Microspeak: fit

devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20120207-00

Raymond Chen

In Microspeak, *fit* is a predicate noun which is never used on its own but always comes with a modifying adjective. For something to *be a good fit* is for something to be appropriate or suitable for a particular situation. The opposite of a *good fit* is not a *bad fit*, because that's pejorative. Rather, something that is not a *good fit* is referred to as a *poor fit*.

> The purpose of a previewer plug-in is to allow users to view the media without opening it. An image editing tool would not be a good fit for the previewing feature. (Alternatively, "would be a poor fit for the previewing feature.")

To be a *good fit* with a particular group is to mesh well with that group's existing practices and conventions.

> The Datacenter Edition of the product is a poor fit for most small businesses.

The group in question need not consist of people.

> The results are obtained incrementally, which makes it a good fit for `IQueryable<T>` and LINQ.

Microsoft Human Resources loves to apply the concept of "fit" to people fitting into a job position.

Raymond Chen

Follow