

Your task: Define and document a CI/CD release workflow

Complete the following numbered instructions:

1. Describe the CI/CD stages in plain language

Pipeline Stage	Description (in plain language)	Who needs to be informed?
Code commit	Developers push new code to GitHub	Analysts track features and commits
Build	Code is compiled, and dependencies are checked	DevOps/QA
Automated unit test	Tests check if the core code behaves as expected	QA, Analysts for tracking failures
Staging deploy	App is deployed to a staging server for preview/testing	QA, Product Owner, Analyst
UAT review	Key business workflows are manually reviewed before production push	Analyst coordinates UAT
Production deploy	CI/CD pipeline pushes code to the live environment	All teams alerted via Slack/Email

2. Define the analyst's checkpoints

Write a short paragraph outlining when and why you (as the analyst) need to review pipeline progress.

As the analyst, I review staging deploy logs to check for failed API responses tied to business workflows. I also prepare a summary of what's new for the product owner during UAT. After UAT passes, I confirm release notes are ready and metrics are in place for monitoring production success.

3. List three CI/CD risks and mitigation strategies

Risk	Why it matters	Mitigation (analyst role)
Feature deploys before UAT approval	Users may see unfinished or broken features	Block production step unless the UAT task is checked off
Alert fatigue from test pipeline failures	Teams may ignore critical test failures	Define threshold alerts (e.g., fail after 3 retries)
Metrics not tracked in production	No way to assess new feature performance	Include analyst review of KPI dashboards pre-release

4. Prepare a checklist summary (for visibility)

Final analyst-owned checklist before CI/CD deploys to production:

1. Confirm staging pass + manual QA spot checks
2. Product owner UAT sign-off
3. Release summary doc complete and shared
4. Alert thresholds reviewed with DevOps
5. Monitoring dashboard updated with new feature KPIs