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## Prototyping Model in Software Engineering

BY DINESH THAKUR Category: [Software Engineering](#)

**Prototyping Model in  
Software**

**Engineering**

**What is SRS?List &**

**Describe Various**

**Characteristics of an  
SRS**

**What is Feasibility**

**Study? Types of**

**Feasibility. Explain**

**Feasibility Study**

**Process**

**Basic Courses**

Computer  
Fundamental  
Computer  
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Structured Query  
(SQL)  
Java Script  
HTML Language  
Cascading Style  
Sheet  
C Programming  
(Theory)  
C Programming  
(Practical)  
Visual Basic

The **prototyping model** is applied when detailed **information** related to input and output requirements of the system is not available. In this model, it is assumed that all the requirements may not be known at the start of the development of the system. It is usually used when a system does not exist or in case of a large and complex system where there is no manual process to determine the requirements. This model

**What is software?**

**Characteristics and**

**Classification of**

**Software.**

**Discuss in Detail**

**Coupling and**

**Cohesion**

**Explain Software**

**Process &**

**Characteristics**

**Software Myths :**

**What is software**

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**What is Software**

**Requirements**

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**Explain Structure**

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Java Servlet

Java Server Pages

Computer

Graphics

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Data Structures

Software

Engineering

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python

AngularJS Tutorial

Compiler Design

Troubleshooting

allows the users to interact and experiment with a working model of the system known as **prototype**. The prototype gives the user an actual feel of the system.

At any stage, if the user is not satisfied with the prototype, it can be discarded and an entirely new system can be developed. Generally, prototype can be prepared by the approaches listed below.

- By creating main user interfaces without any substantial coding so that users can get a feel of how the actual system will appear.
- By abbreviating a version of the system that will perform limited subsets of functions.
- By using system components to illustrate the functions that will be included in the system to be developed .

Using the prototype, the client can get an actual feel of the system. So, this case of model is beneficial in the case when requirements cannot be frozen initially.

This prototype is developed based on the currently known requirements. Development of the prototype obviously undergoes design, coding, and testing, but each of these phases is not done very formally or thoroughly.

By using this prototype, the client can get an actual feel of the system, because the interactions with the prototype can enable the client to better understand the requirements of the desired system.

**and Characteristics  
of SRS.**

**Explain Software**

**Configuration**

**Management**

**Process**

**Spiral model in**

**Software**

**Engineering**

**List & Explain**

**Various Components**

**of an SRS**

**What are Various**

**Software**

**Engineering**

**Problems? Explain**

**What is Process**

**Model? Explain**

**Waterfall Model**

**Along With its**

**Limitations**

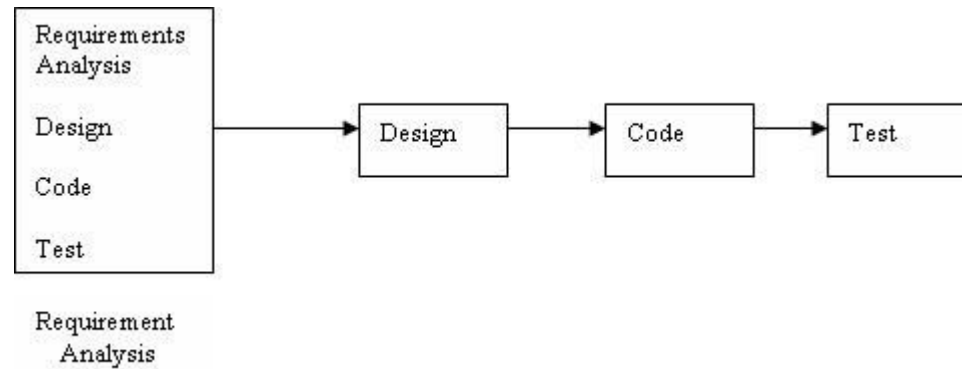
**Software Crisis in**

**Software**

**Engineering**

**Classification of**

**Software Metrics in**



Prototyping is an attractive idea for complicated and large systems for which there is no manual process or existing system to help determine the requirements. Risks associated with the projects are being reduced through the use of prototyping. The development of the prototype typically starts when the preliminary version of the requirements specification document has been developed.

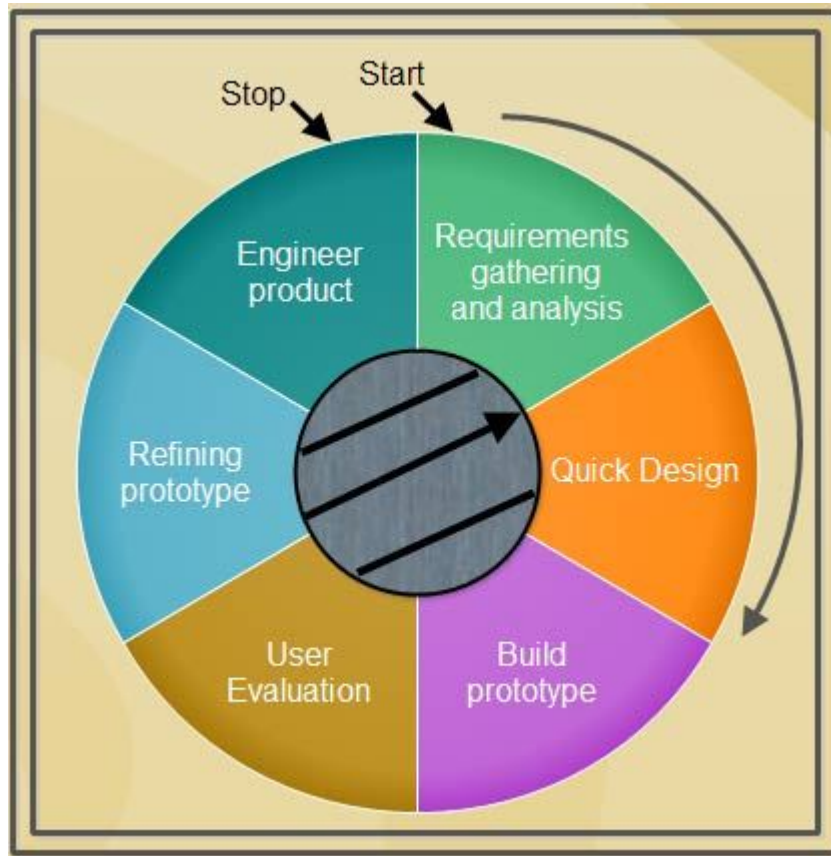
At this stage, there is a reasonable understanding of the system and its needs are unclear or likely to change. After the prototype has been developed, the end users and clients are given an opportunity to use the prototype.

They provide feedback to the developers regarding the prototype: what is correct, what needs to be modified, what is missing, what is not needed, etc. Based on the feedback, the prototype is modified to incorporate some of the suggested changes that can be done easily, and then the users and the clients are again allowed to use the system.

This cycle repeats until, in the judgment of the prototypes and analyst. Based on the feedback, the initial requirements are modified to produce that final requirements specification, which is then used to develop the production quality system.

**Figure** Illustrates the steps carried out in the prototyping model. These steps are listed below.

Software  
Engineering  
Project Planning in  
Software  
Engineering  
Architectural Design  
in Software  
Engineering  
Software  
Engineering - What  
is Software  
Engineering? Write  
Basic Objective and  
Need for Software  
Engineering  
What is Structural  
Testing? Explain any  
Two Techniques  
used in it  
Requirements  
Analysis in Software  
Engineering  
Rapid Application  
Development (RAD)  
Model and its  
Advantages and



- 1. Requirements gathering and analysis:** A prototyping model begins with requirements analysis and the requirements of the system are defined in detail. The user is interviewed in order to know the requirements of the system.
- 2. Quick design:** When requirements are known, a preliminary design or quick design for the system is created. It is not a detailed design and includes only the important aspects of the system, which gives an idea of the system to the user. A quick design helps in developing the prototype.
- 3. Build prototype:** Information gathered from quick design is modified to form the first prototype, which represents the working model of the required system.
- 4. User evaluation:** Next, the proposed system is presented to the user for thorough evaluation of the prototype to recognize its strengths and weaknesses such as what

Disadvantages of  
RAD Model  
Differentiate  
Between Top Down  
and Bottom UP  
Approaches  
Differentiate  
Between Error, Fault  
and Failure  
Differentiate  
Between Process,  
Project and Products  
Object-Oriented  
Testing  
Software Metrics in  
Software  
Engineering  
What is Software  
Requirement? Types  
of Requirements.  
Describe Difference  
Between Top-Down  
& Bottom up Coding  
Techniques for  
Programming

is to be added or removed. Comments and suggestions are collected from the users and provided to the developer.

**5. Refining prototype:** Once the user evaluates the prototype and if he is not satisfied, the current prototype is refined according to the requirements. That is, a new prototype is developed with the additional information provided by the user. The new prototype is evaluated just like the previous prototype. This process continues until all the requirements specified by the user are met. Once the user is satisfied with the developed prototype, a final system is developed on the basis of the final prototype.

**6. Engineer product:** Once the requirements are completely met, the user accepts the final prototype. The final system is evaluated thoroughly followed by the routine maintenance on regular basis for preventing large-scale failures and minimizing downtime.

Various advantages and disadvantages associated with the prototyping model are listed in Table.

**Table *Advantages* and Disadvantages of Prototyping Model**

Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Provides a working model to the user early in the process, enabling early assessment and increasing user's confidence. 2. The developer gains experience and insight by developing a prototype there by resulting in better implementation of requirements.	1. If the user is not satisfied by the developed prototype, then a new prototype is developed. This process goes on until a perfect prototype is developed. Thus, this model is time consuming and expensive. 2. The developer loses focus of the real purpose of prototype and hence, may compromise with the quality of

What is Formal Methods Model? Advantages and Disadvantages of Formal Methods Model Debugging in Software Testing What is build and fix model or ad hoc model? and Explain its Advantages and Disadvantages When is Cost Estimation Done? Discuss the COCOMO Model along with the Parameters Defined in it Software Testing Strategies - Types of Software Testing Strategies Discuss the Different Levels of Testing

3. The prototyping model serves to clarify requirements, which are not clear, hence reducing ambiguity and improving communication between the developers and users.

4. There is a great involvement of users in software development. Hence, the requirements of the users are met to the greatest extent.

5. Helps in reducing risks associated with the software.

the software. For example, developers may use some inefficient algorithms or inappropriate programming languages while developing the prototype.

3. Prototyping can lead to false expectations. For example, a situation may be created where the user believes that the development of the system is finished when it is not.

4. The primary goal of prototyping is speedy development, thus, the system design can suffer as it is developed in series without considering integration of all other components.

**What is Functional Testing? What are the Different Techniques used in it**

**Incremental Model or iterative enhancement model in software engineering**

**Write and Explain Software Development Phases**

**What is a Test Plan? What should a Test Plan Include**

**Definition of Software Engineering and Software Engineering Layers**

**What are the Different Methods Used for Monitoring a Project**

### ◀ Previous Article

What is SRS?List & Describe

Various Characteristics of an SRS

### About Dinesh Thakur

Dinesh Thakur holds an B.SC (Computer Science), MCSE, MCDDBA, CCNA, CCNP, A+, SCJP certifications. Dinesh authors the hugely popular [Computer Notes](#) blog. Where he writes how-to guides around Computer fundamental , computer software, Computer programming, and web apps. For any type of query or something that you think is missing, please feel free to [Contact us](#).



**Software  
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What is Risk  
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Objectives of the**



## **Design Phase**

**What do you Mean**

**by Structured**

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**Explain Classical**

**Life Cycle Model or**

**linear sequential**

**model**

**Software Testing –**

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**Testing**

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**Practices with Top-**

**Down, Bottom-Up,**

**Structured**

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**Information Hiding**

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**Discuss Briefly the Validation of SRS**

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**What are the**  
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**What are the  
Different Verification  
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Detailed Design  
Explain Object  
Oriented Analysis  
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Software  
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Software  
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Software Design  
Documentation  
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Requirements  
Management  
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Performed? What are  
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Coding Methodology  
in Software  
Engineering  
What is Mutation  
Testing  
Write Major  
Problems in System  
(Software)  
Development  
Tools for Software  
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What are the  
Different Techniques**

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**Techniques for  
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What Do You Mean  
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Software Process  
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What are the  
Different Methods  
Used to Specify the  
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Approaches in  
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Engineering  
What are the  
Different  
Approaches Used for  
the Verification of a  
Design Document  
Designing Software  
Metrics in Software  
Engineering  
Responsibilities of  
Software Project  
Manager**



**Requirements**

**Elicitation or  
requirements**

**capture or  
requirements**

**acquisition**

**Write Role of  
Management**

**Apart from  
Requirement**

**Reviews what are the  
other Methods Used  
for the Validation of  
SRS**

**What is Bottom-Up  
Design?**

**Test Plan | Software  
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**Analysis Patterns in  
Software**

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**Software**

**Requirements**

**Engineering Tools**

**Features of Software**

**Code in Software**

**Engineering**

**Quantitative Process**

**Management (QPM)**

**Issues in Software**

**Metrics**

**Process Change**

**Management (PCM)**

**Organization**

**Process Definition**

**(OPD)**

**Technology Change**

**Management (TCM)**

**Coding Tools in**

**Software**

**Engineering**

**Organization**

**Process Focus (OPF)**

### **Software Engineering**

- Coding Methodology in Software Engineering
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- Rapid Application Development (RAD) Model and its Advantages and Disadvantages of RAD Model
- What do you Mean by Structured Analysis.

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