



# GEMS ARE OVERRATED

# GEMS ARE GREAT!

---

Gemfile

```
gem "pagy"
```

app/controllers/products\_controller.rb

```
def index
  @pagy, @products = pagy(:offset, Product.all)
end
```

app/views/products/index.html.erb

```
<%= @pagy.series_nav %>
```

# ADDITIONAL COSTS

A screenshot of a GitHub repository showing a list of dependency updates (DEPS) for various packages. The updates include:

- DEPS: Bump test-prof from 1.6.0 to 1.6.1
- DEPS: Bump parallel from 1.27.0 to 1.28.0
- DEPS: Bump omniauth-github from 2.0.0 to 2.0.1
- DEPS: Bump aws\_sdk\_bedrockruntime from 1.74.0 to 1.75.0
- DEPS: Bump trilogy from 2.12.2 to 2.12.3
- DEPS: Bump mini\_scheduler from 0.18.0 to 0.19.0
- DEPS: Bump stripe from 11.1.0 to 19.0.0
- DEPS: Bump rubocop from 1.85.1 to 1.86.0
- DEPS: Bump oj from 3.16.12 to 3.16.16
- DEPS: Bump openssl from 3.3.2 to 4.0.1
- DEPS: Bump omniauth-gauth2 from 1.7.3 to 1.9.0

**HUNTRESS**  
Products Solutions Pricing Resources Why Huntress Partners  
Portal Login Support Blog Contact  
Don't let overlooked obligations become incidents. Learn how.  
Last Updated: March 31, 2026  

## Supply Chain Compromise of axios npm Package

By: John Hammond

**SC Media**  
COURTORIES TOPICS TOPIC HUBS EVENTS PODCASTS RESEARCH SC AWARDS ABOUT  
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## RubyGems pauses new account sign-ups amid major malicious attack

May 15, 2026  
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CYBERCAST  
From code to cloud: Stopping attacks in the software supply chain  
On-Demand Event  
GET DAILY EMAIL UPDATES  
SC Media's desktop newsletter

Chris Oliver  
@hexcid3  
I tracked a bug down to a dependency.  
Why I use as few of dependencies as possible to make it easier to maintain things you control.  
PM · May 4, 2026 · 2,179 Views

**Contributor**  
thedrow on Dec 31, 2015  
Were you able to resolve the issue?  
3 thumbs up 4 thumbs down  
rmcgibbo on Dec 31, 2015  
No. I decided I don't care.  
288 thumbs up 10 thumbs down 369 smiley face 92 party popper 24 sad face

404  
LISTEN TO THE 404 MEDIA PODCAST  
ABOUT RES SUPPORT/FAN PODCAST FEED POPUP ARCHIVE MERCH ADVERTISE THANKS PRIVACY  
FEATURING  

## How Ruby Went Off the Rails

What happened to RubyGems, Bundler, and the Open Source drama that controls the internet infrastructure.  
EMERIL WALBERN · SEP 28, 2025 AT 9:10 AM


Gems are the worst form of dependency management except all the others.

– Winston Churchill



# HANS SCHNEDLITZ

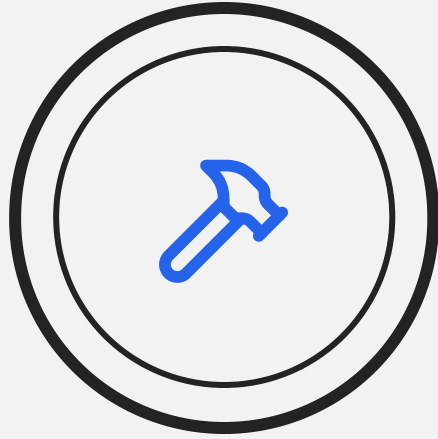
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Freelance Ruby Engineer 

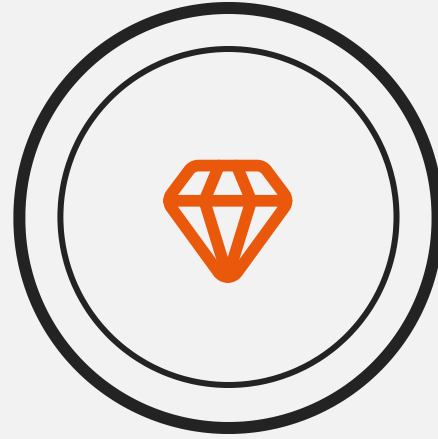
- [Vienna.rb](#) & [RubyConf Austria](#)
- [hansschnedlitz.com](#) 
- [@hansschnedlitz](#)

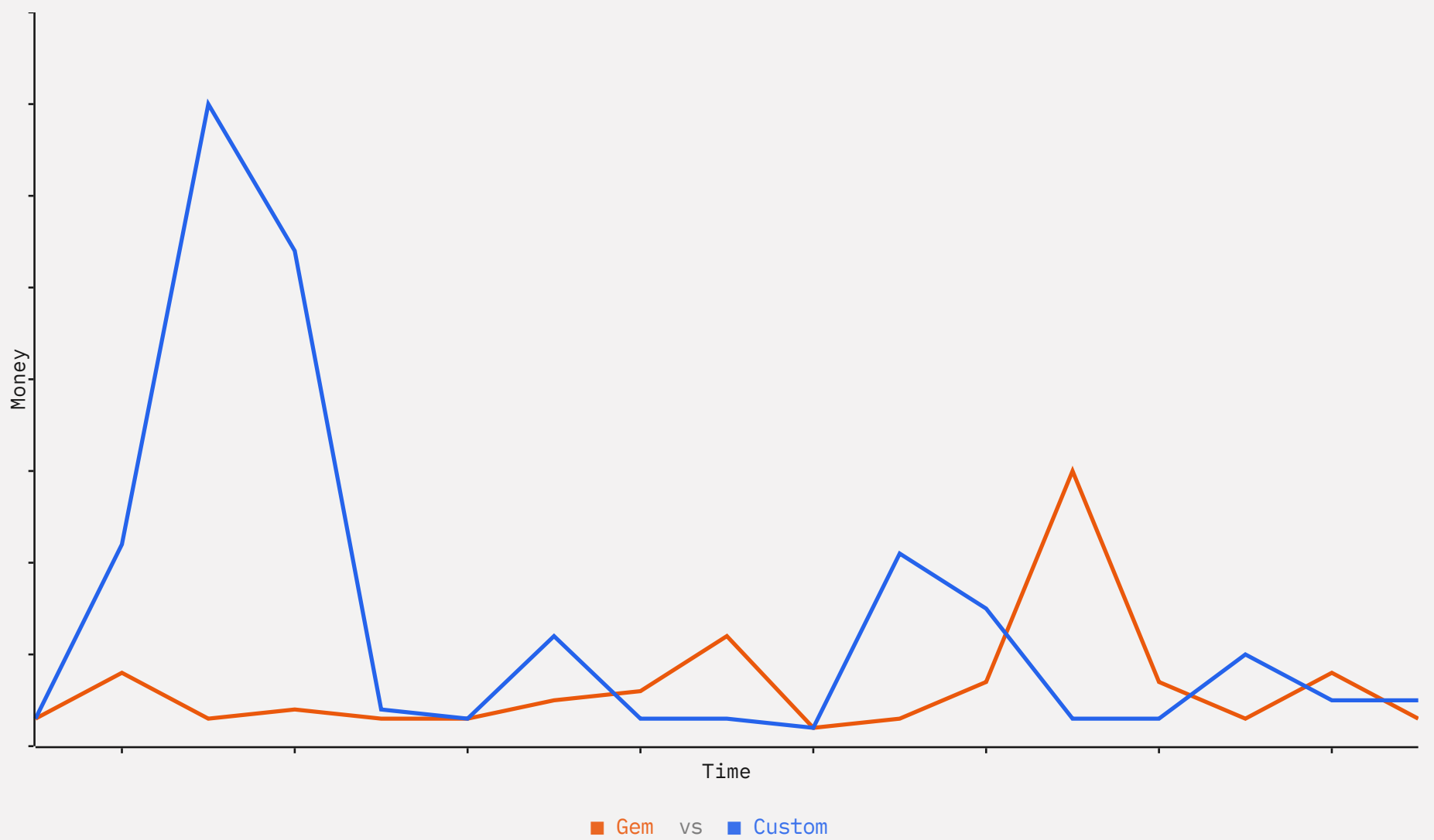
# BUILD OR BUY?

---



**VS**





**YAGNI**

A little copying is better than a little dependency.

– Rob Pike, Go Proverbs

# PAGY

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Gemfile

```
gem "pagy"
```

app/controllers/products\_controller.rb

```
def index
  @pagy, @products = pagy(:offset, Product.all)
end
```

app/views/products/index.html.erb

```
<%= @pagy.series_nav %>
```

# COPY-PASTE PAGY

app/concerns/pagy.rb

```
1  module Pagy
2    module Controller
3      def pagy(scope, limit: 20)
4        page      = [params[:page].to_i, 1].max
5        count     = scope.count
6        total_pages = [(count.to_f / limit).ceil, 1].max
7        page      = [page, total_pages].min
8
9        meta = {
10         page:      page,
11         total_pages: total_pages,
12         prev_page: page > 1,
13         next_page: page < total_pages
14       }
15
16       [meta, scope.offset((page - 1) * limit).limit(limit)]
17     end
18   end
19
20   # ...
```

# COPY-PASTE PAGY PAGE TWO

app/concerns/pagy.rb

```
21     module Helper
22       def series_nav(pagy)
23         return unless pagy[:total_pages] > 1
24
25         html = ""
26         html << link_to("Previous", url_for(page: pagy[:page] - 1)) if pagy[:prev_page]
27         html << content_tag(:span, "Page #{pagy[:page]} of #{pagy[:total_pages]}")
28         html << link_to("Next", url_for(page: pagy[:page] + 1)) if pagy[:next_page]
29         html.html_safe
30       end
31     end
32 end
```

# PAGY VS COPY-PASTE

---

Lines of code

2835

32

Releases

83

Nope

Dependencies

3

You

---

# PUNDIT

---

Gemfile

```
gem "pundit"
```

app/controllers/application\_controller.rb

```
include Pundit::Authorization
```

app/policies/post\_policy.rb

```
class PostPolicy < ApplicationPolicy
  def update?
    user == record.author
  end
end
```

app/controllers/posts\_controller.rb

```
def update
  authorize @post
end
```

# COPY-PASTE PUNDIT

---

app/concerns/pundit.rb

```
1  module Pundit
2    class ApplicationPolicy
3      attr_reader :user, :record
4
5      def initialize(user, record)
6        @user = user
7        @record = record
8      end
9
10     def index? = false
11     def show? = false
12     def new? = false
13     def create? = false
14     def edit? = false
15     def update? = false
16     def destroy? = false
17   end
18
19   # ...
```

# COPY-PASTE PUNDIT

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app/concerns/pundit.rb

```
20     class NotAuthorizedError < StandardError; end
21
22     module Controller
23       def authorize(record, query = :("#{action_name}?")
24         policy = "#{record.class}Policy".constantize.new(Current.user, record)
25         raise NotAuthorizedError unless policy.public_send(query)
26
27         record
28       end
29     end
30 end
```

# PUNDIT VS COPY-PASTE

---

Lines of code

1124

30

---

Open issues

15

Nope

---

Stars

8300

You

---

# LOGRAGE

---

Gemfile

```
gem "lograge"
```

config/initializers/lograge.rb

```
Rails.application.configure do
  config.lograge.enabled = true
end
```

```
method=GET path=/products format=html controller=ProductsController action=index status=200
```

# COPY-PASTE LOGRAGE

config/initializers/lograge.rb

```
1  class Lograge
2    module RackLogger
3      private def logger = Object.new.tap { |o| o.define_singleton_method(:info) {} }
4    end
5
6    class Subscriber < ActiveSupport::LogSubscriber
7      def process_action(event)
8        payload = event.payload
9        status = payload[:status] ||
10             ActionController::ExceptionWrapper.status_code_for_exception(payload[:exception].first)
11
12        ActionController::Base.logger.info do
13          { method: payload[:method], path: payload[:path]&.split("?")&.first,
14            format: payload[:format], controller: payload[:controller],
15            action: payload[:action], status: }.compact.map { |k, v| "#{k}=#{" }&.join(" ")
16        end
17      end
18    end
19
20    #...
```

# COPY-PASTE LOGRAGE

```
config/initializers/lograge.rb
```

```
20   class << self
21     def setup
22       Rails::Rack::Logger.prepend(RackLogger)
23       require "action_view/log_subscriber"
24       require "action_controller/log_subscriber"
25       ActiveSupport::LogSubscriber.log_subscribers.each do |subscriber|
26         case subscriber
27           when ActionView::LogSubscriber      then unsubscribe(:action_view, subscriber)
28           when ActionController::LogSubscriber then unsubscribe(:action_controller, subscriber)
29         end
30       end
31       Subscriber.attach_to :action_controller
32     end
33
34     # ...
35
```

# COPY-PASTE LOGRAGE

config/initializers/lograge.rb

```
34     def unsubscribe(component, subscriber)
35       events = subscriber.public_methods(false).reject { |m| m.to_s == "call" }
36       events.each do |event|
37         ActiveSupport::Notifications.notifier.all_listeners_for("#{event}.#{component}").each do |listener|
38           ActiveSupport::Notifications.unsubscribe(listener) if is_listener?(listener, component)
39         end
40       end
41     end
42
43     def is_listener?(listener, component)
44       # Workaround for ActionView::LogSubscriber changes after Rails 7.1
45       # See https://github.com/roidrage/lograge/issues/385
46       listener.instance_variable_get(:@delegate).class.name.start_with?("#{component.to_s.classify}::")
47     end
48   end
49 end
50
51 Lograge.setup
```

# LOGRAGE VS COPY-PASTE

---

Lines of code

863

51

---

Last commit

Nov 2024

today

---

Formatters

All Of Them

1

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**LEARN FROM THE BEST**  
**OWN THE CODE**  
**AVOID DEPENDENCY TAX**



Fork · Vendor · Copy Paste

**WHY NOW?**



"Create an image depicting our friendly AI overlords"

Read the source for <https://github.com/...>  
Copy the approach the gem takes to do ... and  
boil that functionality down to a single  
file.

YOU WOULDN'T

STEAL A BCRYPT

# VALID CRITICISM

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Ⓜ Rails Designer

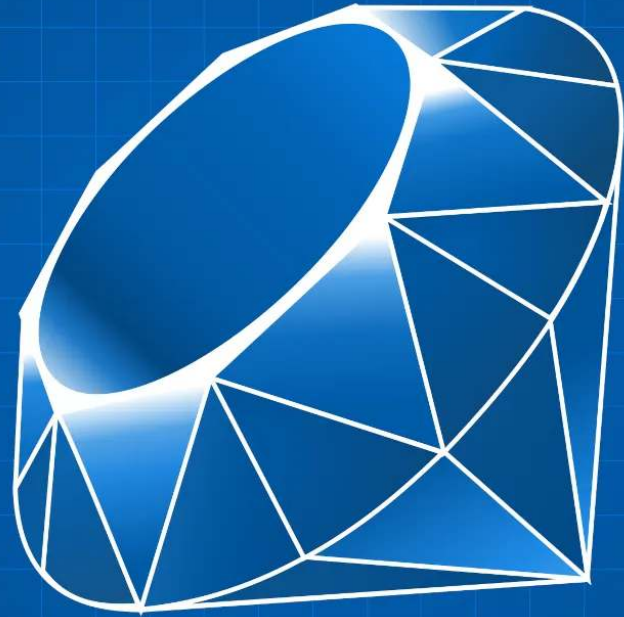
## The Golden Age of Copy-Paste

*Copy the approach the gem takes to sync Lucide icons. Also copy and simplify the icon helper it provides.*

Copy-paste culture enabled by LLMs could kill small OSS projects soon—everyone's in their own cocoon, extracting value without contributing back.

I'm sad about it, because there might be genuine improvements worth upstreaming, instead of hoarding in isolation.

**THE VALUE IS IN SUBSTRACTION**  
**KEEP CONTRIBUTING**  
**THE ROLE OF OSS CHANGES**



**THIS IS NOT THE END OF GEMS  
IT JUST CHANGES HOW WE USE THEM**