

ENGN 2125
Assignment 10
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Prompt 1

In my opinion, Mighty Jaxx's product development function could benefit the most from implementing scrum/sprint methodologies. Given the company's focus on innovative and unique designs, this function requires a great deal of creativity and collaboration among team members. Scrum/sprint is a project management technique that would allow the design team to break down the product development process into smaller, more manageable tasks that are worked on in iterative sprints.

This methodology would promote frequent feedback and collaboration among team members, making it easier to track progress and address any issues that may arise. By breaking the product development process into sprints, the team can also mitigate cognitive biases that may influence key business decisions, such as the sunk cost fallacy. Regular reassessment of progress allows the team to determine whether a design concept is worth investing further time and resources into.

In terms of project management techniques that could benefit Mighty Jaxx, while kanban is a viable option for product development, it might not be the most appropriate fit for the company. This visual scheduling tool is primarily aimed at managing workflow and limiting work in progress, which could be beneficial for managing production pipeline but may not provide sufficient structure for creative and collaborative aspects of product design. On the other hand, scrum/sprint offers a more structured framework for iterative design and development, which could be more effective for Mighty Jaxx's needs.

Scrum/sprint methodologies could be effectively used by Mighty Jaxx's product development function to promote a more structured and iterative approach to design and development. This technique would involve breaking down the product development process into smaller, manageable tasks that are worked on in iterative sprints, facilitating regular collaboration and feedback among team members while making it easier to track progress and address any issues that arise. By using sprints, the team can also avoid cognitive biases such as the sunk cost fallacy by regularly reviewing progress and determining whether a design concept is worth further investment.

Scrum/sprint methodologies are particularly suited for Mighty Jaxx's product development function, which requires extensive creativity and collaboration. The design team can work together in smaller sprints, focusing on specific design elements and making gradual progress towards the final product. This approach allows the team to work more efficiently and ensures that every team member's contribution is valuable.

In comparison, kanban may not be the most appropriate fit for Mighty Jaxx's product development function, as it mainly focuses on managing workflow and limiting work in progress. While kanban

could be beneficial for managing the production pipeline, it may not provide adequate structure for the creative and collaborative aspects of product design. Kanban is better suited for repetitive projects that require a consistent process, whereas the development of unique and innovative products necessitates a more flexible approach that scrum/sprint provides.

Prompt 2

I believe that implementing kanban methodologies could greatly benefit the production function of Mighty Jaxx. Kanban is a visual scheduling tool that concentrates on managing workflow and limiting work in progress, resulting in more efficient resource allocation. Kanban's emphasis on workflow management enables the production team to monitor work progress, detect bottlenecks, and make improvements to increase efficiency. Furthermore, kanban's focus on limiting work in progress ensures that the team manages their workload effectively, avoiding overburdening themselves with too many tasks simultaneously.

To optimize resource allocation and improve the efficiency of production at Mighty Jaxx, kanban methodologies could be implemented. This would involve creating a visual board to track the production process with columns such as 'To-Do,' 'In Progress,' 'Quality Control,' and 'Completed.' The board would prioritize tasks and eliminate any unnecessary steps to improve efficiency. By limiting work in progress, the production team could effectively manage their workload and avoid being overwhelmed by too many tasks at once.

Scrum/sprint methodologies may not be ideal for the production function of Mighty Jaxx as it requires a more rigid process that focuses on efficiency and waste reduction, unlike the flexible and iterative approach of scrum/sprint, which is better suited for product design and development. Kanban's emphasis on workflow management and limiting work in progress is more appropriate for this type of function, making it the better choice for Mighty Jaxx's production needs.

Prompt 3

“When you're thinking about making Mighty Jaxx more agile, it's important to be aware of the status quo bias. This is our tendency to resist change and prefer things to stay the same. If you're not careful, this bias could cause you to resist making changes to your current business processes and miss out on the benefits of using agile methodologies. You might also overlook the potential downsides of sticking with the status quo, like decreased productivity or falling behind your competitors.

To avoid this cognitive trap, I suggest challenging your assumptions and carefully weighing the pros and cons of both your current state and adopting agile methodologies. It might also be helpful to try out pilot projects in specific areas of your organization to gather data and make informed decisions based on the results.”