

Version 6.1 Updated for the 2021 Project Management Professional (PMP)® Exam



Crosswind Success Series: PMP[®] Exam Bootcamp Manual

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Chapter 8 Agile and Hybrid

Chapter 8

Agile and Hybrid

Agile is an adaptive, iterative approach to projects that expects and embraces change and stresses self-organizing teams, transparent and up-to-date communication, and an intense level of participation by the product owner/customer. Agile is flexible and varies from team to team based on the team's culture, diversity, and globalization.

Like any reliable project approach, Agile starts with initiating. During this phase, the project is justified, and then the project charter is created. Planning follows initiating and includes the formation of the team and the team space, the identification of stakeholders, an analysis of the problem to be addressed, estimations, and the planning of iterations/sprints and releases. Project execution revolves around the iteration/sprint; it includes the actual work, the monitoring and control of the work, a demo, and a retrospective meeting. A release may include one or more iterations/sprints and a project may include one or more releases.

Agile project management accommodates frameworks (**Scrum and eXtreme Programming** are the two primary frameworks currently in use) that use different leadership strategies, different time frames, and different terminologies. While Agile is primarily used with software development projects, it can be adapted to any project that needs to respond to unpredictability.

Hybrid project management combines the methods and tools from traditional project management with agile processes. A hybrid project is tailored to accommodate a specific project or situation.

In this chapter, we discuss:

The Agile Manifesto (Ten Commandments)

Agile Framework and Terminology

The Agile Approach

Variations in Agile

Business Case Development

Project Charter

Traditional Projects

Hybrid Projects

\checkmark	Crosswind "Must Knows" for Agile Principles & Mindset
	Know the characteristics of the Agile Manifesto
	Know the characteristics of Agile projects
	Know the characteristics of Agile frameworks
	Know the fundamentals of a successful Agile project
	Know the tools and techniques of Agile projects

Although helpful, this list is not all-inclusive in regard to information needed for the exam. It is only suggested material that, if understood and memorized, may increase your exam score.

8.1. The Agile Manifesto

In early 2001, a meeting between software and methodology experts resulted in the Agile Manifesto and Agile Principles. Those experts were Kent Beck, Mike Beedle, Arie van Bennelkum, Alistair Cockburn, Ward Cunningham, Martin Fowler, James Grenning, Jim Highsmith, Andrew Hunt, Ross Jeffries, Jon Kern, Brian Marick, Robert C. Martin, Steve Mellor, Ken Schwaber, Jeff Sutherland, and Dave Thomas. Several of those experts formed the **Agile Alliance**, which promotes the adoption and expansion of Agile software development and supports those who explore and apply Agile principles and practices for the benefit of the software industry.

8.1.1. Manifesto for Agile Software Development

We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it.

Through this work we have come to value:

Know the	

characteristics of the Agile Manifesto.

Individuals and interactions	over	processes and tools
Working software	over	comprehensive
		documentation
Customer collaboration	over	contract negotiation
Responding to change	over	following a plan

That is, while there is a value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

The purpose of the Agile Manifesto is to focus Agile practitioners on the items to the left of the word *over: individuals and interactions, working software, customer collaboration, and responding to change.* It is those items that bring value to an Agile project, even though the items to the right of the word *over* are typically present in an Agile project and are useful.

8.2. Agile Projects

The Agile approach to projects utilizes **adaptive product development**, which works well when the requirements are not stable. That instability often occurs with a new product or when the business process experiences rapid changes. The Agile approach **delivers**, or is ready to deliver, pieces of the product **in a series of releases**, **integrating at the end of each iteration**.



The Agile approach **embraces change**. Its emphasis on incremental delivery fosters responsiveness to change. Having a **rapid feedback loop** between the product owner/customer and the team results in a quality, usable product.

Agile is characterized by **transparency** and **collaboration**, making information available to everyone through such Agile tools and techniques as **information radiators**, **team space**, and **daily stand-up meetings**.

A common misconception is that Agile eliminates documentation. Agile is designed to eliminate excessive documentation by requiring an appropriate level of documentation, including such documents as user stories and acceptance criteria.

Another important Agile concept is creating a safe environment: an environment which nurtures emergent leadership and where team members feel safe to espouse new ideas, to experiment with new techniques and processes, and to try a new approach with team approval.

Agile is primarily applied to projects that create software products or products that contain embedded software. The innovative nature of software projects, with their inherent uncertainty, risk, and opportunity, demands an approach that is grounded in a structure flexible enough to respond to change.

8.3. Agile Frameworks

The two primary Agile frameworks currently used are Scrum and XP (eXtreme Programming). Of these, Scrum is the most popular. Other Agile frameworks include Kanban and Lean.



Know the characteristics of the Agile frameworks.

Agile Frameworks			
Framework	Characteristics		
Scrum	Scrum, generally considered the most popular Agile framework, is predicated on the Scrum Pillars:		
	Transparency		
	Inspection		
	Adaptation		
	It is also predicated on values:		
	• Focus		
	Courage		
	Openness		
	Commitment		
	• Respect		
XP (eXtreme Programming)	XP is predicated on simplicity, communication, feedback, and courage. It focuses on customer satisfaction and is characterized by test-driven development and continuous integration.		
	It is distinguished by its premise that requirements, design, and test phases can be eliminated due to the intense face-to-face communication between the programmers and the customer.		
	It is further distinguished by its practice of pair programming . Pair programming requires that two programmers sit at one computer. The driver codes and the navigator reviews the code in light of functionality and integration. The programmers may switch roles frequently.		

8.3.1. Roles and Responsibilities

Agile roles consist of the product owner/customer, the team, and a coach/facilitator.

Roles and Responsibilities			
Role	Agile Framework	Title	Responsibilities
Product Owner/ Customer	Scrum	Product Owner	The product owner represents the interests of all stakeholders and is responsible for:
			 Funding the project
			 Creating the vision
			 Creating and continuously prioritizing the requirements (the product backlog)
			 Creating the release plans
			 Product Champion
	Programming) also be ca product o or product	Customer (may also be called product owner or product manager)	The customer represents the end user and those funding the project. The role is responsible for:
			Giving the project direction
			 Making all business decisions
			 Creating clear and accurate user stories
			 Participating in the planning game to schedule the most valuable stories
			 Writing/running user acceptance tests
Team	Scrum	Cross-functional, self-managing team	The team is responsible for:
			 Placing requirements appropriately into iterations
			• The success of the iterations and the project as a whole

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	Roles and Responsibilities			
Role	Agile Framework	Title	Responsibilities	
Team (Cont.)	ХР	Cross-functional, self-managing team	The team is responsible for the success of the iterations.	
			The programmers are responsible for	
			 Determining and explaining the way each user story will be implemented and identifying any dependencies or risks 	
			 Estimating relative story points 	
			 Developing a simple, well-tested system and implementing only what is necessary 	
			 Constantly communicating with the customer 	
			 Writing, automating, and running unit and functional tests prior to coding (unless there is a dedicated tester) 	
			Integration	
			The tracker is responsible for:	
			• The schedule	
			 Tracking progress metrics, such as team velocity, and presenting any critical findings to the team during daily stand-up meetings 	
Coach/ Facilitator	Scrum	ScrumMaster	The ScrumMaster is responsible for protecting the team from interruptions, and removing roadblocks. The ScrumMaster must also ensure that Agile is understood and followed by everyone, is embedded in the organizational culture, and delivers expected benefits.	
	XP (eXtreme Programming)	Coach or Programmer- coach	The coach/programmer-coach is responsible for ensuring that Agile is understood and followed by everyone, is embedded in the organizational culture, and delivers expected benefits. The coach/ programmer-coach works with business management on behalf of the team when necessary.	