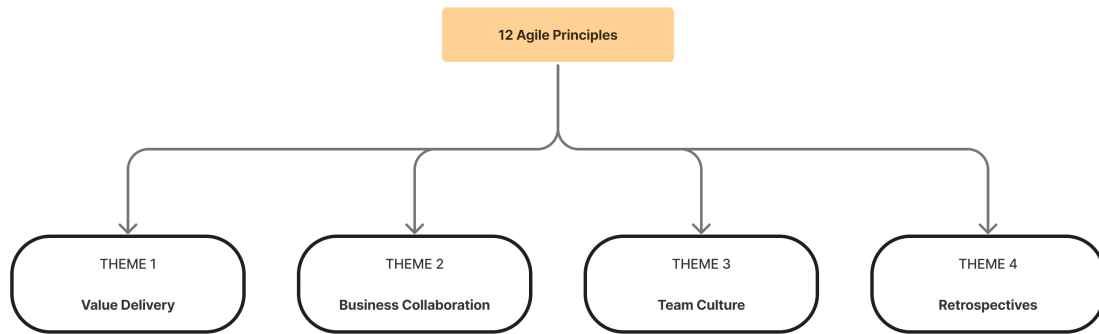# 1.4. The 12 Principles of the Agile Manifesto

The 12 Agile Principles

1. Customer satisfaction through early and continuous delivery of valuable software (Principle 1).
2. Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage (Principle 2).
3. Deliver working software frequently, with a preference for the shorter timescale (Principle 3).
4. Collaboration between business people and developers throughout the project is essential (Principle 4).
5. Build projects around motivated individuals. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done (Principle 5).
6. The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation (Principle 6).
7. Working software is the primary measure of progress (Principle 7).
8. Agile processes promote sustainable development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely (Principle 8).
9. Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility (Principle 9).
10. Simplicity—the art of maximizing the amount of work not done—is essential (Principle 10).
11. The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from self-organizing teams (Principle 11).
12. At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly (Principle 12).

Understanding Agile Principles

The 12 principles of Agile, reinforce and expand upon these 4 values of agile. These principles are divided into four themes, distinct from the four values:

- Value Delivery
- Business Collaboration
- Team Culture
- Retrospectives

Value Delivery

1. **Deliver Working Solutions Frequently (Principle 3):** Timely delivery facilitates feedback and reduces the risk of misdirected efforts.
2. **Simplicity Over Complexity (Principle 10):** Emphasizes focusing on essential tasks rather than getting lost in unnecessary details.
3. **Prioritize Feedback and Prototyping (Principle 7):** Gathering feedback on prototypes aids in identifying crucial features.
4. **Work on Approved Features Only (Principle 2):** Avoid spending time on unnecessary functionalities.
5. **Allocate Time for Refinement (Principle 12):** Dedicate a portion of the team's schedule to refine processes and enhance future iterations.

Business Collaboration

1. **Engage Customers for Business Insights (Principle 1):** Collaborating with customers aids in aligning project goals with business objectives.
2. **Proximity and Communication (Principle 6):** Ensuring easy access between business stakeholders and development teams fosters efficient communication.

Team Dynamics and Culture

1. **Value Interactions Over Processes (Principle 6):** Emphasizes the importance of team dynamics and interaction for project success.

2. **Trust, Support, and Empowerment (Principle 5):** Creating an environment where the team feels trusted and empowered to make decisions.
3. **Provide Necessary Resources (Principle 5):** Supplying the team with the tools and resources they need for their tasks.
4. **Encourage Team Engagement (Principle 11):** Allowing teams to develop their own processes, fostering a sense of ownership and engagement.

Retrospectives and Continuous Learning

1. **Regular Reflection and Adaptation (Principle 12):** Reflecting on team performance and behaviors to continuously improve effectiveness.

The Agile Manifesto's four values and 12 principles serve as the bedrock of modern project management practices.

Resources

- The Agile Manifesto Principles : https://agilemanifesto.org/principles.html