

Developer Voting Procedures

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Occasionally during meetings, larger decisions need to be made or small disagreements will occur. In these cases, the DSpace Committers will attempt to come to a consensus by bringing the topic to a vote. Currently, the following voting procedures are in place, as decided unanimously by the DSpace Committers in the Spring of 2009.

The DSpace Committers follow the [Apache Voting Process](#).

Votes can be called either during meetings or via email. Any Committer may call a vote. There are three main votes that can be made:

- +1 : positive, "I agree"
- 0 : neutral, "I'm undecided, or unsure"
- -1 : negative, "I disagree" (should always include a reason why you disagree)

In a general sense, there are three types of votes that may take place:

1. *Votes on code modifications* - proposals require at least three positive (+1) votes, and no negative votes (-1) to pass. In this scenario, a negative vote constitutes a "veto".
2. *Votes on a new release* - proposals require a majority are in favor (and at least three +1 votes have been cast)
3. *Votes on procedural/policy changes* - proposals require more positive (+1) than negative (-1) votes

Similar to the Apache Voting Process, only [Committers](#) have "binding" votes. Others are free to vote to express their opinions, but those votes are considered advisory in nature.

There are also votes on [new Committers](#), which follow a similar voting process, but are held in private.

Further details of some of the intricacies of these voting procedures can be found in the [Apache Voting Process](#).