Agile for Startups

MIT Entrepreneurship Center

15.S51 IAP Special Seminar in Management: Hacking IAP

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Developer Evangelist for Startups, Microsoft

@HackerChick

http://HackerChick.com

Manifesto for Agile Software Dev.

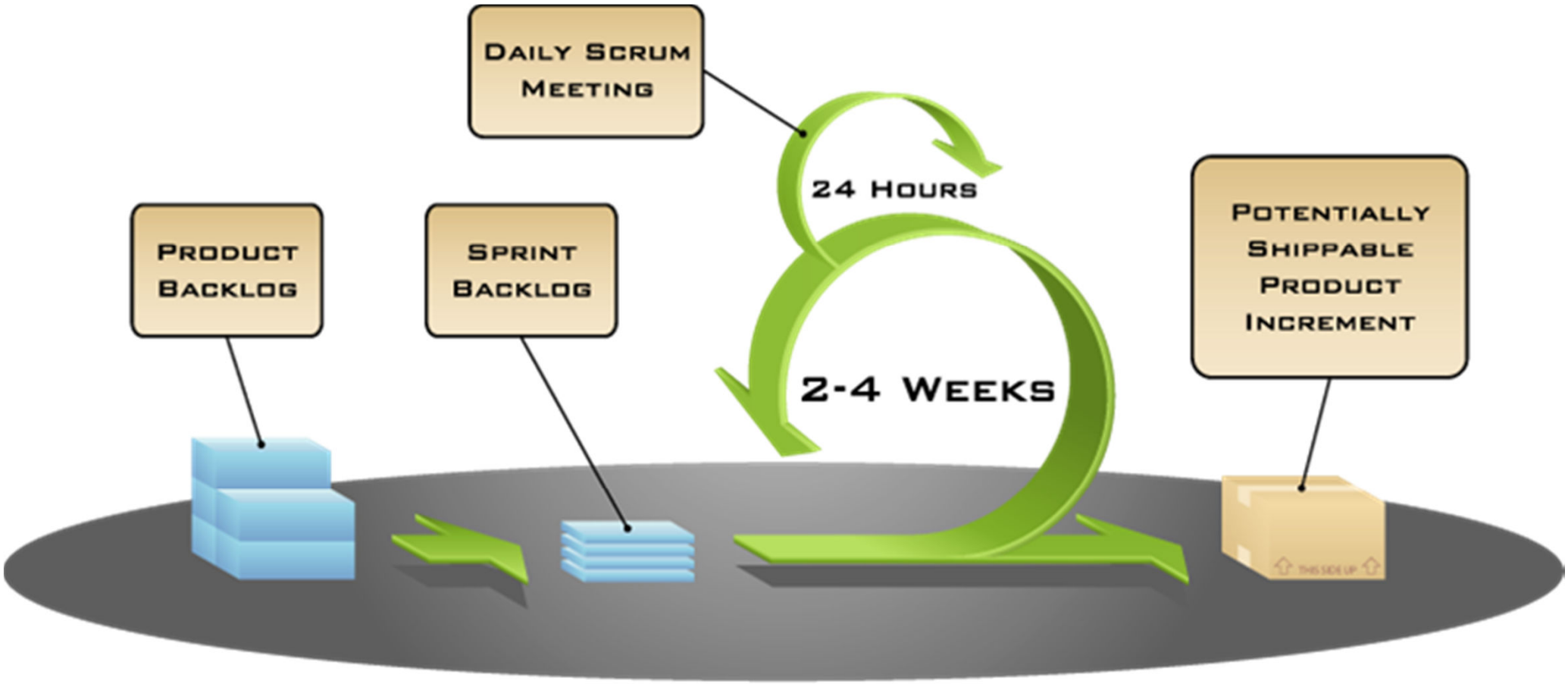
- INDIVIDUALS AND INTERACTIONS OVER PROCESSES AND TOOLS
- WORKING SOFTWARE OVER COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTION
- CUSTOMER COLLABORATION OVER CONTRACT NEGOTIATION
- RESPONDING TO CHANGE OVER FOLLOWING A PLAN

Lean Principles

Eliminate Waste	
Deliver Fast	Optimize the Whole
Create Knowledge	Defer Commitment
Respect People	Build Quality In

Create Value

Don't be Wasteful



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Scrum

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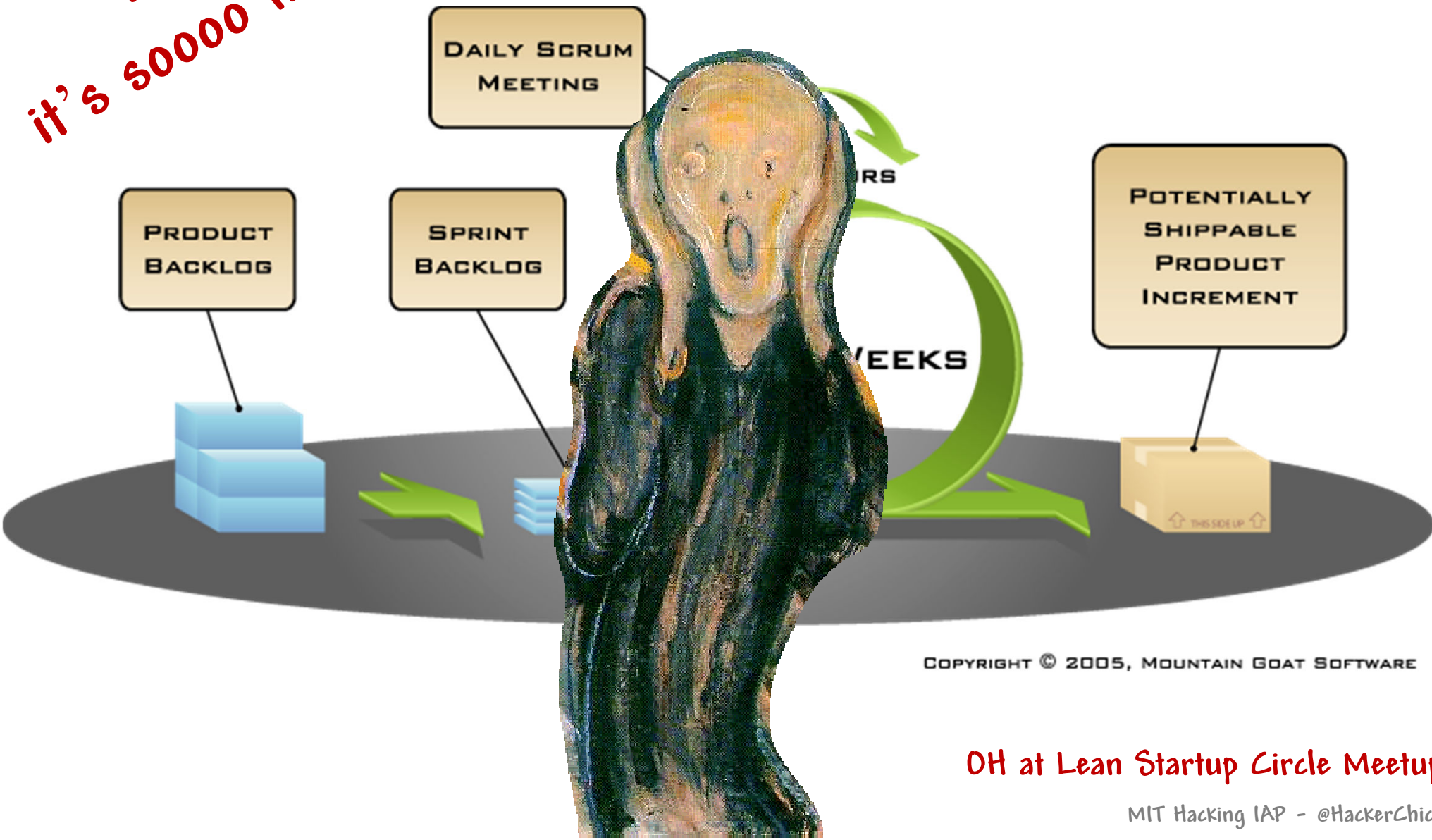
Scrum Helps Us Be Agile & Lean by Helping Us To:

- Ensure we're moving forward quickly
- Continuously turn out value to customer
- Stay on track
  - Checkpoints & feedback loops
  - Make course corrections along the way based on what we've learned

"I HATE Scrum,
it's soooo heavy-weight!"



OH at Lean Startup Circle Meetup

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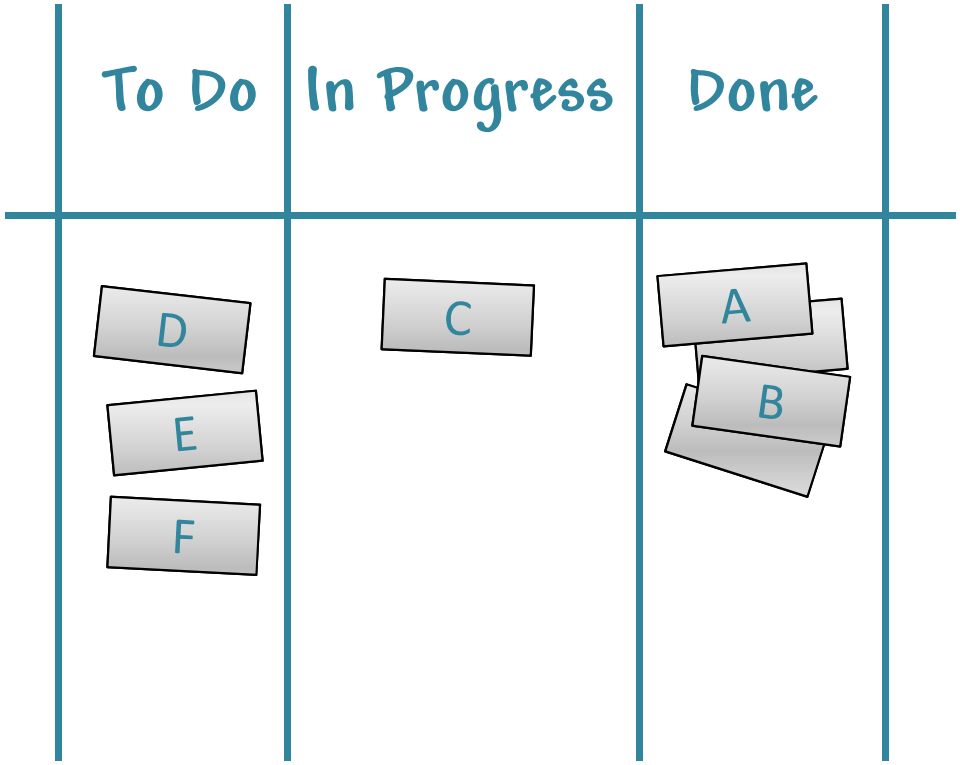
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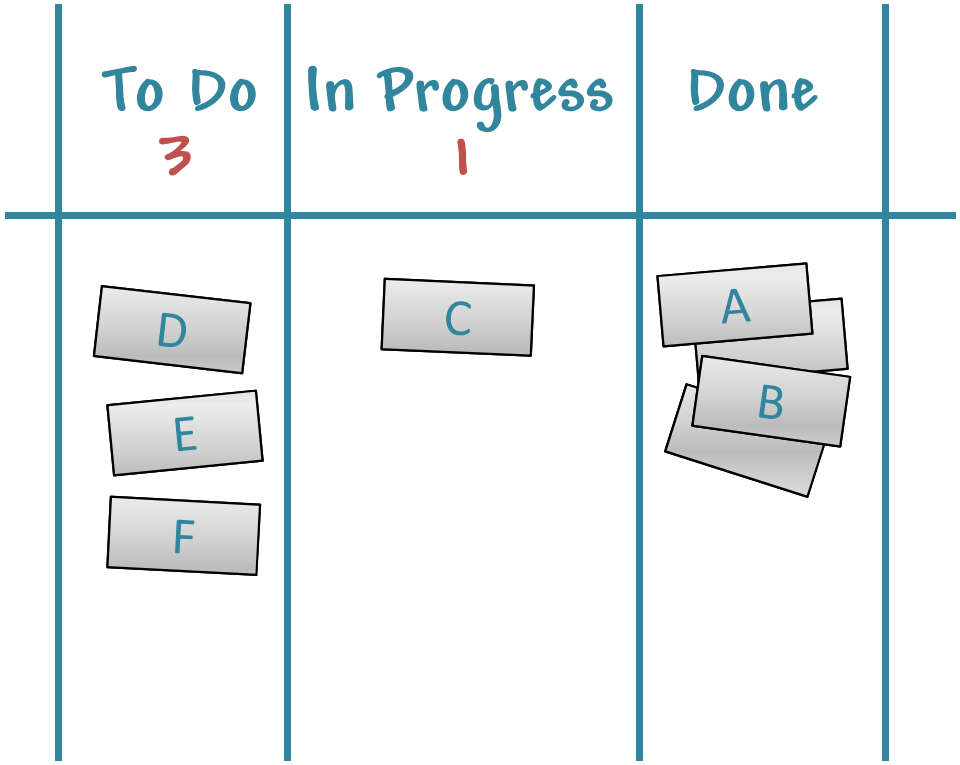

Kanban

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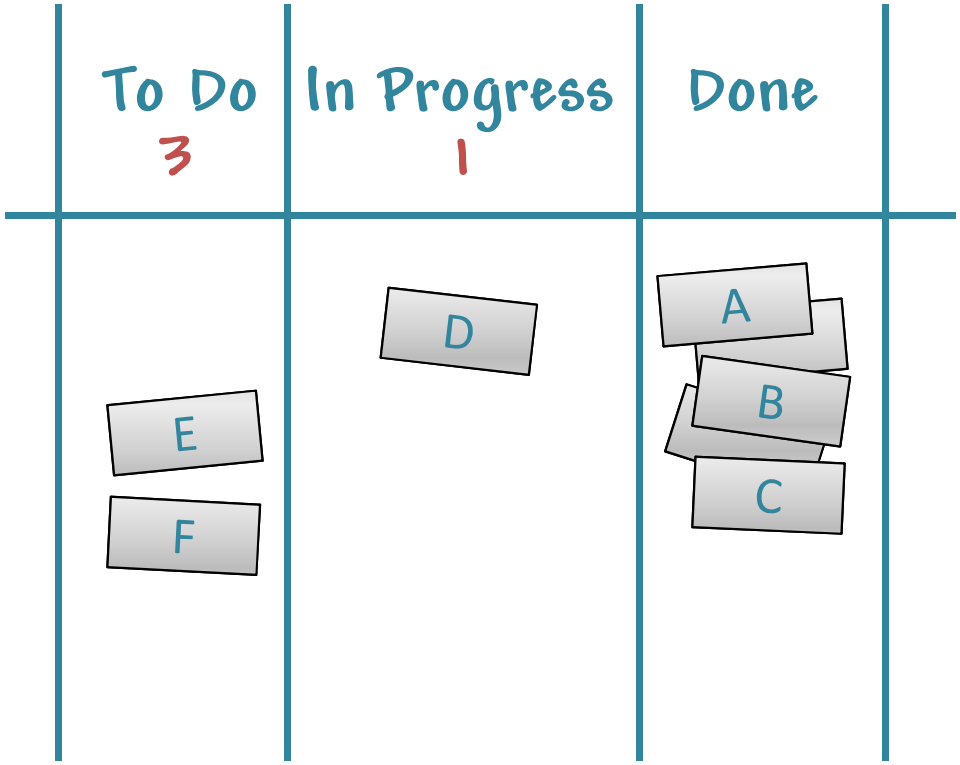
Kanban Provides Scheduling Alternative

- Not constrained by fixed length sprints
- Can deliver next MVP as soon as it is ready
- Still limits Work In Progress to ensure focus
- Can also limit backlog so not weighed down by 100s of To Do/Wish list features



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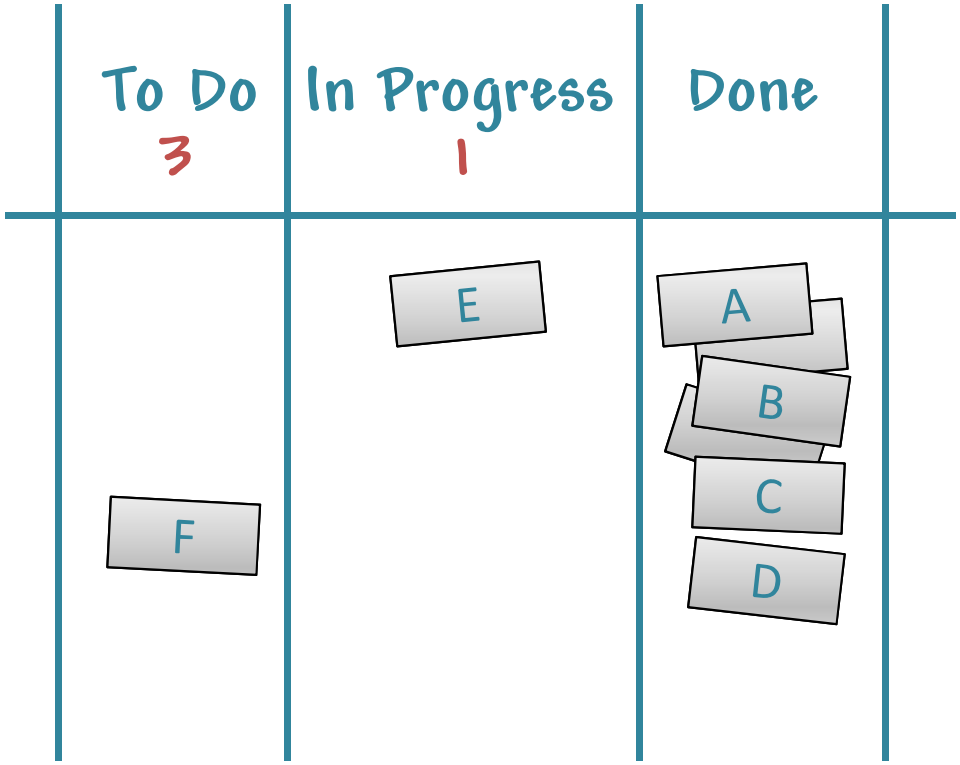
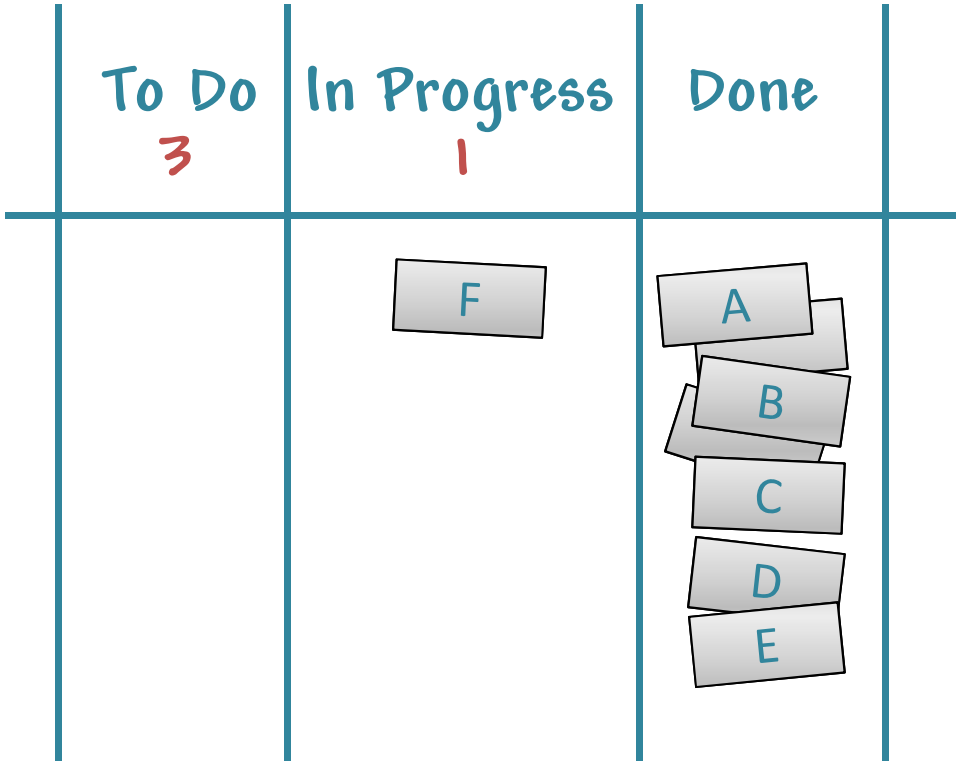


Kanban



Kanban

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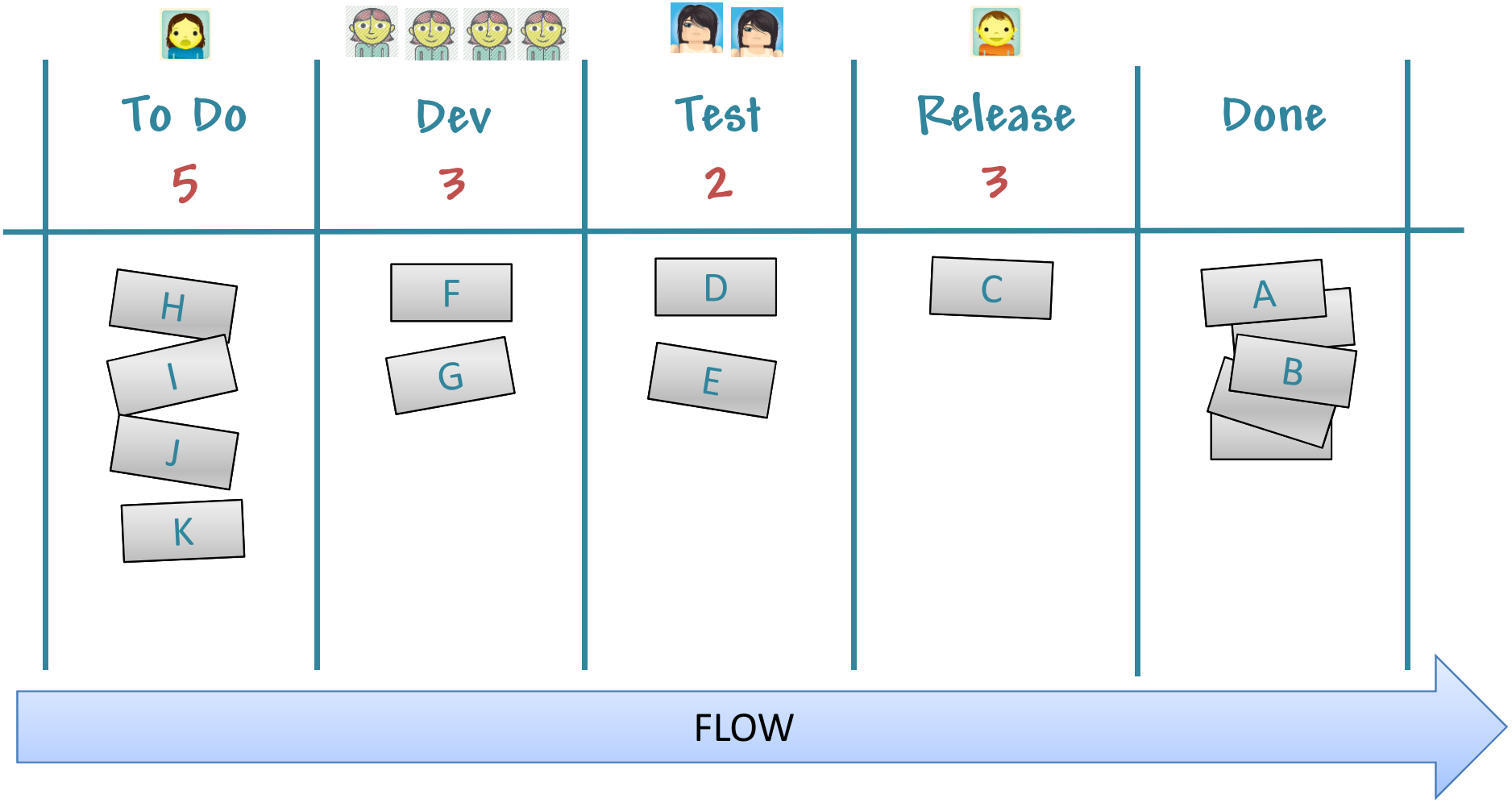
Kanban Lets Team Analyze Flow

- As team grows, can specify different workload capacities for different capabilities
- Kanban board provides visual, real-time status of team's workflow
- Can continuously optimize process
- As bottlenecks occur, resources are gradually moved to bottleneck until it opens



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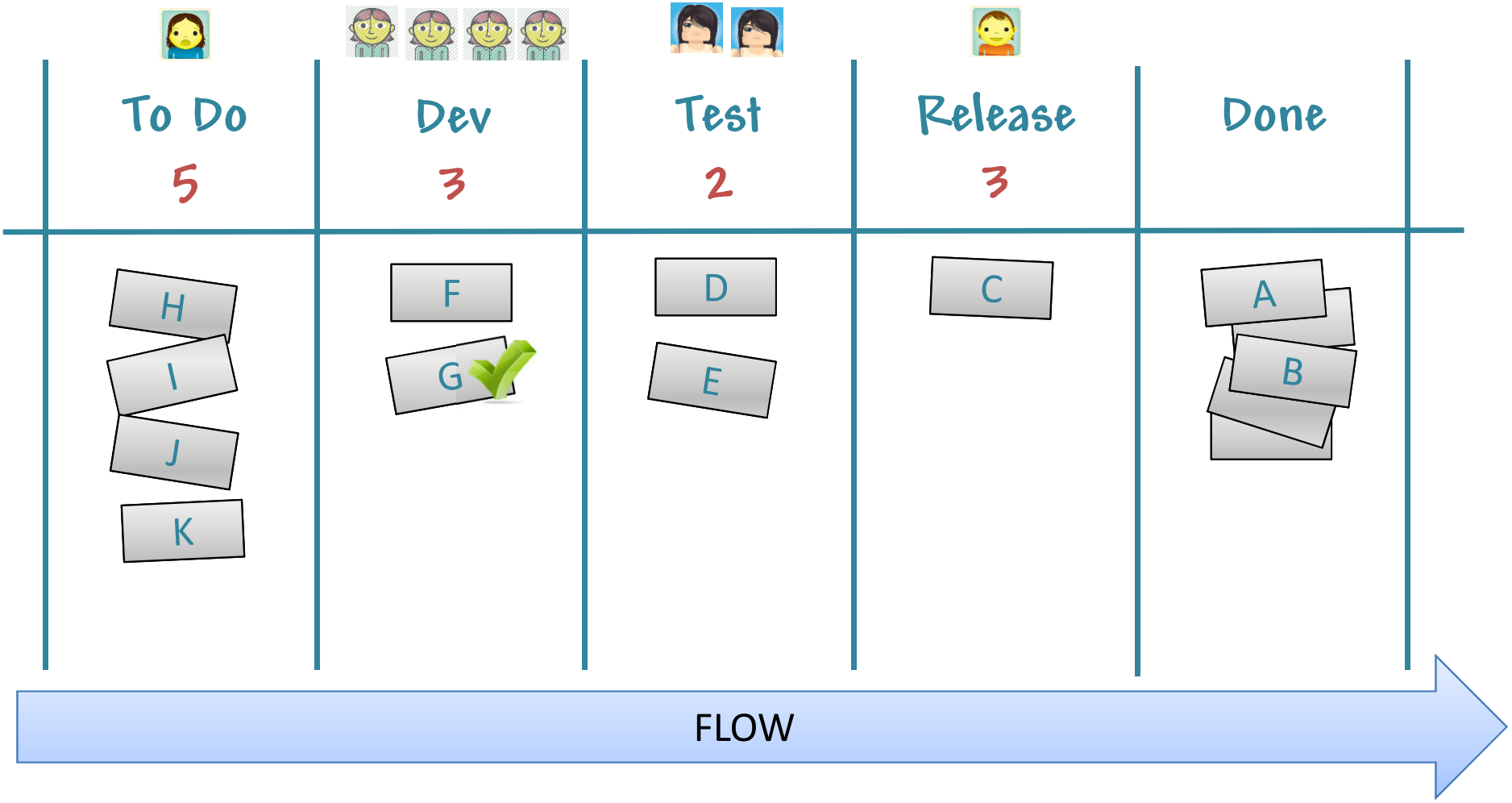

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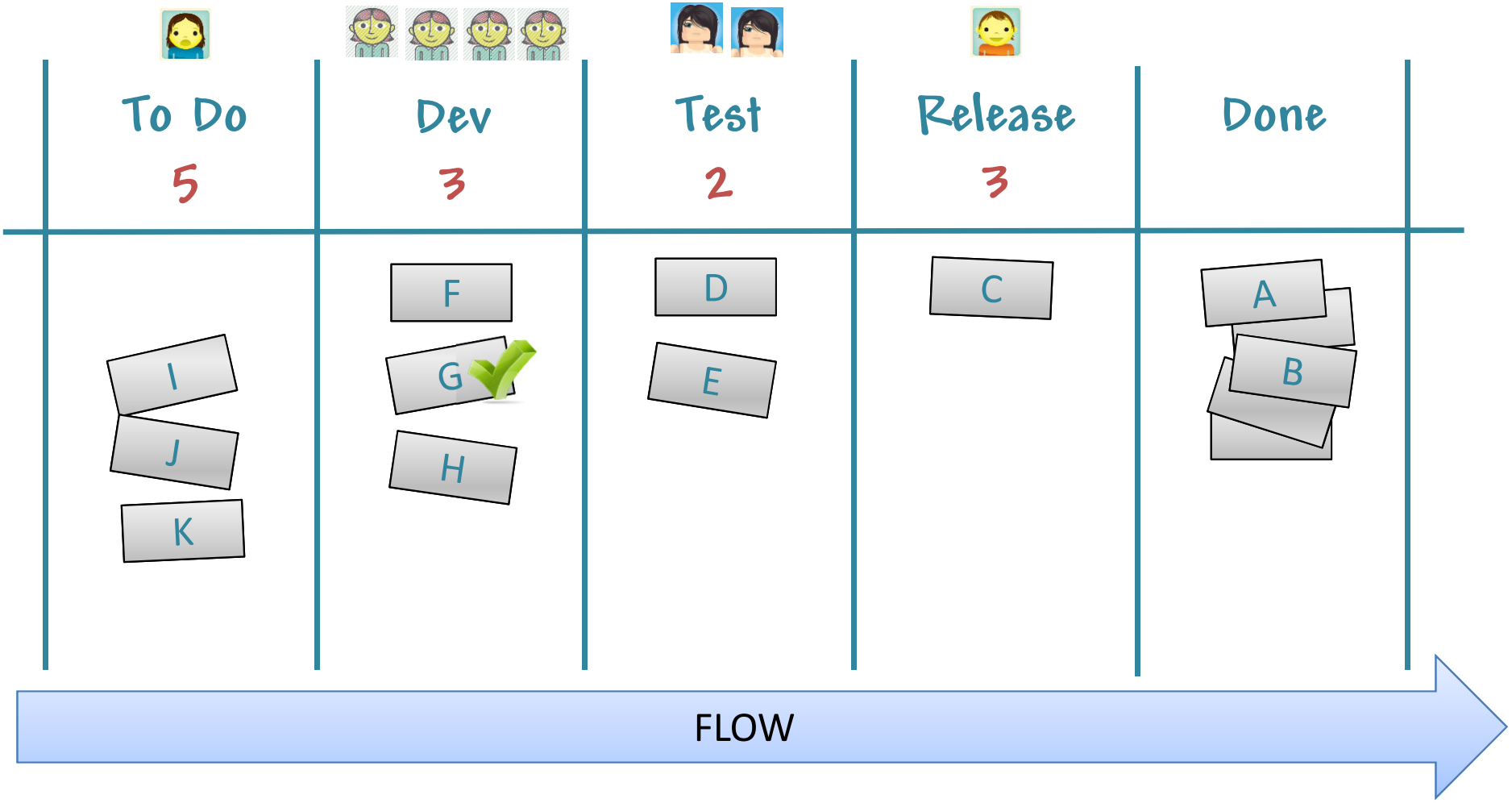

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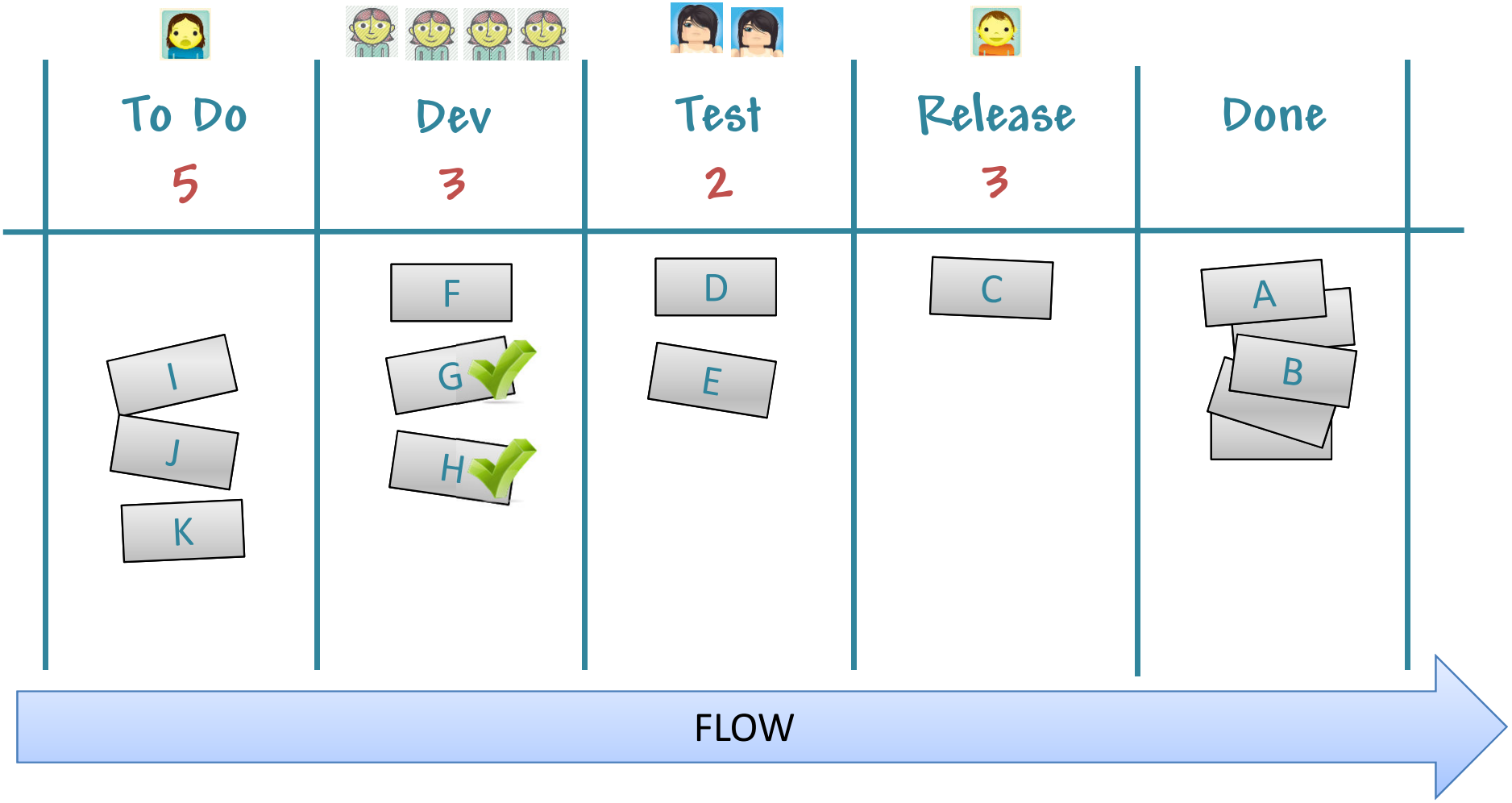

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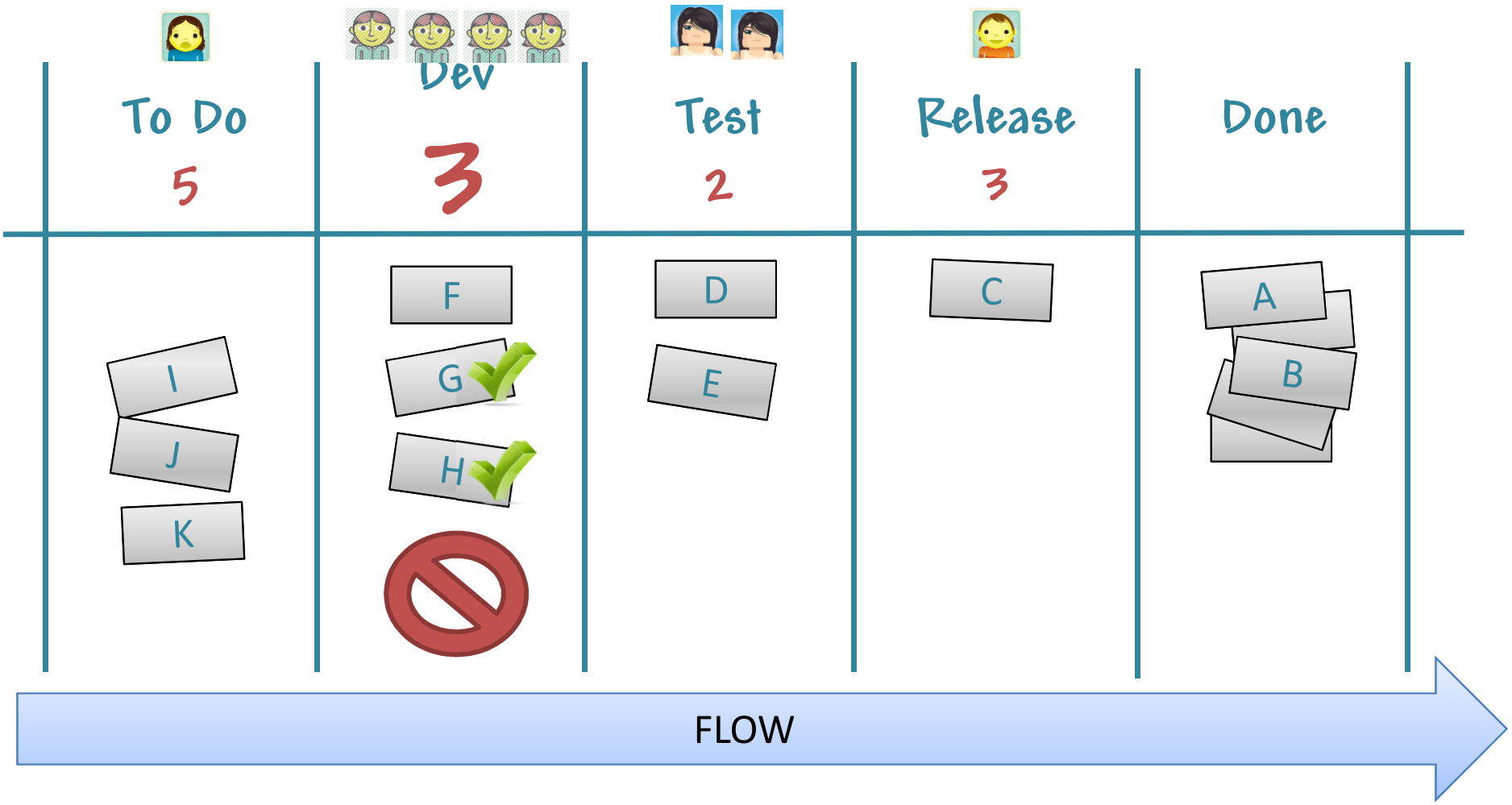

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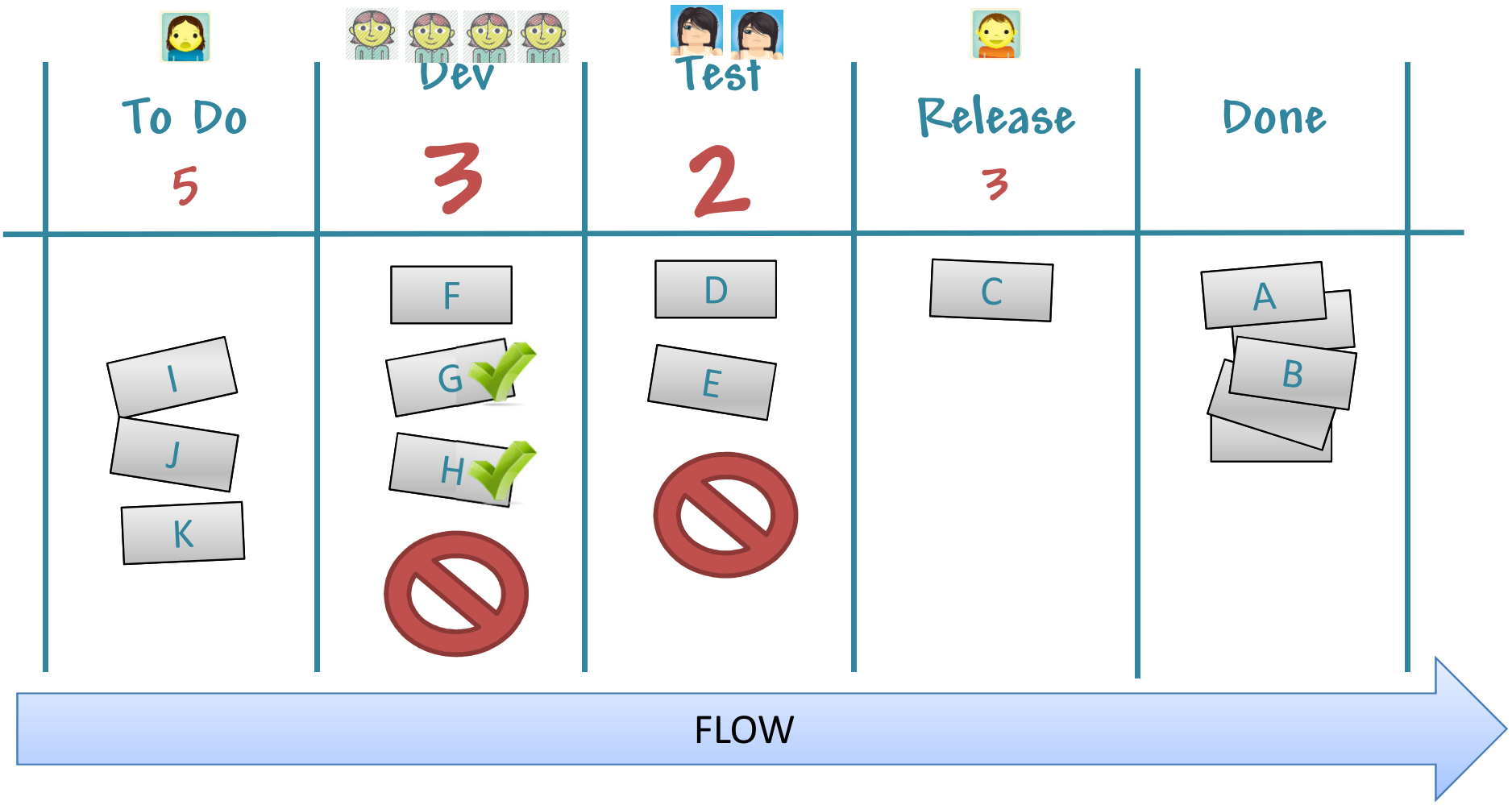

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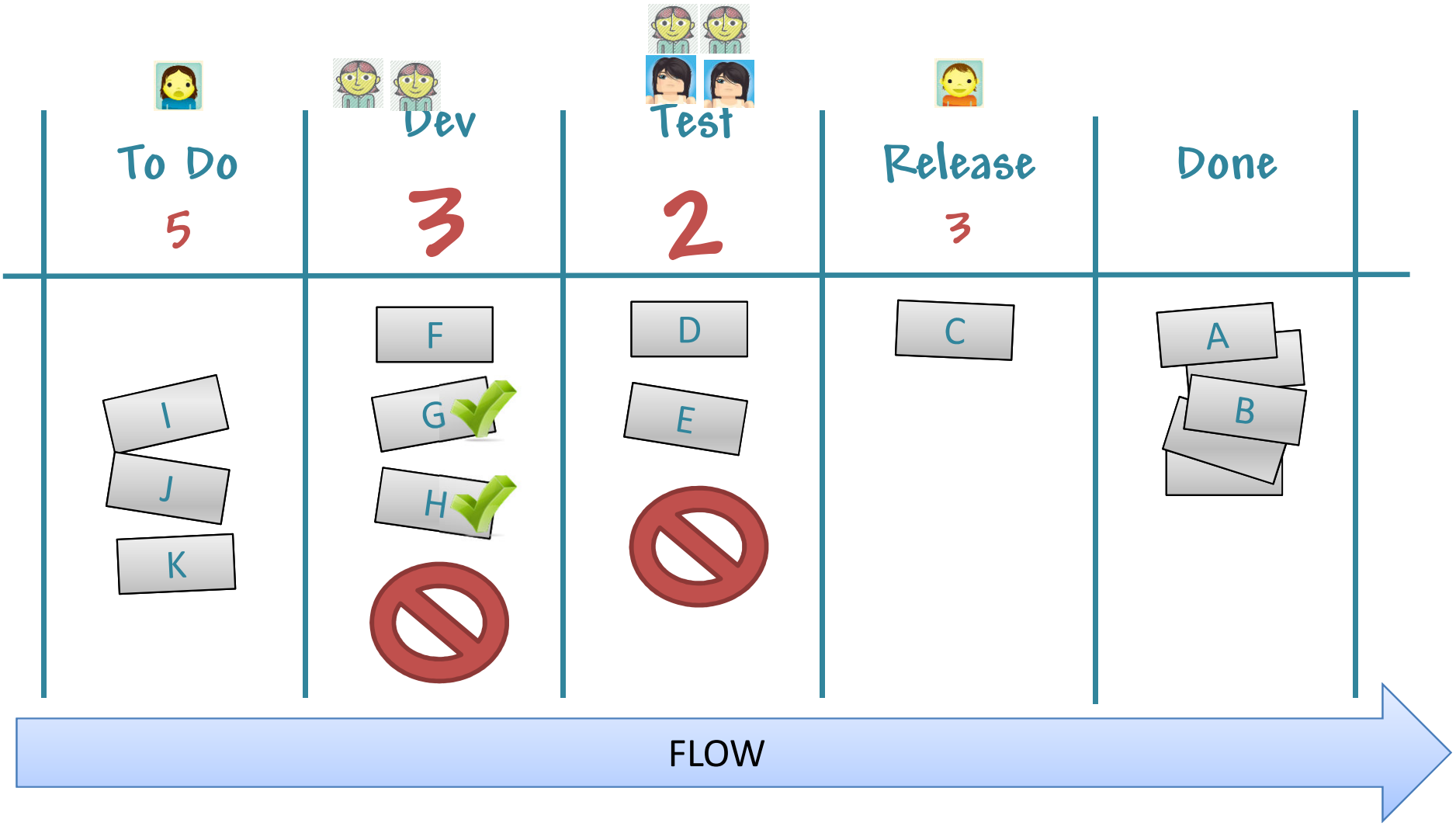

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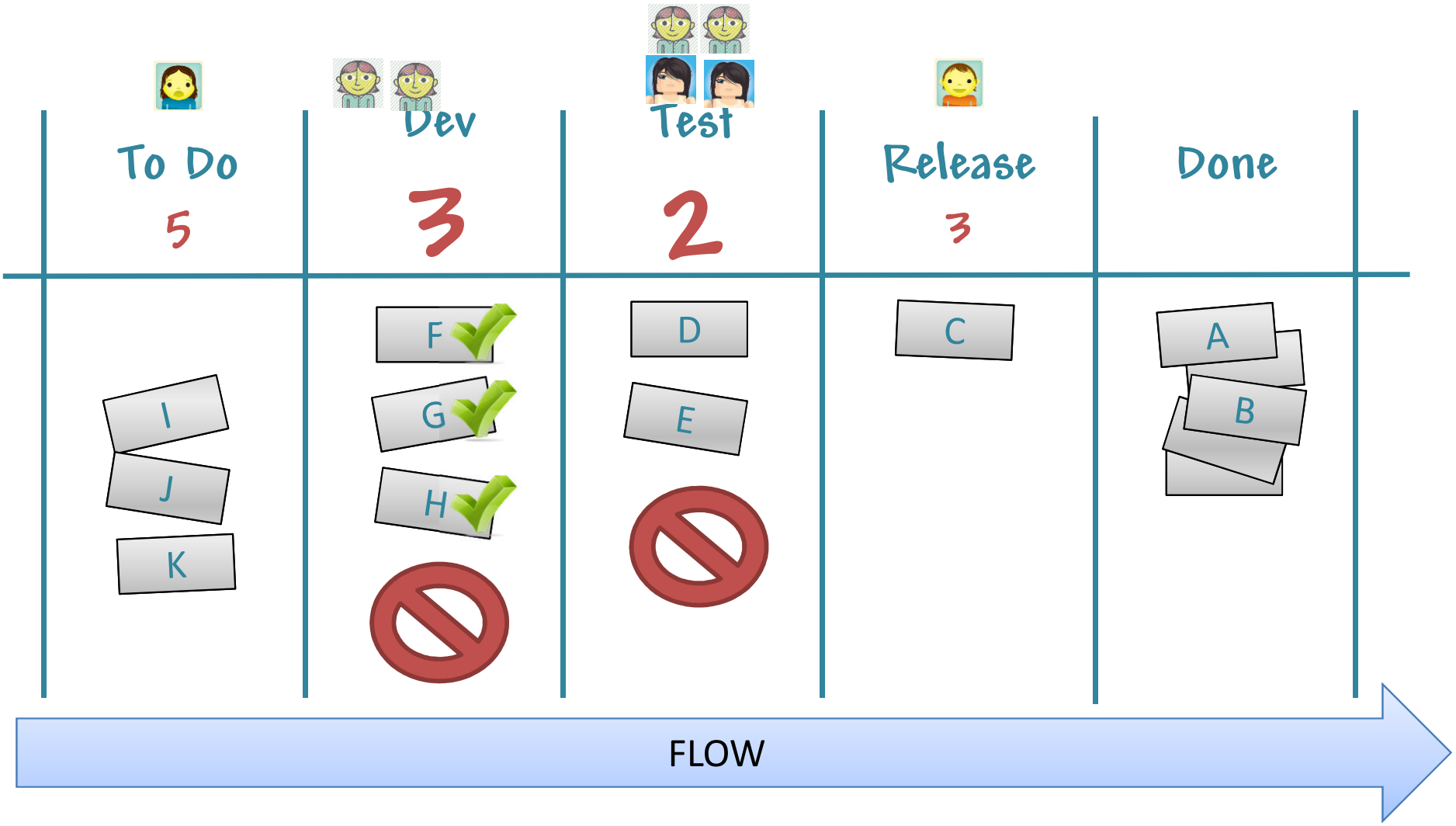

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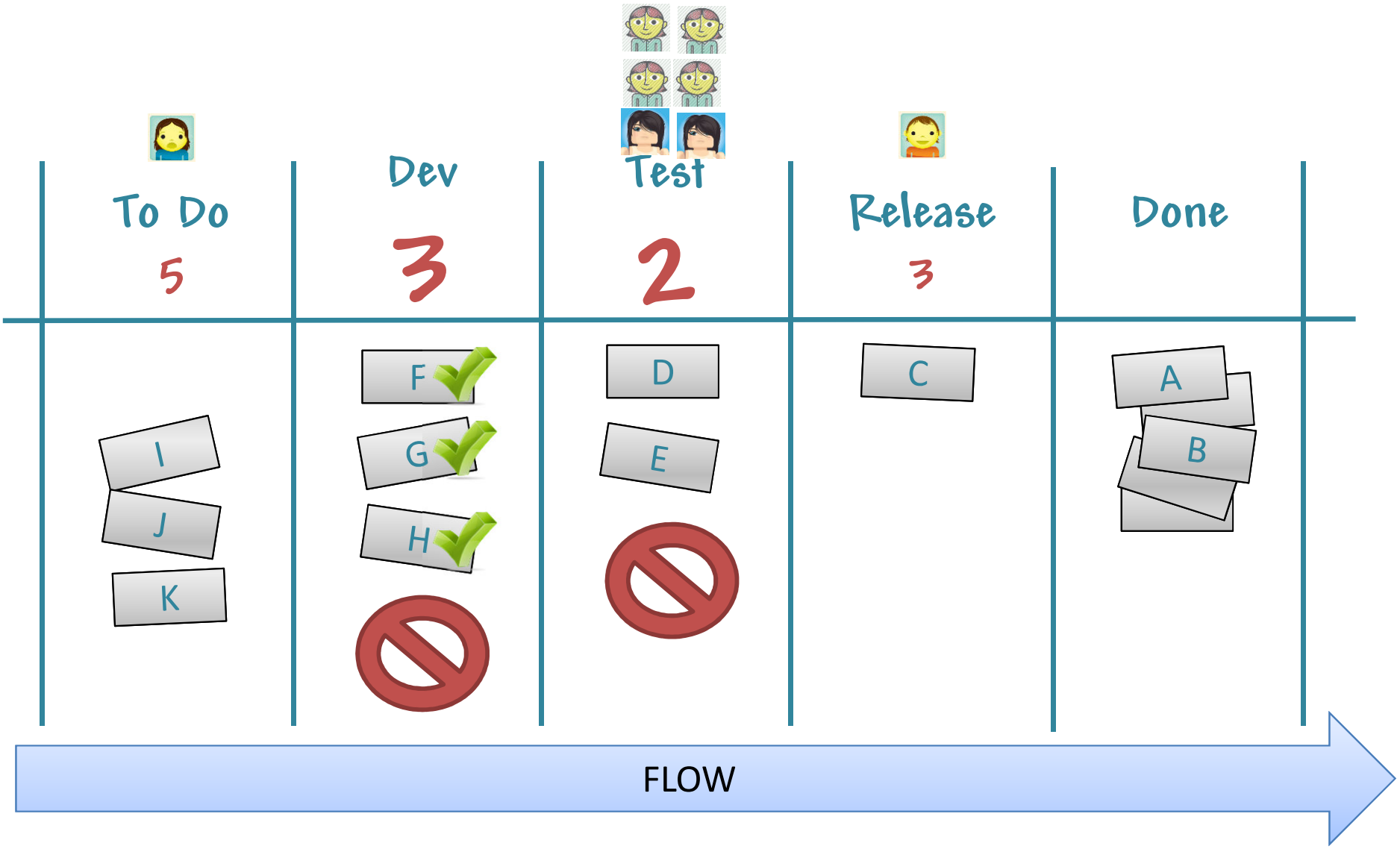

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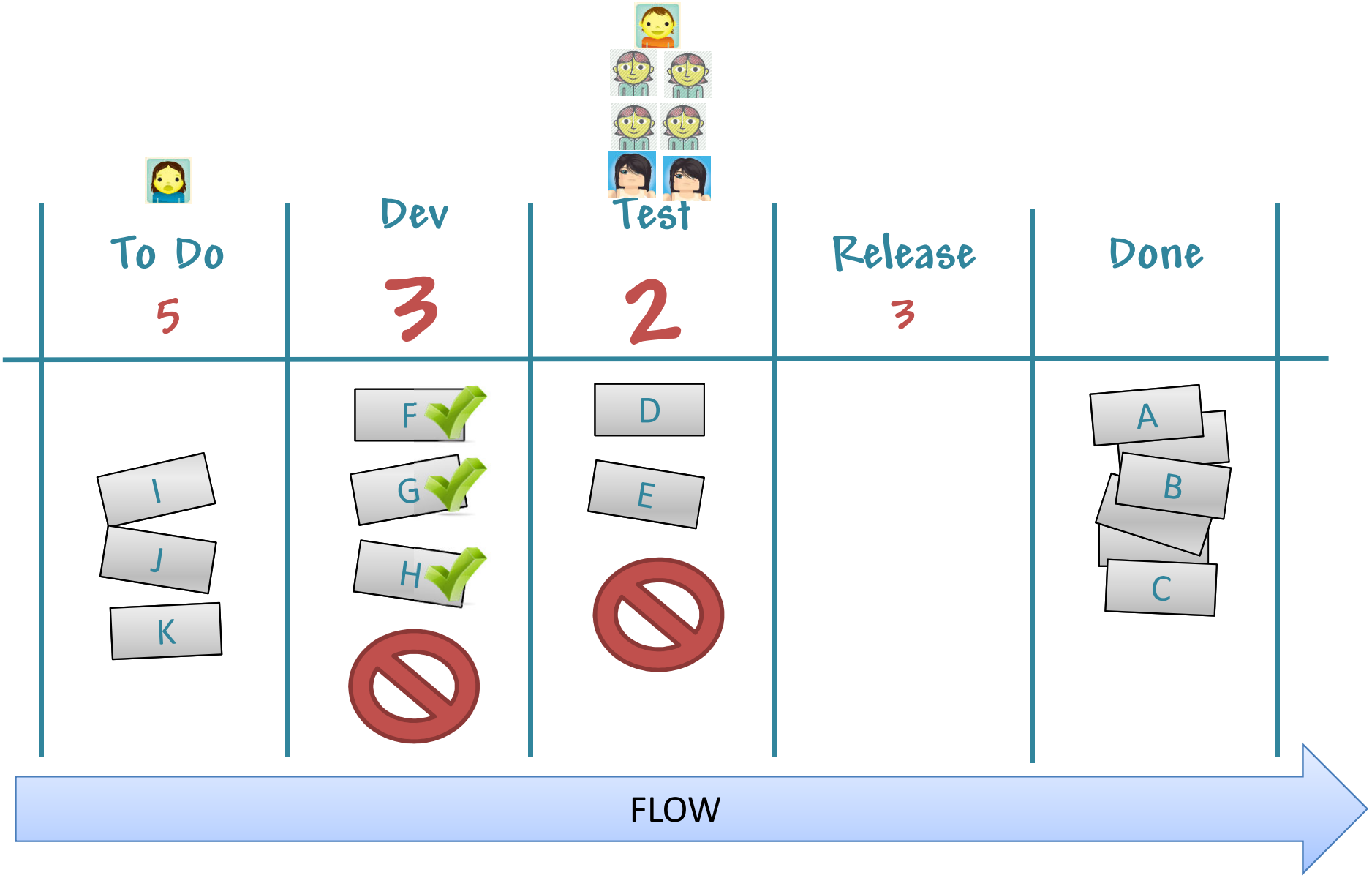

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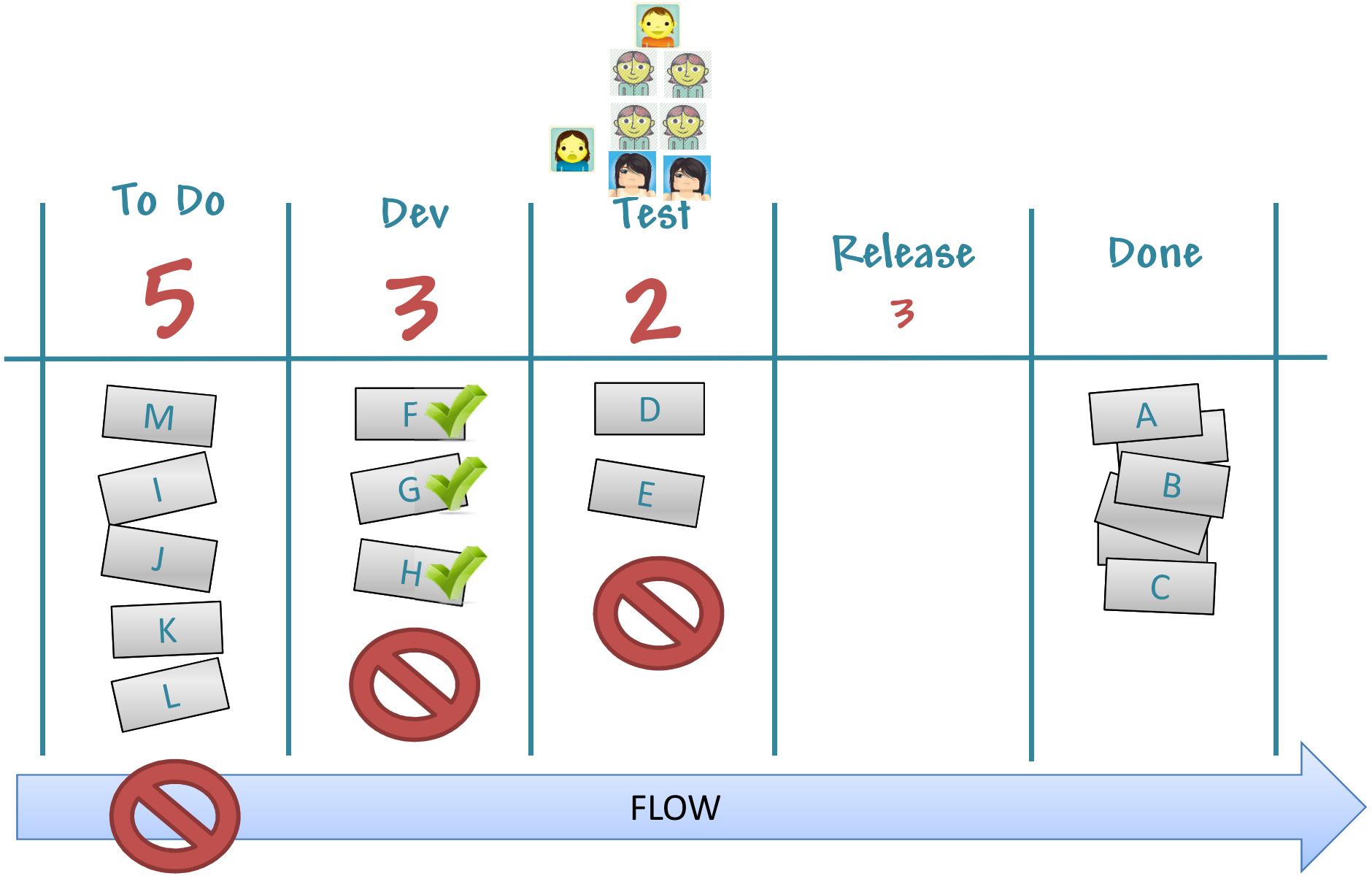

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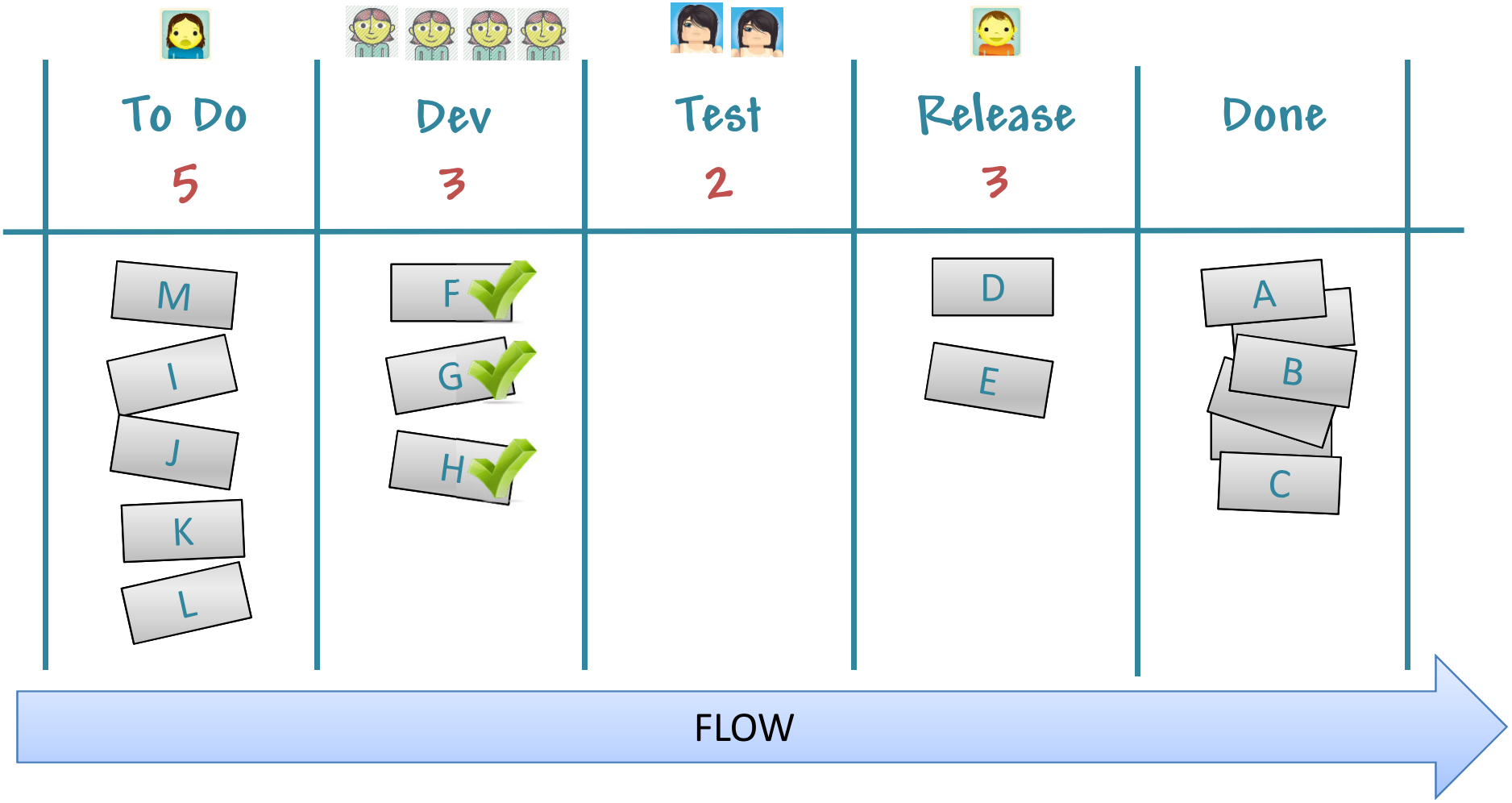

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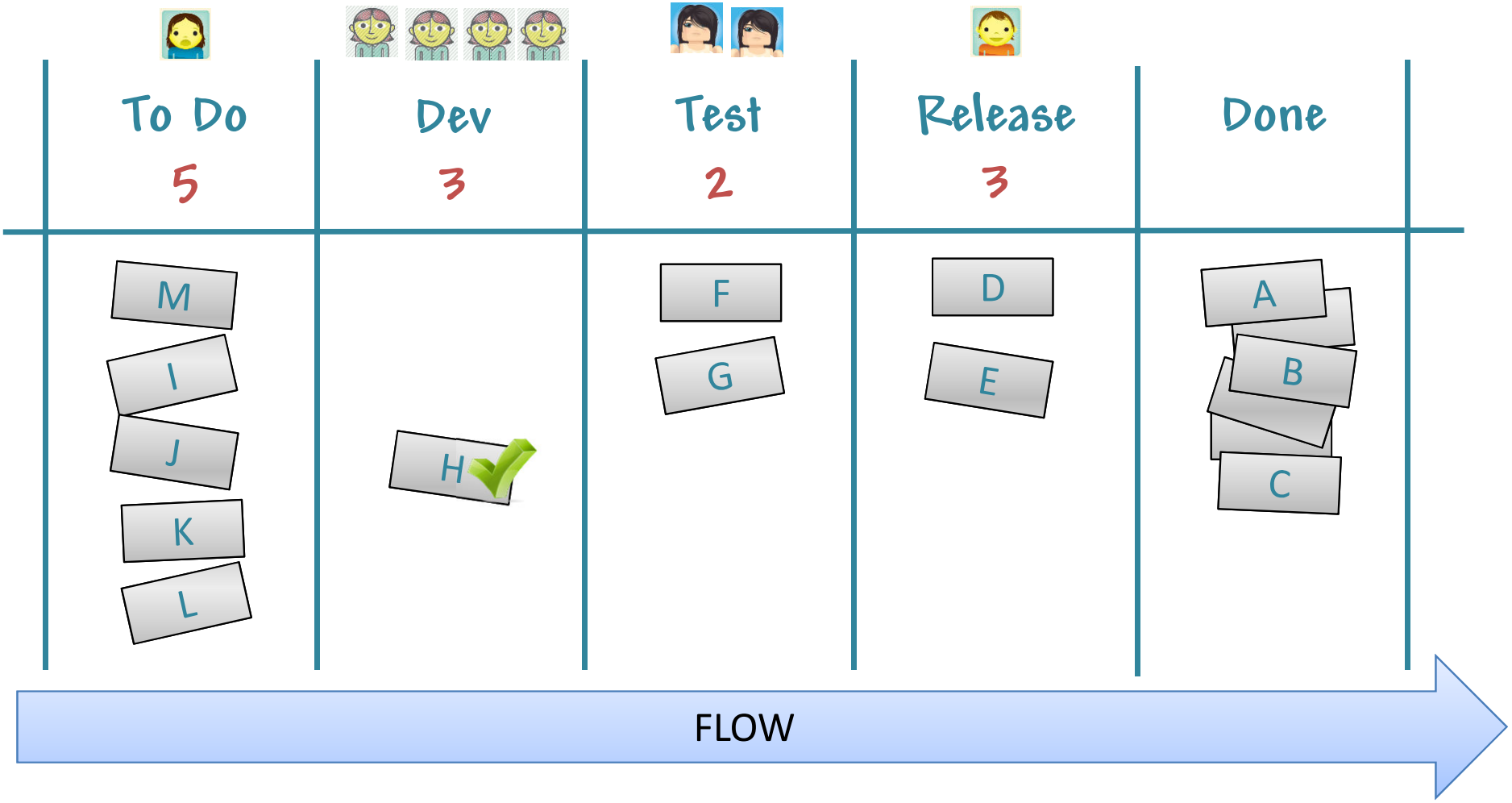

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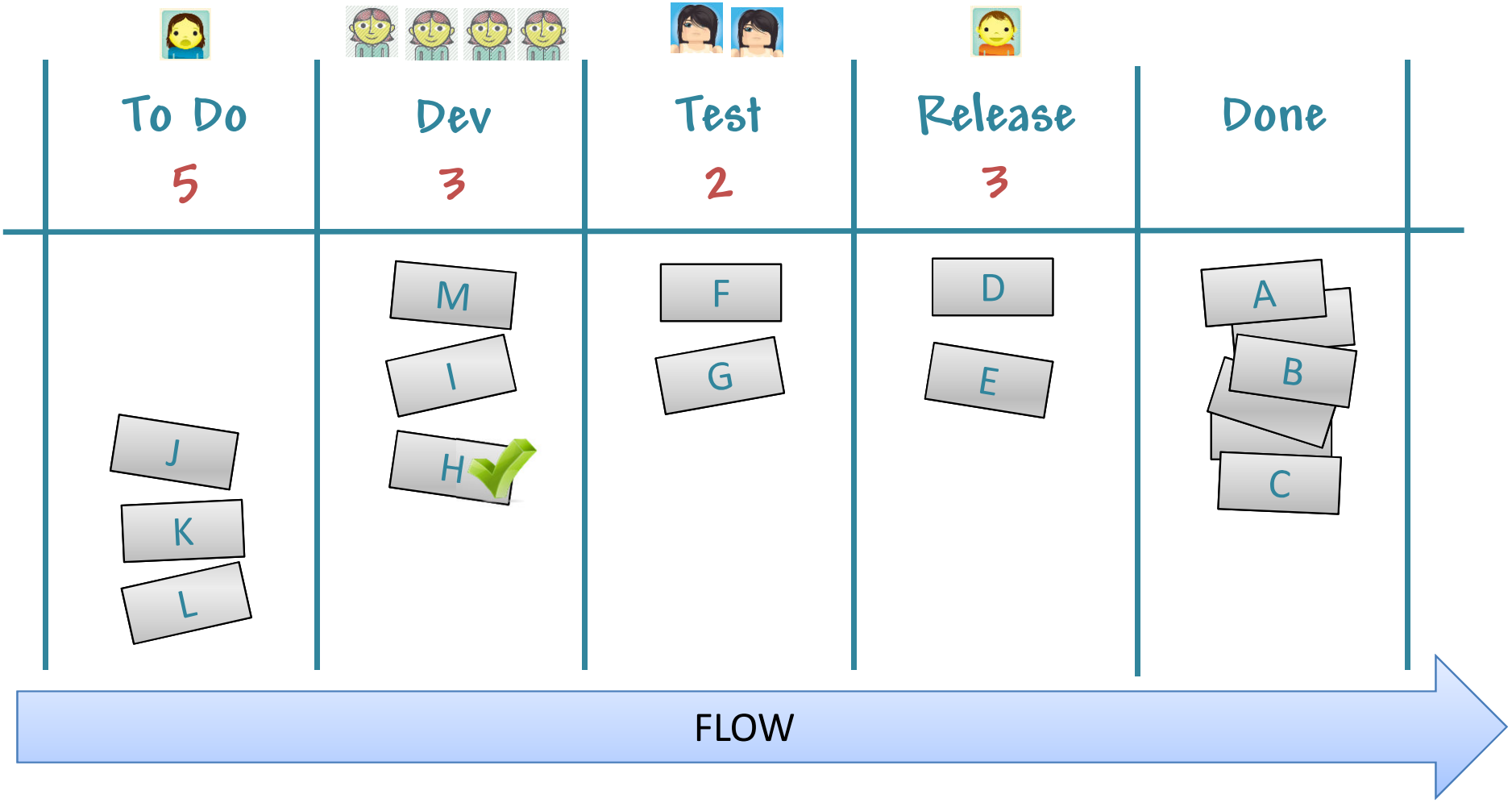

Kanban

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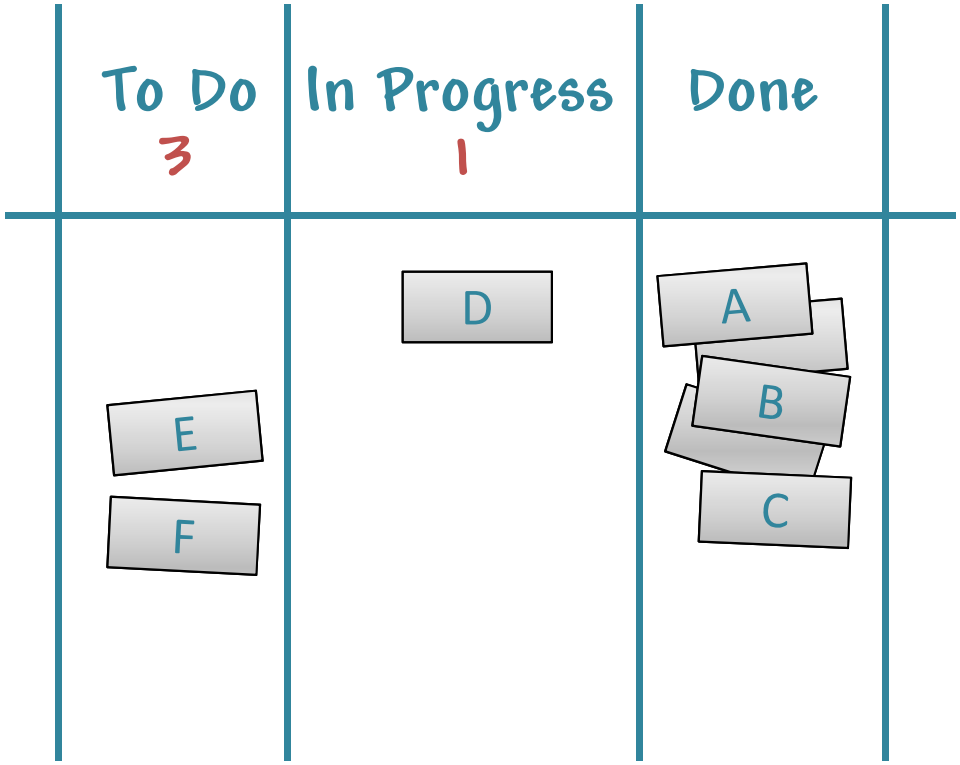
Or for Early-Stage Startups, Kanban…

- Let's team focus on *just* the next Minimum Viable Product



Kanban

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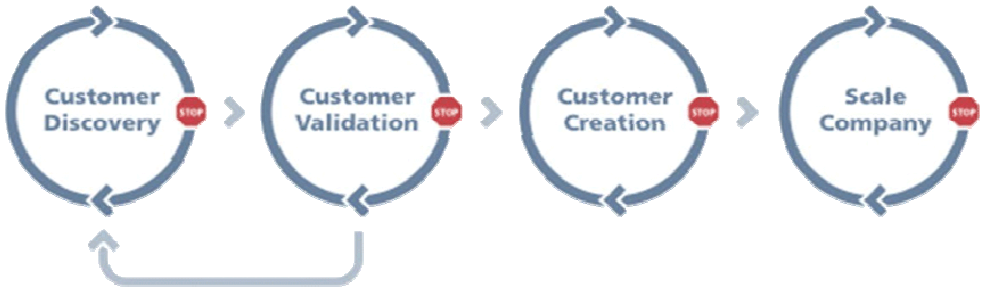
Agile Development

Solution: Unknown

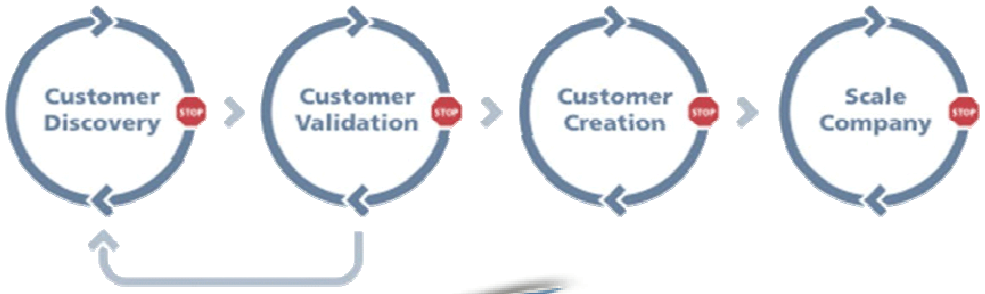


Customer Development

Agile Development

Problem: Unknown

Solution: Unknown

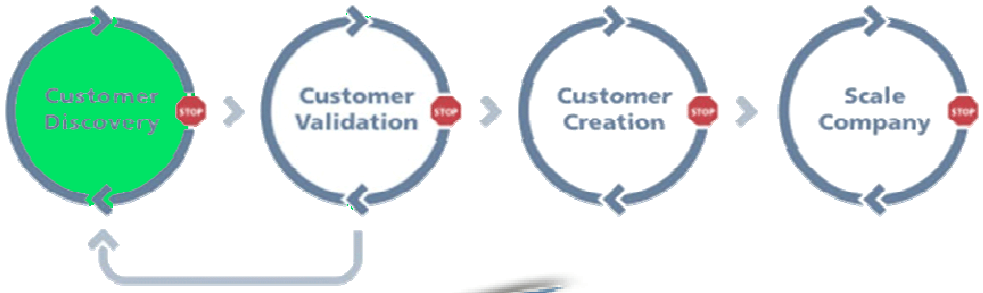


Customer Development

Agile Development

Problem: Unknown

Solution: Unknown



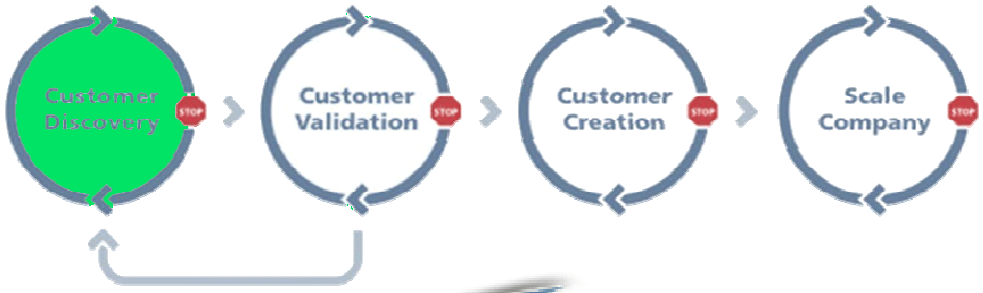
Customer Development

Agile Development

Understanding of customers

Problem: Unknown

Solution: Unknown



Minimum Viable Product

Customer Development

Agile Development

Understanding of customers

Problem: Unknown

Solution: Unknown

Minimum Viable Product

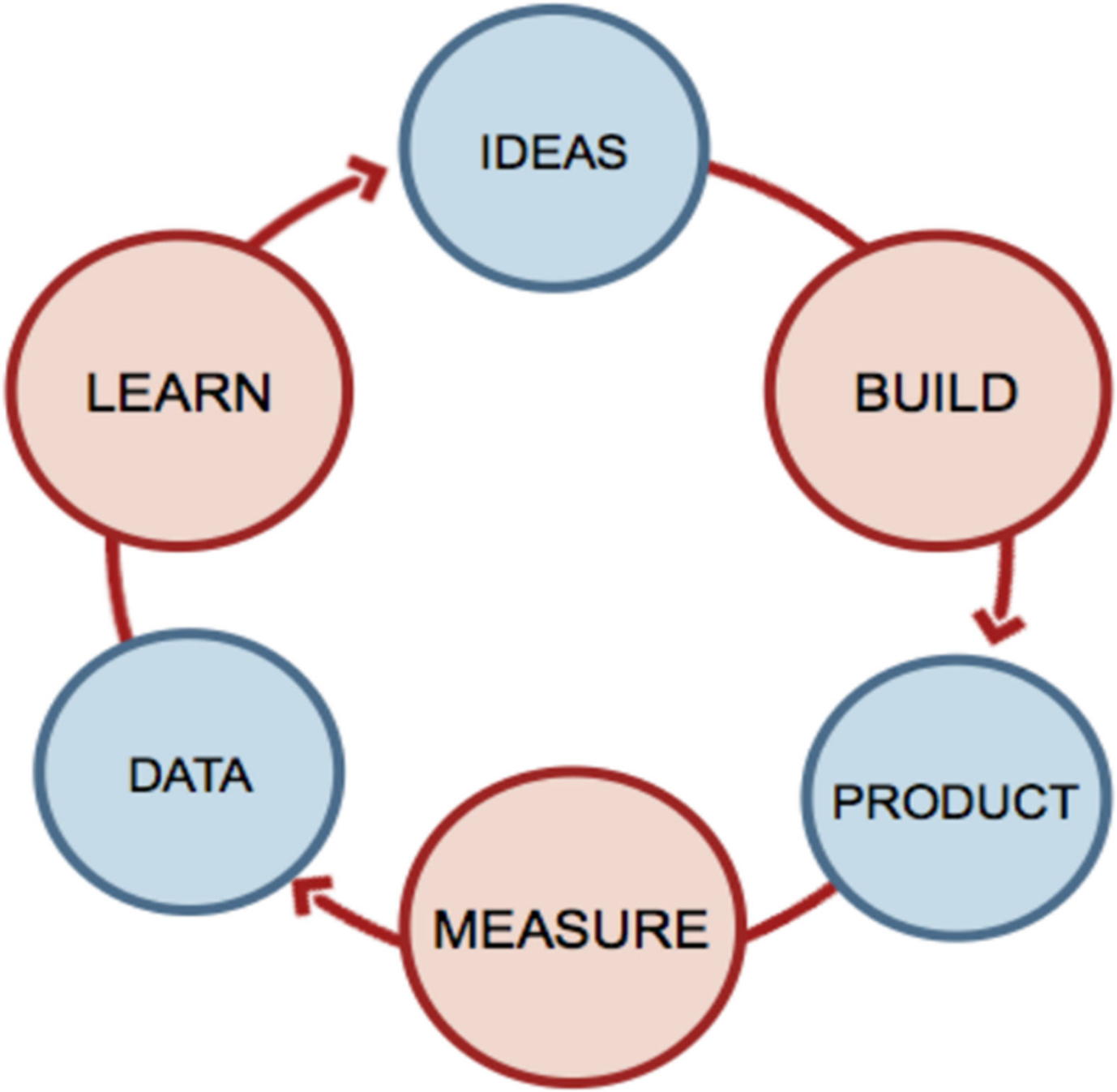
Customer Development

Agile Development

Understanding of customers

Problem: Unknown

Solution: Unknown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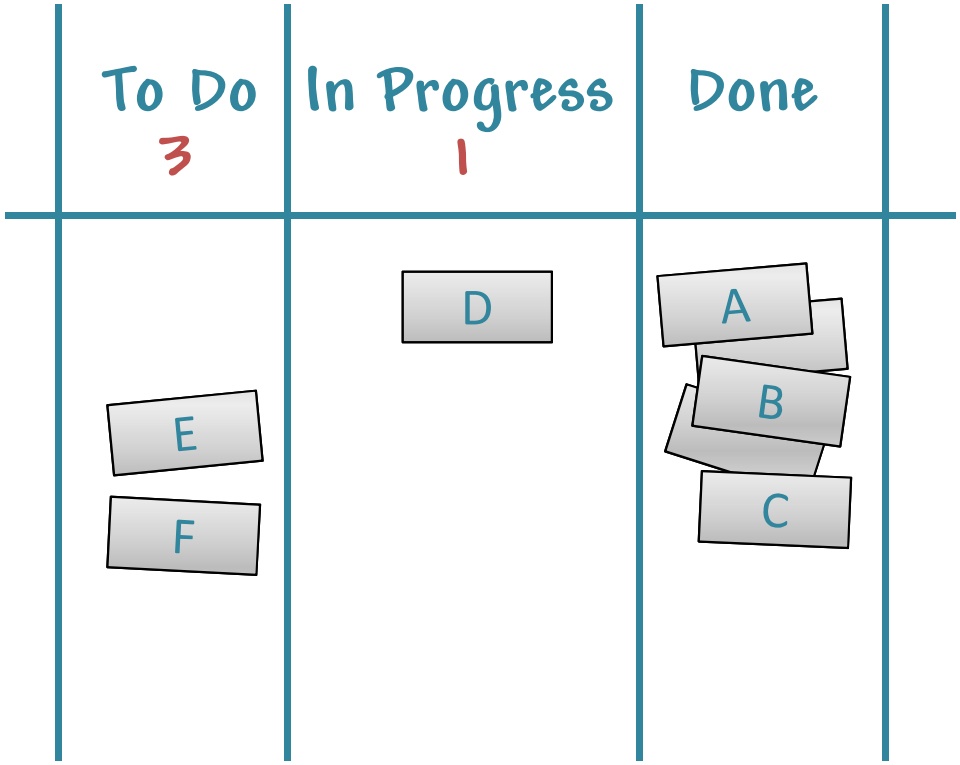
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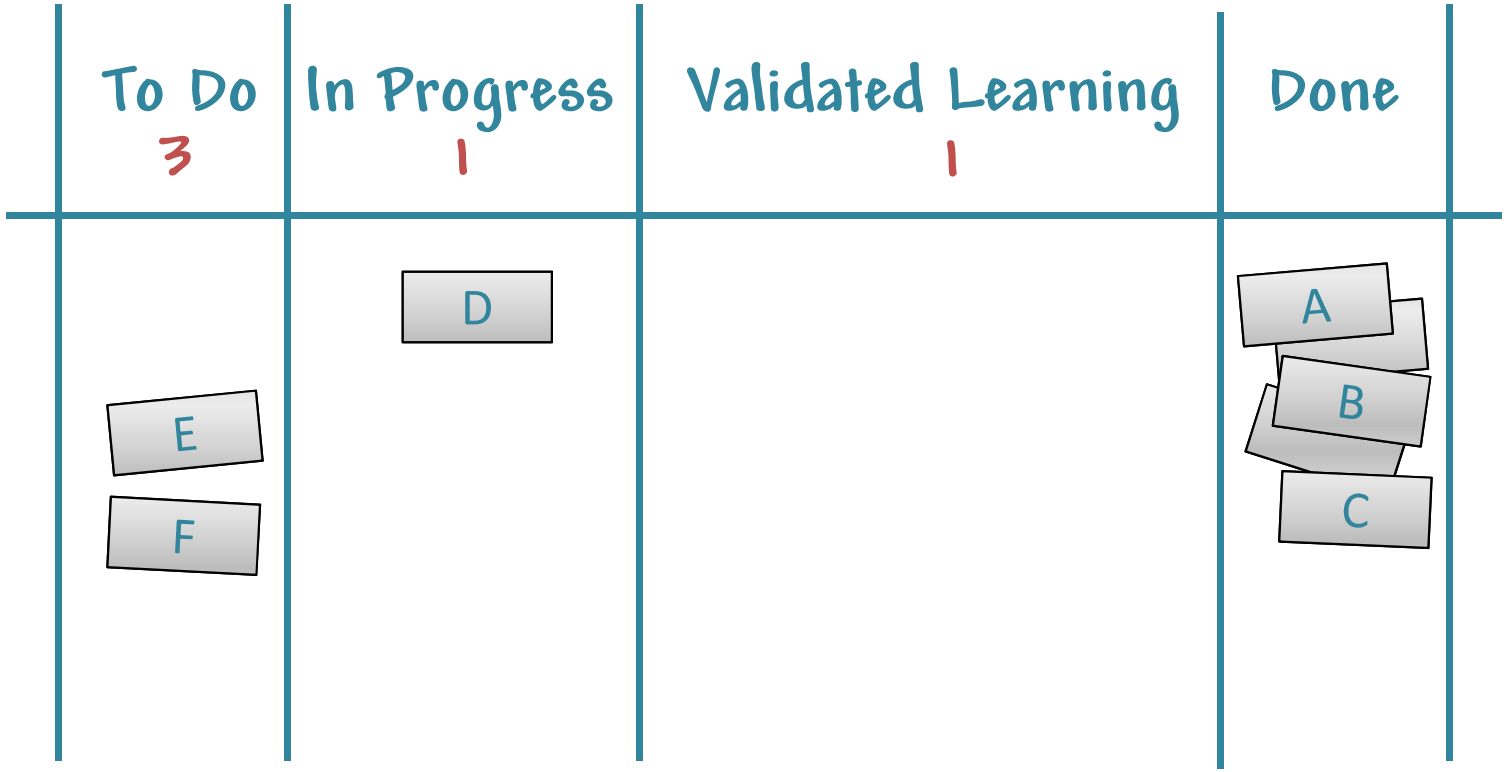
To Do
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In Progress
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Validated Learning
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If we're building something that nobody wants, why are we so proud of being on time & on budget? @EricRies

Learn More

- http://HackerChick.com
  - Agile vs. Lean: Yeah Yeah, What's the Difference?
  - Kanban is the New Scrum
- Scrum: http://MountainGoatSoftware.com

  (and/or any of Mike Cohn's books)
- Lean:
  - Lean Software: any books by the Poppendiecks
  - Lean Manufacturing: The Toyota Way (book)
  - http://NetObjectives.com (Kanban resources too)