

SCRUM FORUM

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Selecting PBI for the Sprint Backlog

- **Last post 09:56 pm April 9, 2017**
- by Ian Mitchell

2 replies

Atacan Demiralp (/user/238585)



11:33 am April 8, 2017

Lately I read the Scrum Guide over and over again. When I learn new things from another resources, I easily get confused. Here another one.

- * Product Backlog belongs to PO and ordering is done PO.
- * PBI estimats solely belong to DT.

Assume that PO has the order of works A, B, C, D, E. (Most important to less). Each has same estimates. However, DT wants to select D and E for the first sprint. In mountaingoatsoftware.com it says **The team then determines which items they can complete during the coming sprint. The team then moves items from the product backlog to the sprint backlog.**

Scrum Guide says The "number" of items selected from the Product Backlog for the Sprint is solely up to the Development Team. Only the Development Team can assess what it can accomplish over the upcoming Sprint.

Both have same meanings? If so, does it mean that PBI items are selected by DT for the Sprint Backlog?

Does it mean that ordering the product backlog items is actually nothing? Because PO's decision is not cared. On the other hand, If PO selects the first items to do, can we say that PO forces DT to do works according to Product Backlog order.

Also I read many posts in the forum. Usually they say that items are selected by DT. Shouldn't it be "number of items" instead of items?

▲ Jason Jafarian (/user/225955)

m 07:00 pm April 9, 2017

Atacan, during the Sprint Planning event, the development team works to project the functionality they feel they can and should accomplish. But, how do they determine that? The entire Scrum Team is at the Sprint Planning meeting. What role do the Product Owner and Scrum Master play in the meeting if the Development Team is supposedly doing all the work?

If the Product Backlog isn't aligned very closely with the work the developers are selecting, It sounds to me like perhaps the **Sprint Goal** isn't clearly defined or agreed upon by the team.

I did also want to call out something as a sidebar. You mentioned, "can we say the PO forces DT to do the work according to Product Backlog order." Remember that neither the PO or the SM roles are managerial roles. Demanding a self-directing team do specific work rather than supporting the team with the artifacts and events is pulling away from agile principles.

▲ Ian Mitchell (/ian-mitchell)

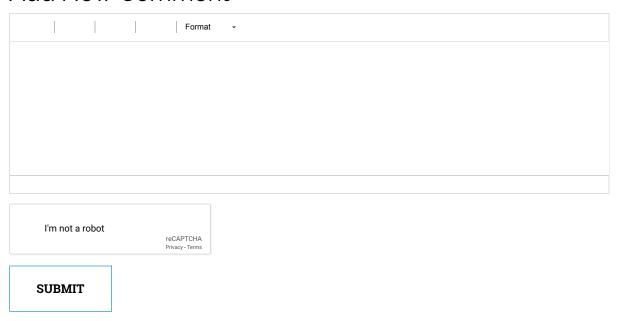


₩ 09:56 pm April 9, 2017

The PO and Development Team should agree which items from the Product Backlog will be planned into the Sprint. However, the amount of work the Development Team take on is entirely up to them. Whatever is agreed must therefore be subject to that constraint.

Ahmed Khalifa (/user/410047)

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