RSpec Ruby testing

START HERE

`rspec`
Run the whole suite

`rspec --only-failures`
Rerun what failed

`rspec <file>`
Run one spec file

`rspec --fail-fast`
Stop at first failure

`rspec <file>:<line>`
Run the example at a line

`rspec --format doc`
Readable output

`rspec -e "<text>"`
Run by name

`rspec --init`
Create .rspec and spec_helper

CONCEPTS

--only-failures and --next-failure need a status file set in RSpec.configure; see the detail on --only-failures.

Specs live in spec/ and end in _spec.rb; bare rspec runs spec/**/*_spec.rb.

Example group describe / context
Nested group context, before, let
Example it { expect ... }

Groups nest; metadata and hooks flow inward

Bundler projects: run bundle exec rspec so the Gemfile versions are used.

RUN

`rspec`
Run all specs

`rspec <file> <dir>`
Run files or directories

`rspec <file>:<line>`
Run example or group at that line
Line inside a group runs the whole group.

`rspec <file>[1:2]`
Run by id (nested index)
Ids like ./a_spec.rb[1:2] are what --bisect prints.

`rspec --dry-run`
List examples without running them

`rspec --version`
Show the RSpec version

FILTER

`rspec -e "<text>"`
Run examples whose name contains text
Matches the full nested description; repeat -e for more.

`rspec -E "<regex>"`
Run examples matching a regex

`rspec --tag <tag>`
Run examples with a tag

`rspec --tag ~<tag>`
Skip examples with a tag
Quote the tilde in some shells.

`rspec --tag <key>:<value>`
Match tag with a value

`rspec --only-failures`
Run last run's failures
Set config.example_status_persistence_file_path (e.g. to a spec/ file).

FILTER (cont.)

`rspec --next-failure`
Fix failures one at a time
Same as --only-failures --fail-fast --order defined.

fit, fdescribe and fcontext mark focus; enable them with filter_run_when_matching in config.

xit, xdescribe and skip mark examples pending; pending still runs and expects a failure.

OUTPUT

`rspec --format doc`
Nested, readable output

`rspec -f p`
Dots, the default progress

`rspec -f failures`
Only failures, one line each

`rspec -f json -o <file>`
Write JSON results to a file
-o applies to the preceding -f; repeat both for several outputs.

`rspec --profile`
Show the 10 slowest examples

`rspec --profile <n>`
Show the n slowest examples

`rspec -b`
Full backtraces

FAILURES AND ORDER

`rspec --fail-fast`
Stop after the first failure

`rspec --fail-fast=<n>`
Stop after n failures

`rspec --seed <n>`
Rerun with a random order seed
The seed is printed at the end of a randomised run.

`rspec --order random`
Shuffle example order

`rspec --order defined`
Run in file order

`rspec --bisect`
Find the minimal failing set
Needs a failing run; combine with --seed <n>.

WRITING SPECS

`RSpec.describe <Class> do`
Top-level example group

`describe "#<method>" do`
Group for one method

`context "when <state>" do`
Group for one situation

WRITING SPECS (cont.)

`it "<behaviour>" do`
One example

`let(:<name>) { <value> }`
Lazy, per-example helper
Evaluated on first use; let! evaluates before each example.

`subject { <expr> }`
Object under test

`before { <setup> }`
Run before each example

`after { <cleanup> }`
Run after each example

`before(:all) { <setup> }`
Run once per group
State leaks between examples; prefer before(:each) or let.

`around { |ex| <x>; ex.run }`
Wrap each example

`it "<x>", :<tag> do`
Tag one example

`shared_examples "<name>" do`
Define reusable examples

`it_behaves_like "<name>"`
Include shared examples (nested)

`shared_context "<name>" do`
Reusable setup

`skip "<reason>"`
Skip an example

`described_class`
The class passed to describe

EXPECTATIONS

`expect(<x>).to eq(<y>)`
Value equals

`expect(<x>).not_to eq(<y>)`
Value differs

`expect(<x>).to be_truthy`
Truthy value

`expect(<x>).to be_nil`
Value is nil

`expect(<x>).to be_a(<Class>)`
Is instance of class

`expect(<x>).to include(<y>)`
Collection or string contains

`expect(<x>).to match(<regex>)`
String matches regex

`expect(<x>).to be_within(<d>).of(<n>)`
Number near another

`expect(<a>).to match_array(<b>)`
Same elements, any order

EXPECTATIONS (cont.)

`expect { <code> }.to raise_error(<Error>)`
Block raises an error

`expect { <code> }.to change { <x> }.by(<n>)`
Block changes a value

MOCKS

`double("<name>", <m>: <v>)`
Stand-in object

`instance_double(<Class>)`
Double checked against a class
Fails if the method does not exist on the class.

`allow(<obj>).to receive(:<m>).and_return(<v>)`
Stub a method

`expect(<obj>).to receive(:<m>).with(<args>)`
Expect a call

`expect(<obj>).to have_received(:<m>)`
Assert a call after the fact
Needs allow or a spy first.

CONFIG

`.rspec`
Default CLI options, one per line
Put --require spec_helper here.

`RSpec.configure do |c|`
Global configuration block

`c.order = :random`
Randomise order by default

`c.default_formatter = "doc"`
Doc output when run on one file

RECIPES

Debug a failing test

```
rspec spec/models/
user_spec.rb:42
rspec --next-failure
rspec -b -e "validates email"
```

Reproduce a flaky order bug

```
rspec --order random   # note
the printed seed
rspec --seed 4711 --bisect
# run the minimal command bisect
prints
```

Focus workflow in spec_helper

```
# spec/spec_helper.rb
RSpec.configure do |c|

c.filter_run_when_matching :focus
  c.order = :random
end
# then: fit "works" do ... end
```

CI with a JSON report

```
bundle exec rspec \
  --format progress \
  --format json --out tmp/
rspec.json \
  --fail-fast=5
```