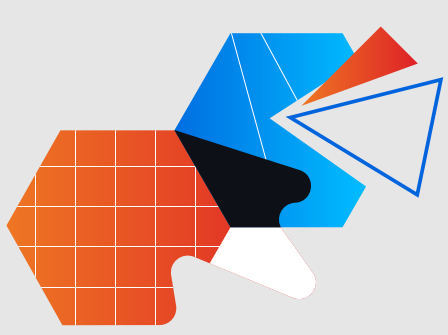
Navigating the AI-Driven Coding World of AppSec

In the ever-shifting landscape of software development, General AI and Vibe coding offer distinct AI-driven approaches. General AI enhances productivity with broad tools, while Vibe prioritizes rapid code generation through conversational prompts. This infographic examines their approaches, developer involvement, security implications, and use cases to help optimize workflows and secure codebases.

General AI VS Vibe

Approach and Philosophy

Encompasses a broader range of AI-assisted tools, including code completion (e.g., GitHub Copilot), refactoring, and debugging aids. Developers typically retain more control, using AI as a productivity tool rather than a primary code generator.



Intuitive, conversational prompts generate code rapidly, often with minimal developer understanding of the output. It prioritizes speed and accessibility, thriving in exploratory or prototyping scenarios.

Developer Involvement

Developers are more involved, using AI to augment specific tasks (e.g., suggesting code snippets or fixing syntax). This allows for closer oversight but may still introduce subtle flaws if not reviewed carefully.

Developers act as orchestrators, guiding AI through prompts and accepting output with limited scrutiny-increasing the risk of overlooked vulnerabilities.

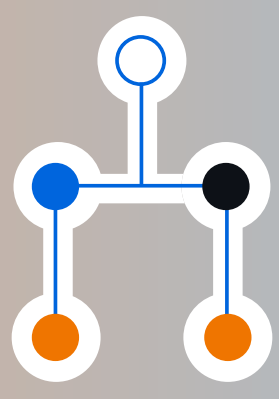
Security Implications

Risks are more distributed, stemming from insecure training data or context-blind suggestions. However, developers' active involvement reduces the likelihood of fully unvetted code entering production.

Higher risk due to its reliance on natural language prompts, which may omit security requirements. The lack of developer expertise amplifies vulnerabilities like security by omission or hardcoded secrets.

Use Cases

Suited for professional development environments, enhancing productivity across the SDLC. It supports tasks like code optimization and bug fixing but demands integration with security tools for safety.



Ideal for rapid prototyping, hackathons, or non-expert development (e.g., domain experts building niche tools). It excels in "software for one" scenarios but requires robust security oversight.

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