What is Scrum?

If anyone thinks **Scrum** is now known to everyone involved in software development or project management, think again. 'What is Scrum' is still one of the most searched terms on the web (in relation to agile development that is).

According to the Scrum Alliance, ***"Scrum is an agile framework for completing complex projects. Scrum originally was formalized for software development projects, but works well for any complex, innovative scope of work. The possibilities are endless. The Scrum framework is deceptively simple."***

For me, that still doesn't describe what Scrum is. "An agile framework for completing complex projects" – that could be anything!

Here is my attempt to define it more clearly:

Scrum is a simple and repeatable way of managing work. It can be used for projects, or for ongoing activities. It was originally designed for software development work, although is not specific to software development so can be used to manage any work.
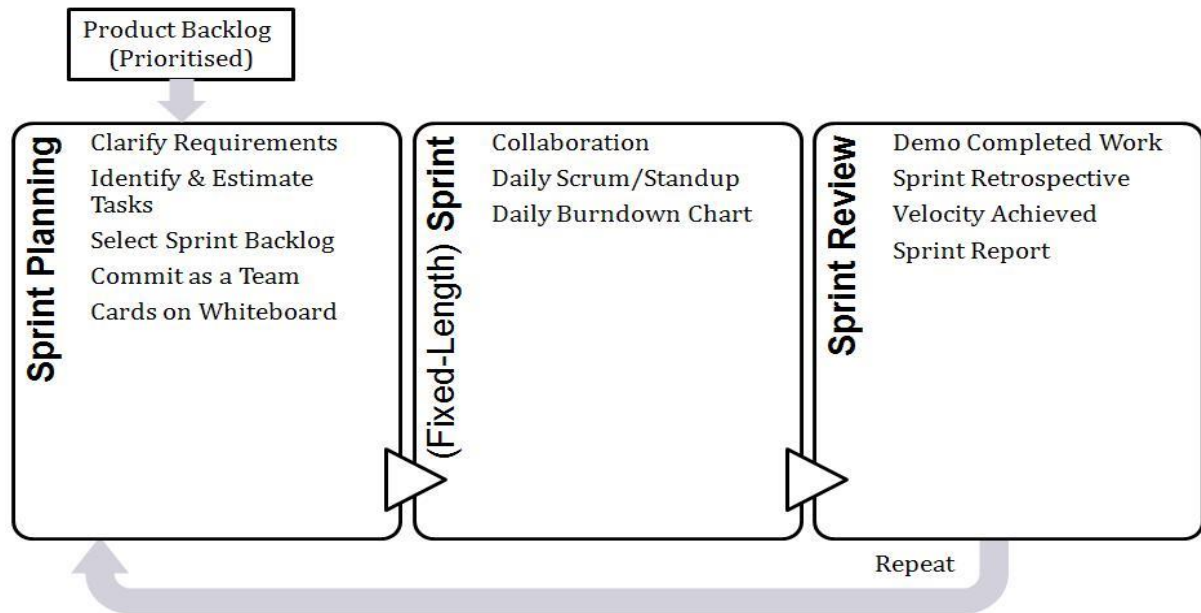
Scrum is based on the principles and values of the _agile manifesto_, which proposes a different style for managing software development work, encouraging an emphasis on people over processes, working software over documentation, collaboration over contract negotiation, and responding to change over following a plan.

The term _agile_ has also become synonymous with an incremental and iterative approach to software development.

Over the years, I have seen various diagrams that try to depict Scrum. In my opinion, they are not great because they often look over complicated to me, or they leave too much to the imagination.

In an effort to address this, I have had a go at creating a clearer summary diagram for myself:

Scrummary :)

All of the activities referred to in the above diagram are covered in my series How to Implement Scrum in 10 Easy Steps. They are also covered in my **eBook – Agile Made Easy!** – which covers how to implement Scrum and also 10 Key Principles of Agile.

Hope this has been helpful…

Kelly.

- See more at: http://www.allaboutagile.com/what-is-scrum/#sthash.QfiU5pmK.dpuf