**Gherkin Keywords**

The following are the keywords used in Gherkin:

**Feature**: This gives information on the high-level business functionality and the purpose of application under test. Everybody should be able to understand the intent of feature file by reading the first feature step.

**Scenario**: Basically, a scenario represents a particular functionality which is under test. By seeing the scenario, user should be able to understand the intent behind the scenario and test.

Rule: The purpose of the Rule keyword is to represent one business rule that should be implemented. It provides additional information for a feature. A Rule is used to group together several scenarios that belong to this business rule. A Rule should contain one or more scenarios that illustrate the particular rule.

**Given:** The purpose of Given steps is to **put the system in a known state** before the user (or external system) starts interacting with the system (in the When steps). Avoid talking about user interaction in Given’s. If you were creating use cases, Given’s would be your preconditions.

When: When steps are used to describe an event, or an action. This can be a person interacting with the system, or it can be an event triggered by another system.

Then: The [step definition](https://cucumber.io/docs/cucumber/step-definitions) of a Then step should use an assertion to compare the actual outcome (what the system actually does) to the expected outcome (what the step says the system is supposed to do).

Background: A Background allows you to add some context to the scenarios that follow it. It can contain one or more Given steps, which are run before each scenario, but after any [Before hooks](https://cucumber.io/docs/cucumber/api/#hooks).

Scenario outline: The Scenario Outline keyword can be used to run the same Scenario multiple times, with different combinations of values.