize potentially re-usable code and code requiring testing
- NBP5 Write some tests
 - Create a reference (regression) test for the whole process
 - Create unit tests for the individual functions
- NBP6 Consider restructuring/extracting the code as a standalone script
- NBP7 Allow the parameters to be set from the command line
 - Alternatively, read from a configuration file (e.g. `.json` or `.toml`)
- NBP8 Consider using safer alternatives like Marimo and Quarto