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Agile 101

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What is Agile?

A set of Values and Principles.

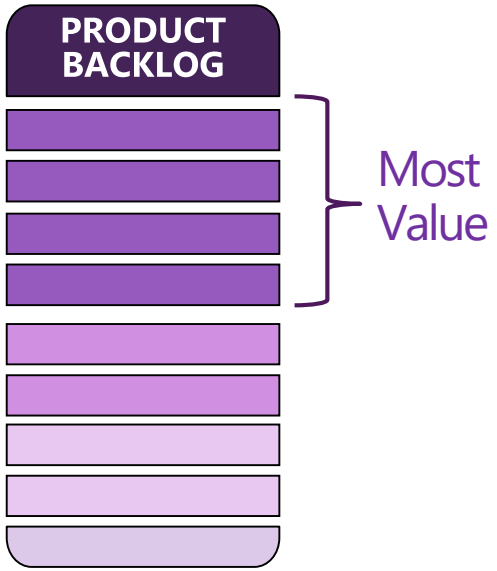
Planning for continuous delivery of value

Collaboration

Manage Demand
and Define Requirements

Value Driven

Minimal Planning



Incremental Delivery

Minimum Viable Product
Minimal Risk

Continuous cadence of value delivery

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Agile Manifesto

We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it. Through this work we have come to value:

Individuals and interactions over processes and tools
Working software over comprehensive documentation
Customer collaboration over contract negotiation
Responding to change over following a plan

That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

Agile Principle #1

Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software.

Agile Principle #2

Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage.

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Agile Principle #3

Deliver working software frequently, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale.

Agile Principle #4

Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project.

Agile Principle #5

Build projects around motivated individuals.
Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done

Agile Principle #6

The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation.

Agile Principle #7

Working software is the primary measure of progress.

Agile Principle #8

Agile processes promote sustainable development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely.

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Agile Principle #9

Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.

Agile Principle #10

Simplicity-the art of maximizing the amount
of work not done--is essential.

Agile Principle #11

The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from self-organizing teams.

Agile Principle #12

At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly.

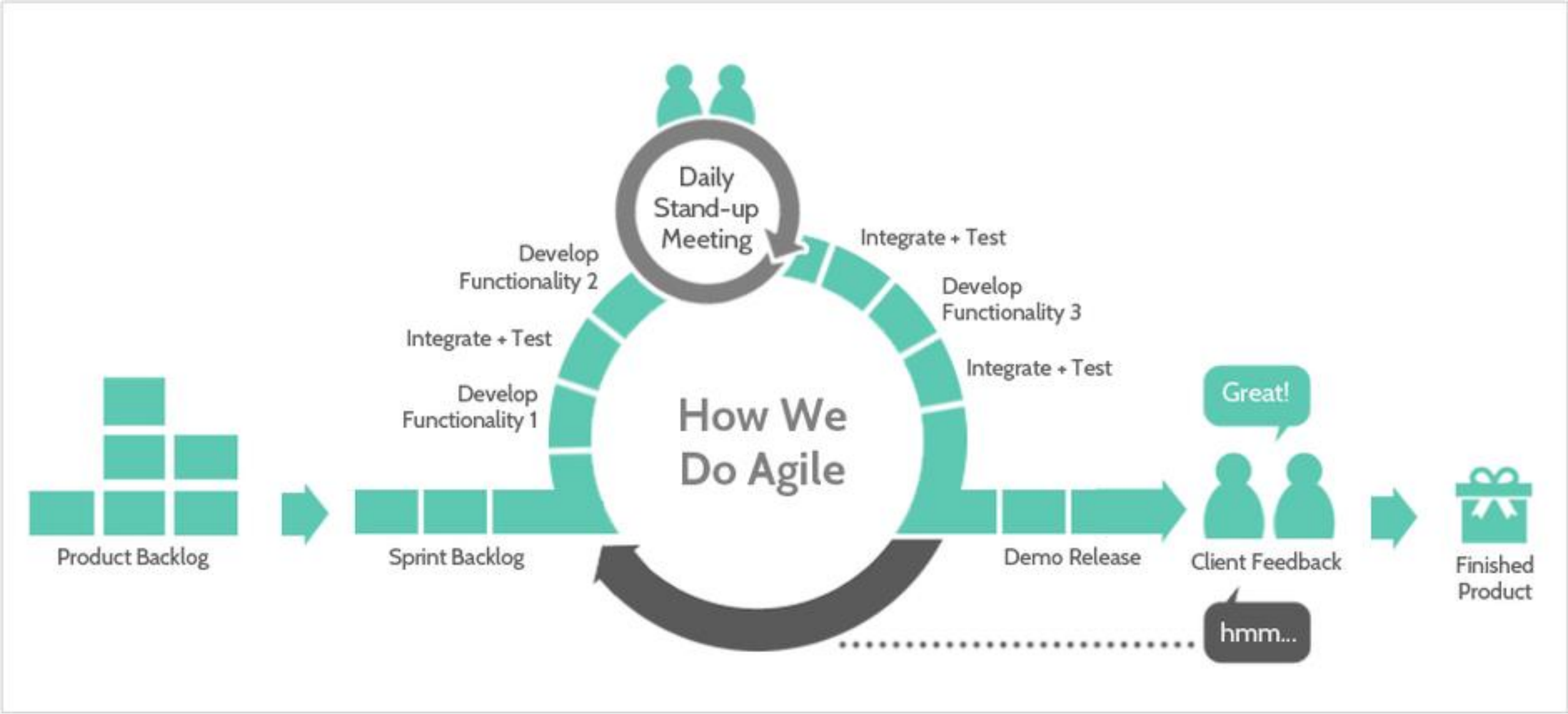
Agile Methodologies: Scrum and Kanban

What are Scrum and Kanban?

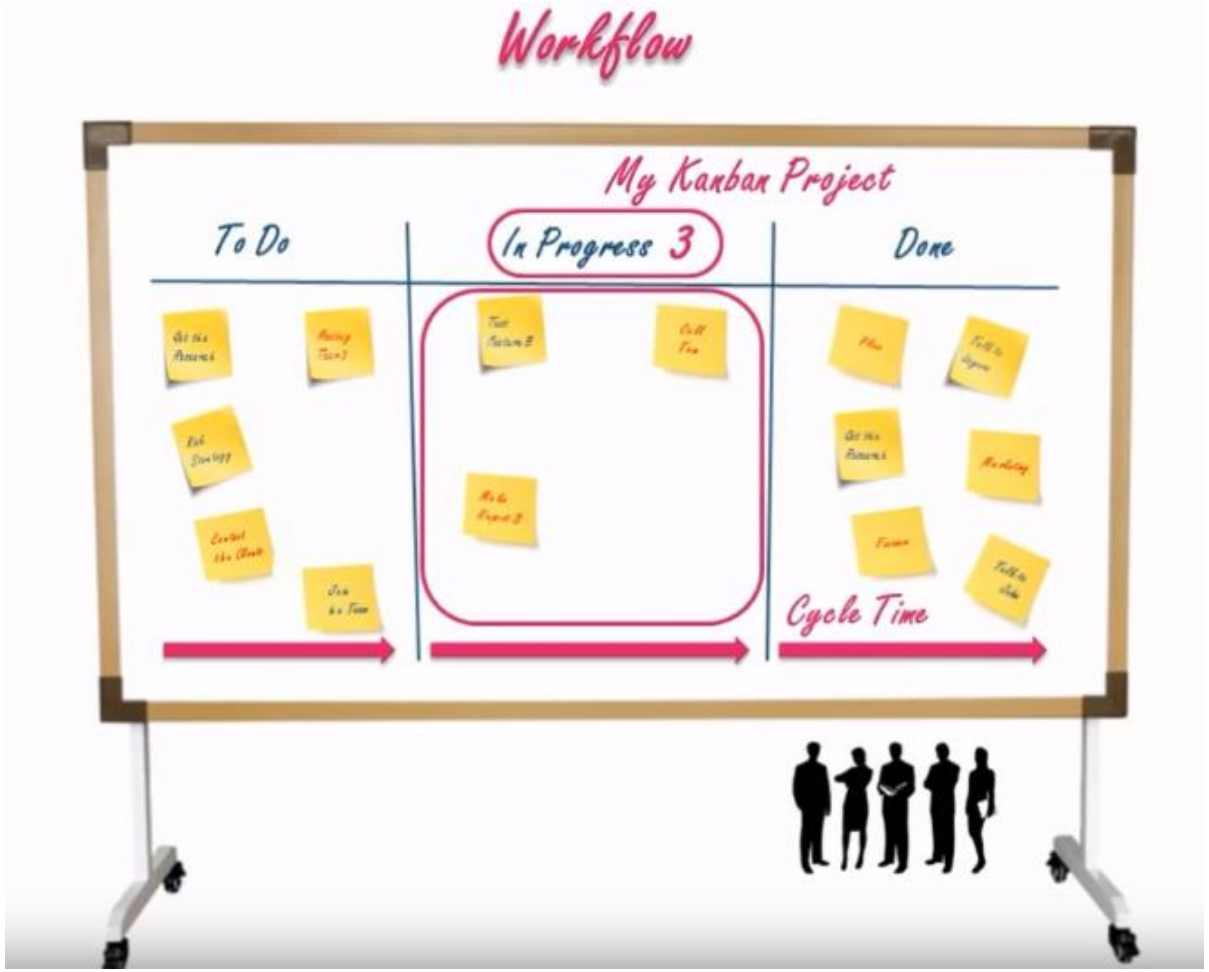
Scrum is an Agile framework for completing complex projects.

Scrum in 30 seconds

- A product owner creates a prioritized list called a product backlog.
- During sprint planning, the team pulls a small chunk from the top of the sprint backlog, and decides how to implement those pieces.
- The team has a sprint (usually 2-4 weeks) — to complete its work, but meets daily to assess progress (daily Scrum standup).
- The ScrumMaster keeps the team focused.
- At the end of the sprint, the work should be potentially shippable: ready to hand to a customer or demo.
- The sprint ends with a sprint review and retrospective.


Daily
Stand-up
Meeting
Develop
Functionality 2
Integrate + Test
Develop
Functionality 1
Integrate + Test
Develop
Functionality 3
Integrate + Test
How We
Do Agile
Great!
Product Backlog
Sprint Backlog
Demo Release
Client Feedback
Finished
Product
hmm...

Kanban is also an agile framework that requires real-time communication of capacity and full transparency of work.



- A project has a board that lives as long as the project.
- As new work is needed, it is added to the **to do** side and color prioritized.
- Limited work should be in progress at one time.
- Once work is completed it is moved to the done side.
- Work is completed based on priority and as team members get capacity.

Kanban in 30 seconds

Let’s compare Scrum and Kanban…

Differences between Scrum and Kanban: **Scheduling**

- Scrum processes place heavy emphasis on completing a shippable product within each 2-4 week sprint. Anything outside of the sprint must be pushed to a future sprint.
- On a Kanban team, there are no required time boxes or iterations. While the Kanban method is iterative in nature, the continual improvement is expected to occur as work is continually completed.

Differences between Scrum and Kanban: **Team Members**

- On scrum teams, 3 roles must exist: the Product Owner, Scrum Master, and Team Members. A team must have all the resources necessary to complete the entire sprint's work on their own.
- Under Kanban, no set roles are prescribed. Teams can share resources. Members can fulfill multiple roles.

Differences between Scrum and Kanban: **Boards**

- In Scrum, columns are labeled to reflect periods in the work flow. All the stories added to the board at the beginning of each sprint should be found in the final column at the end of that sprint or the sprint was unsuccessful. Board is reset for each new sprint.
- On a Kanban board, the columns show work flow states and a maximum value for the In Progress state. No reason to reset the Kanban board as work progresses. It will continue to flow for as long as the project continues, with new stories being added as the need arises.

“Big” Enterprise Agile Alignment

Planning

Leadership is responsible for the big picture

Teams are responsible for the detail

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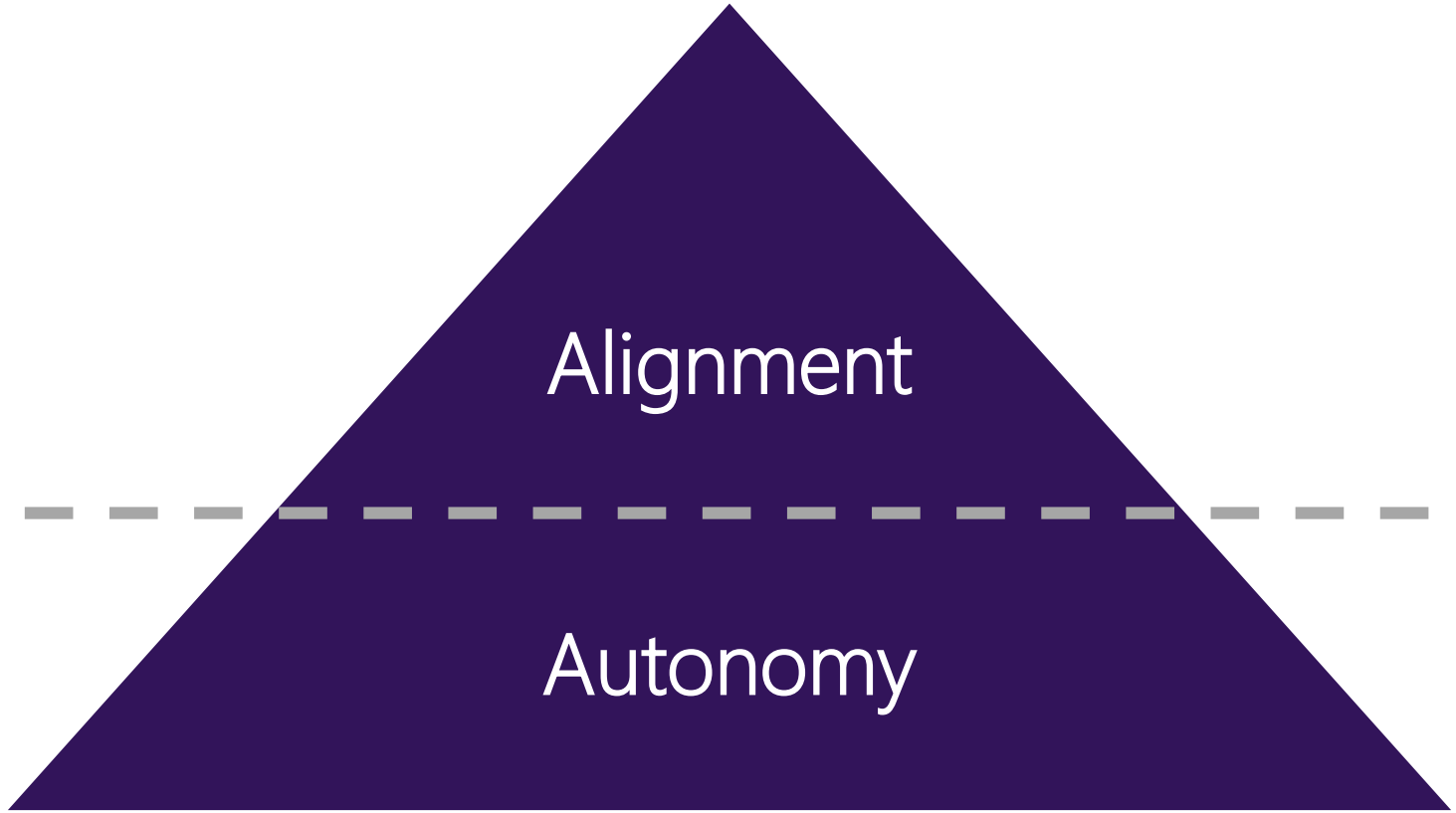
Aligned Autonomy



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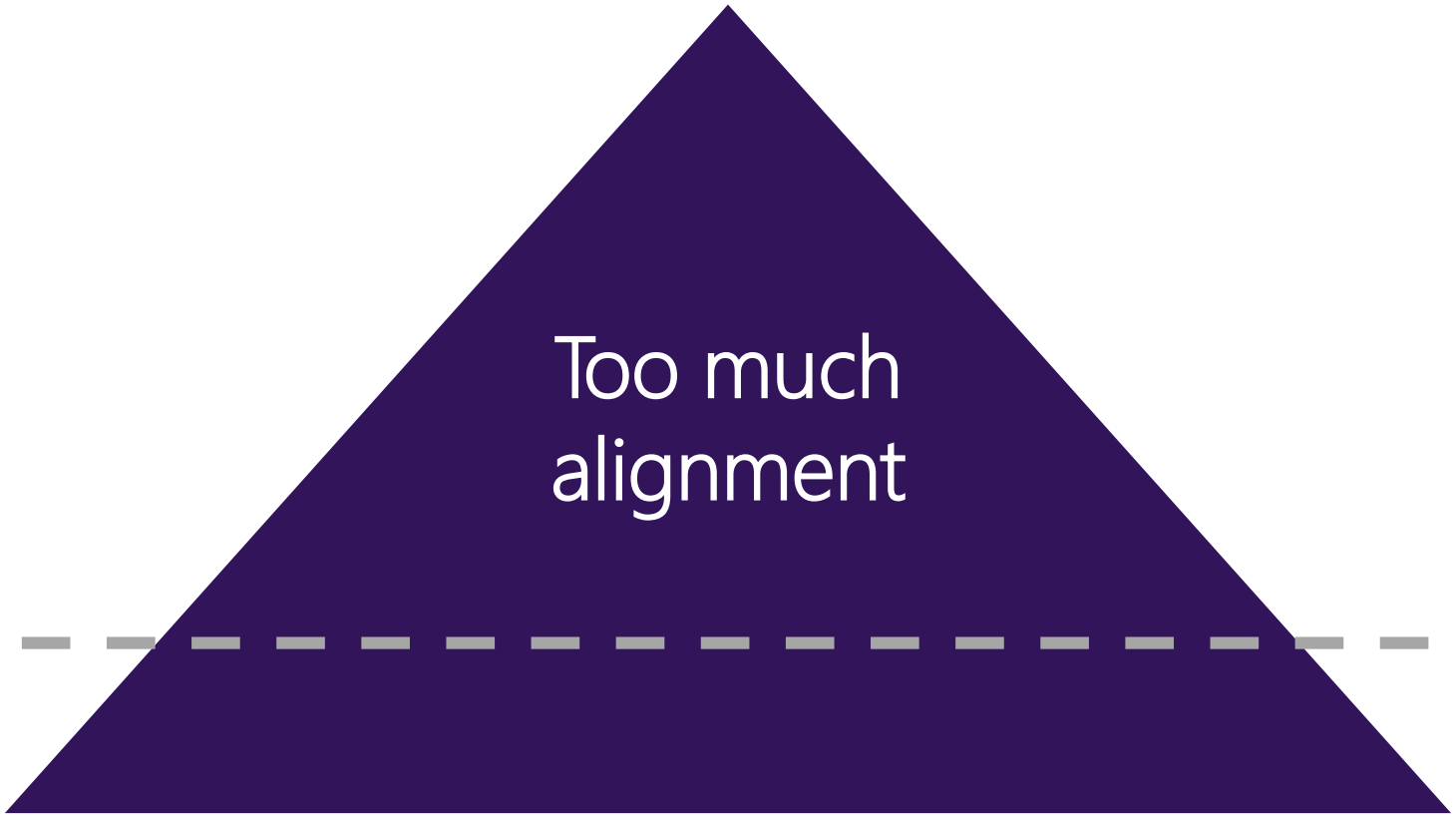
Aligned Autonomy



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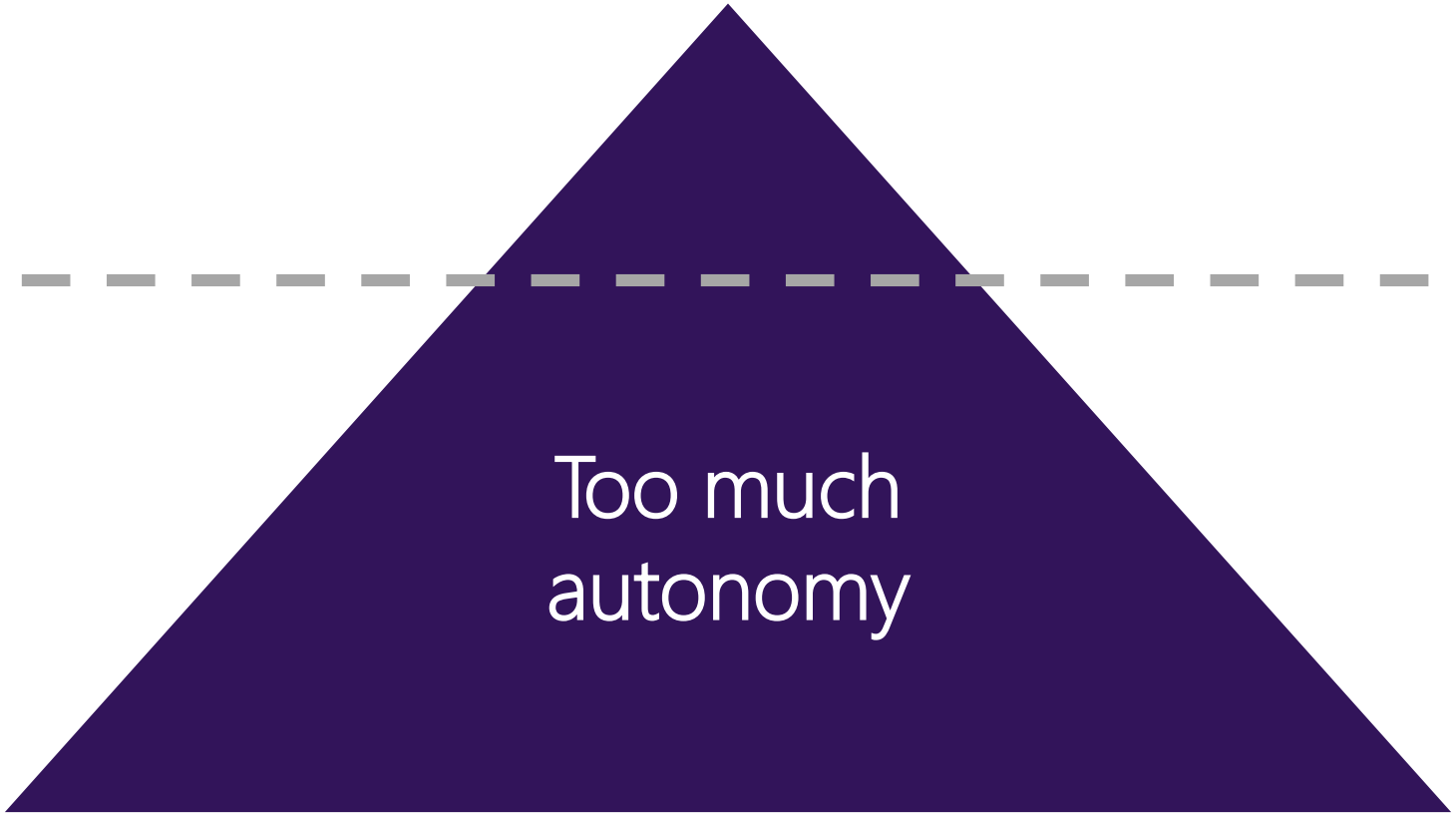

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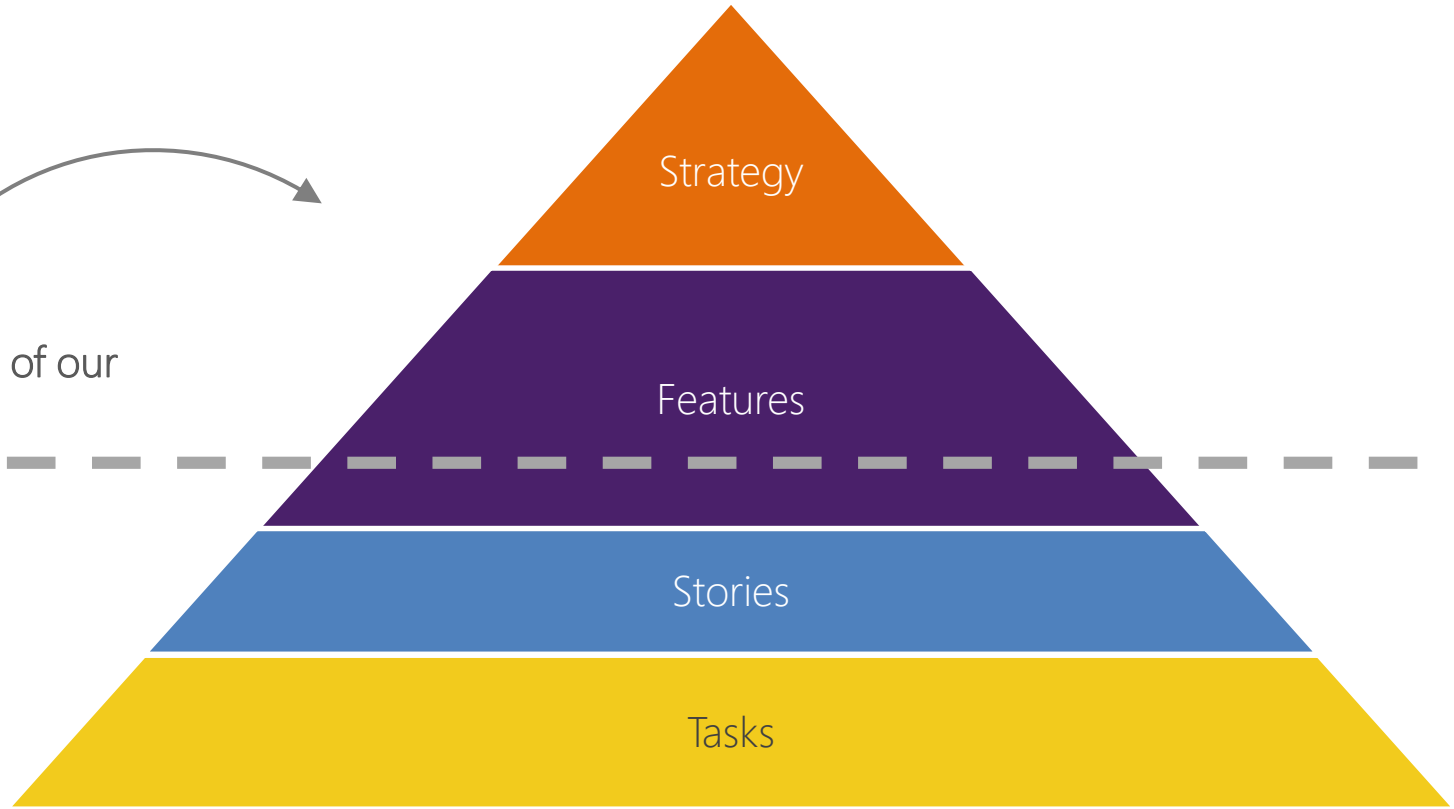

Alignment
The big picture in light of our business goals

Autonomy
The detail about what we'll deliver to achieve our business goals

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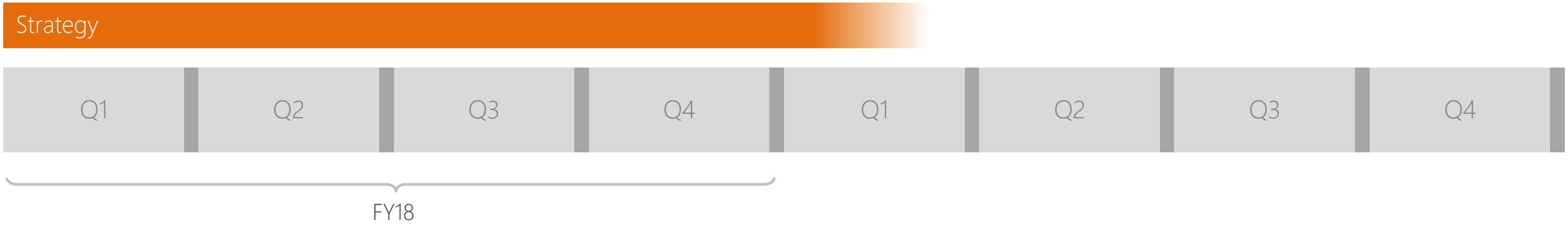
Planning



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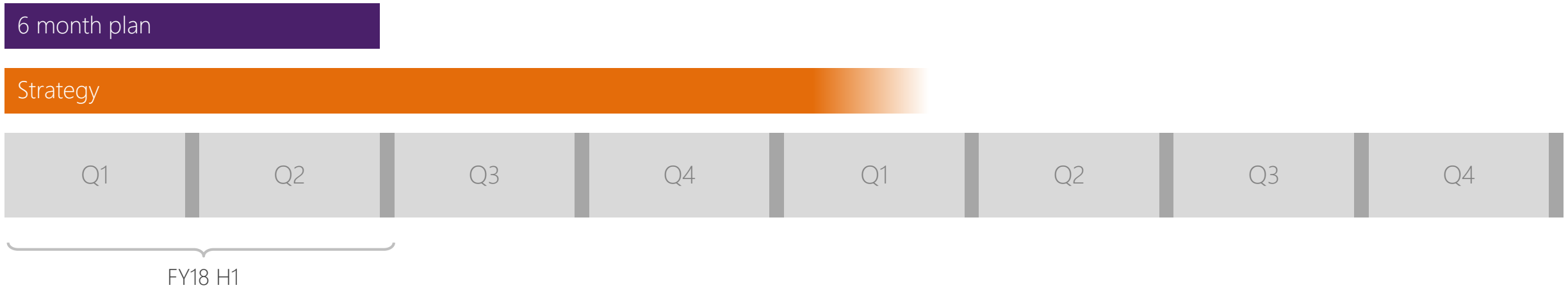

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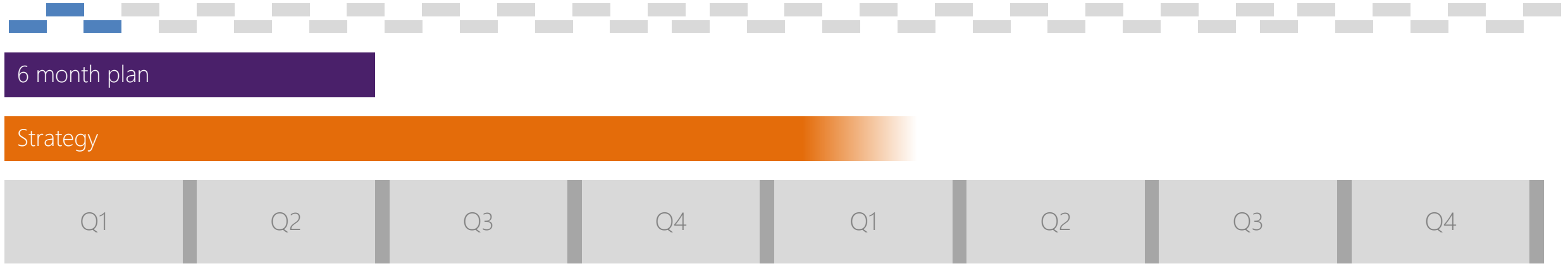

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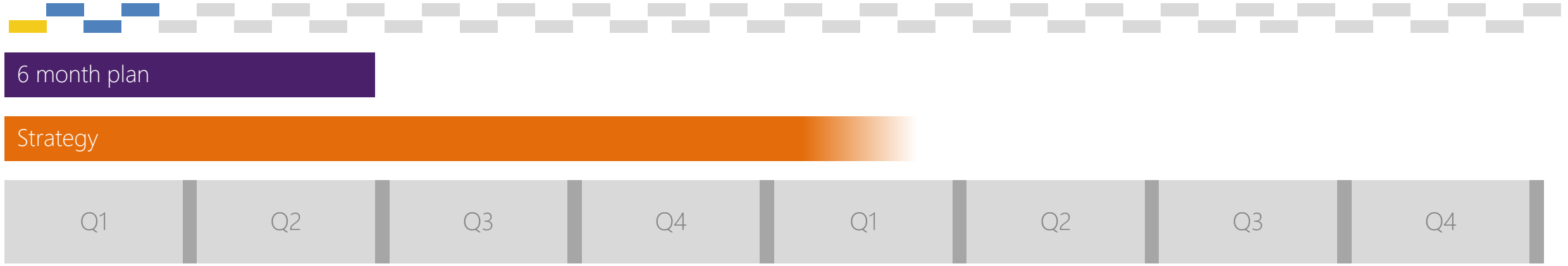

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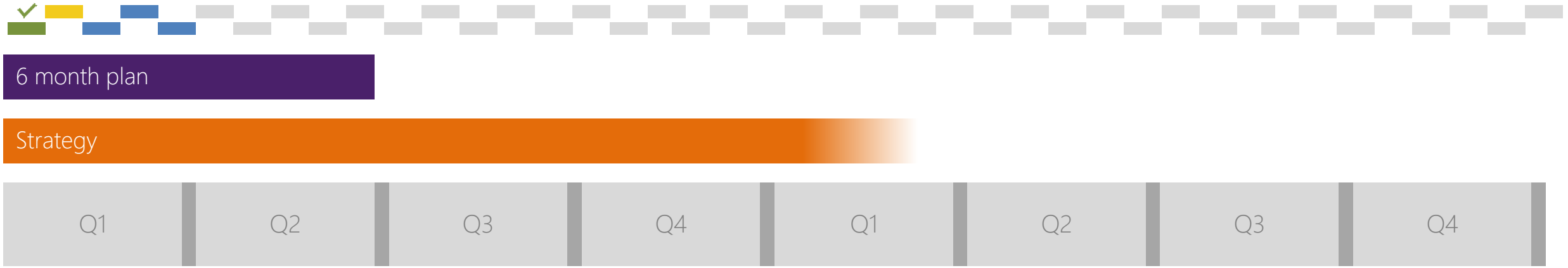

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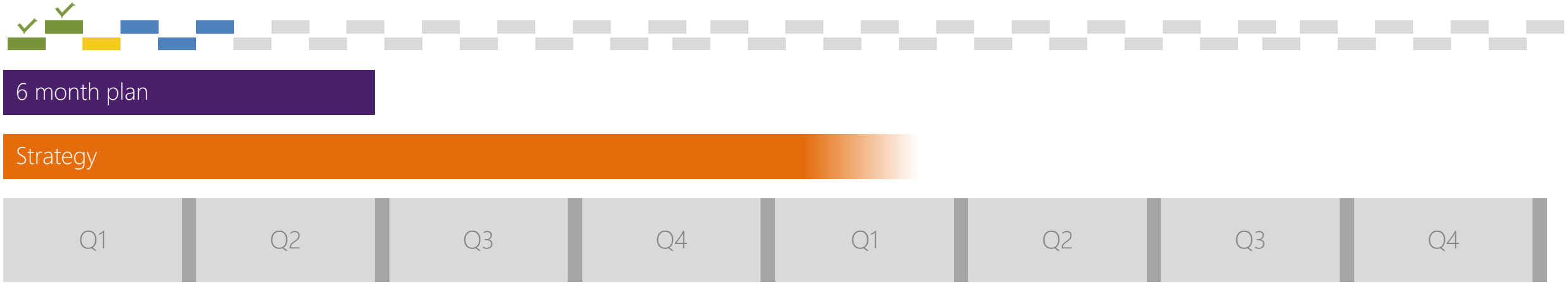

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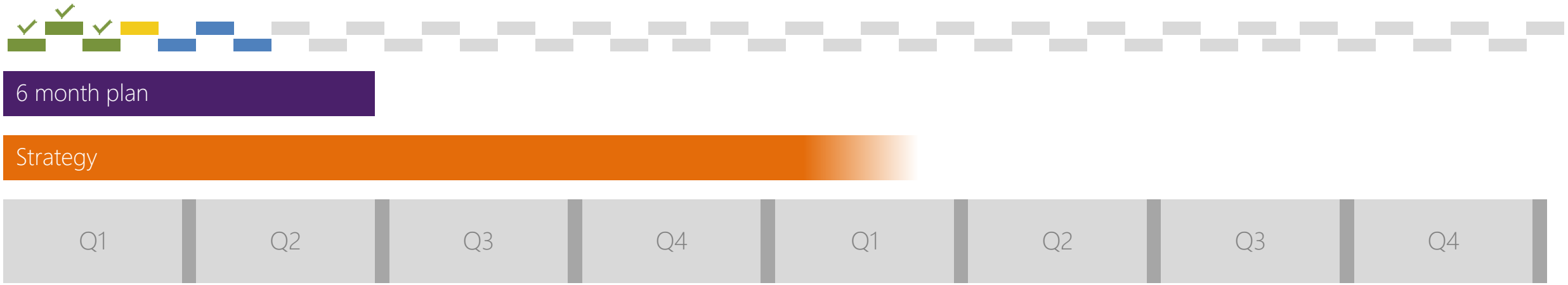

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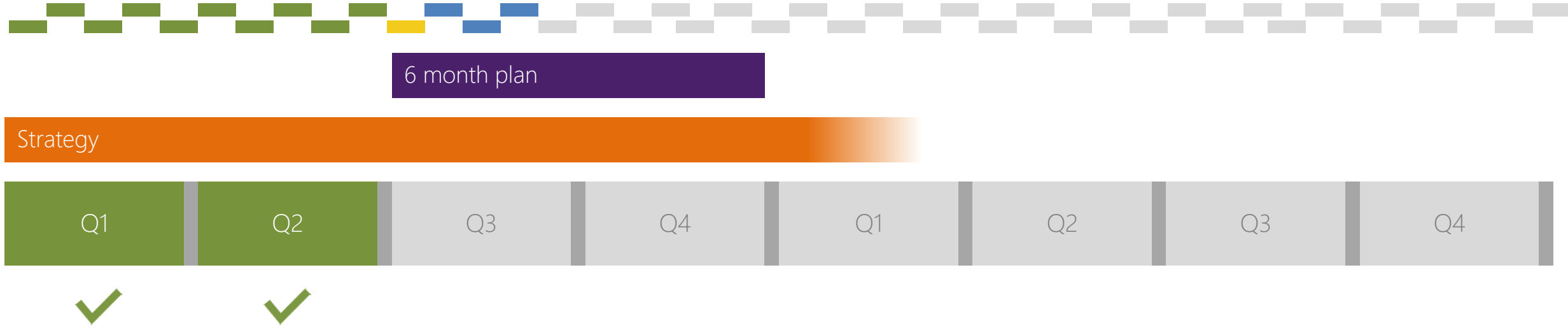

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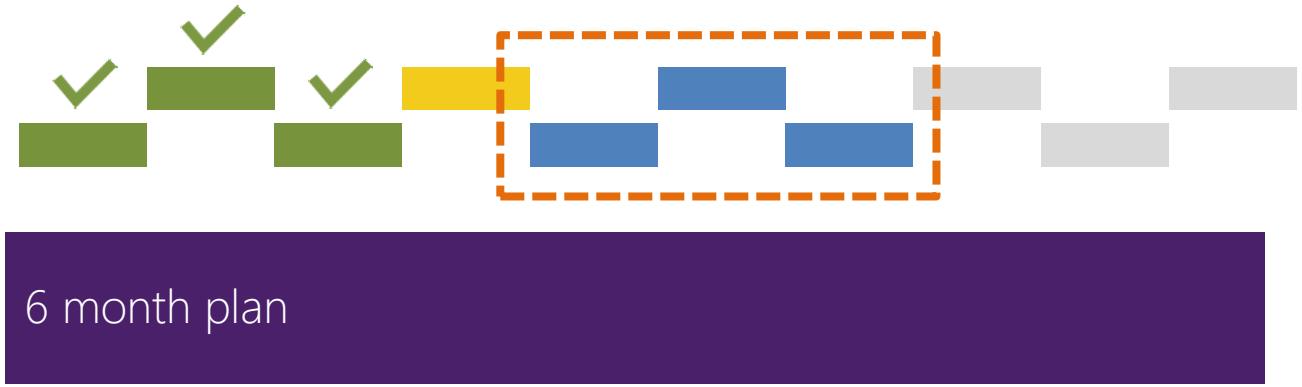
Quarterly Feature Team Chats



Each team comes in and reviews with leadership three things:

1. What is the plan for the next 3-sprints?
2. Is the team healthy?
3. Any risks or issues to highlight?

Agile planning takeaways

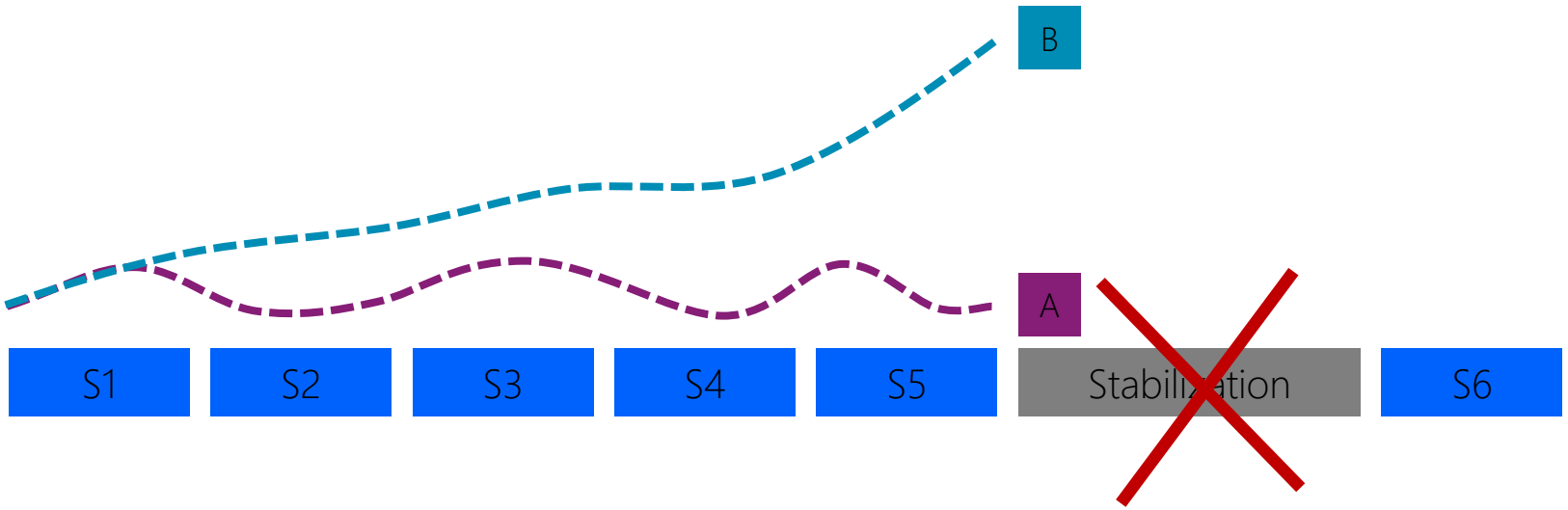
The schedule

- No stabilization

Alignment and Autonomy

- You need both

Continuous planning (and learning)



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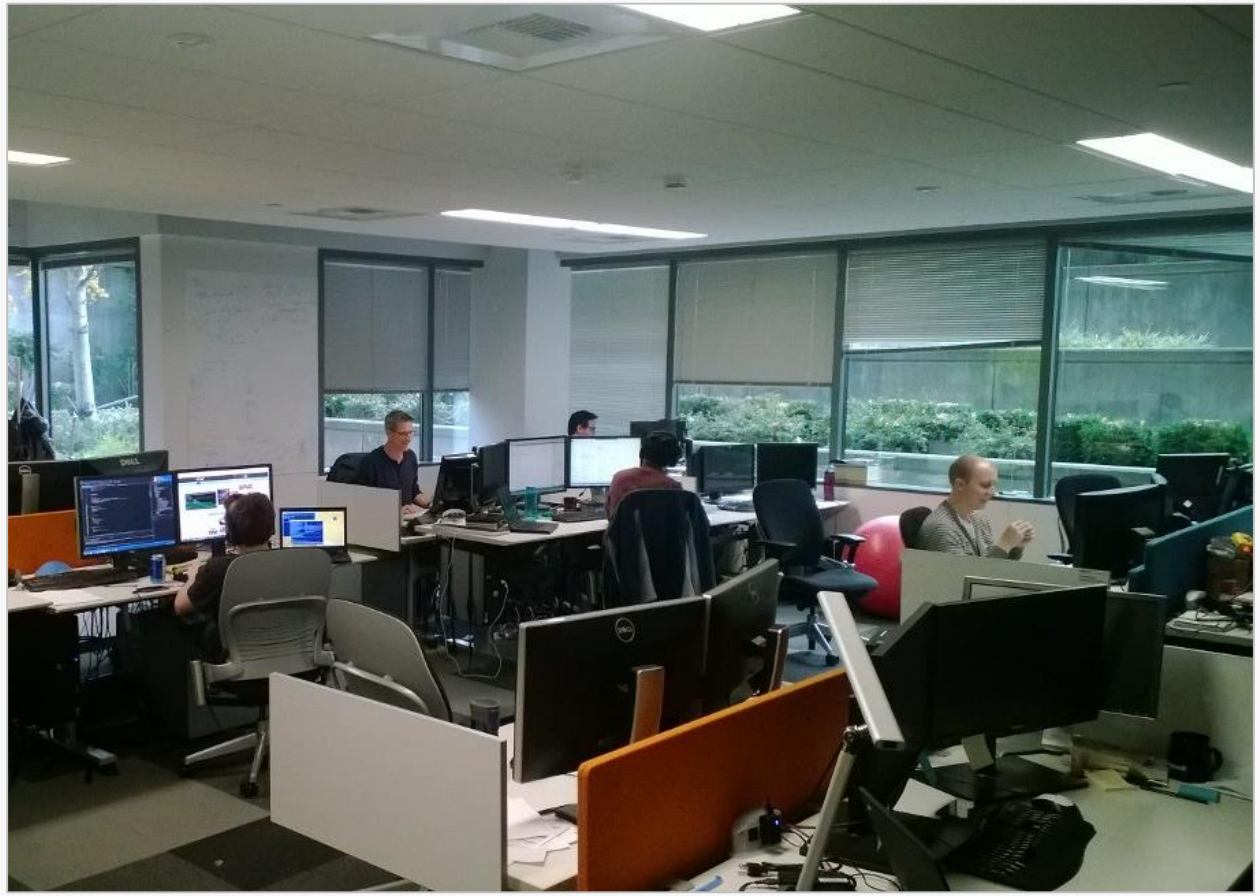
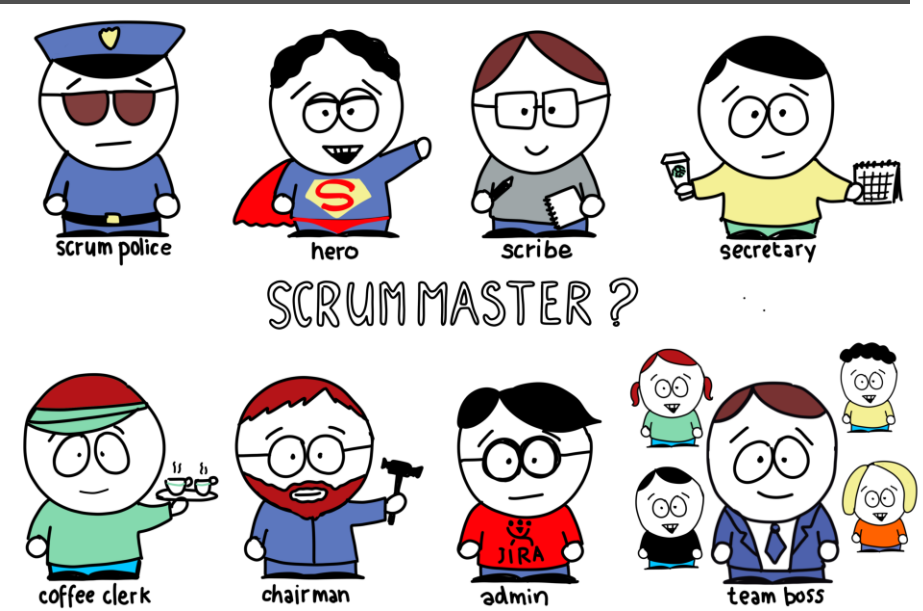
The Team and Roles

Teams

Cross discipline
10-12 people
Self managing
Clear charter and goals
Intact for 12-18 months
Physical team rooms
Own features in production
Own deployment of features



Scrum Master



- Helps the team to follow the Scrum **process**
- Assists the team in **removing blockers** and in giving them as much time possible to work
- Helps the Product Owner understand and create the product
- Runs Scrum meetings

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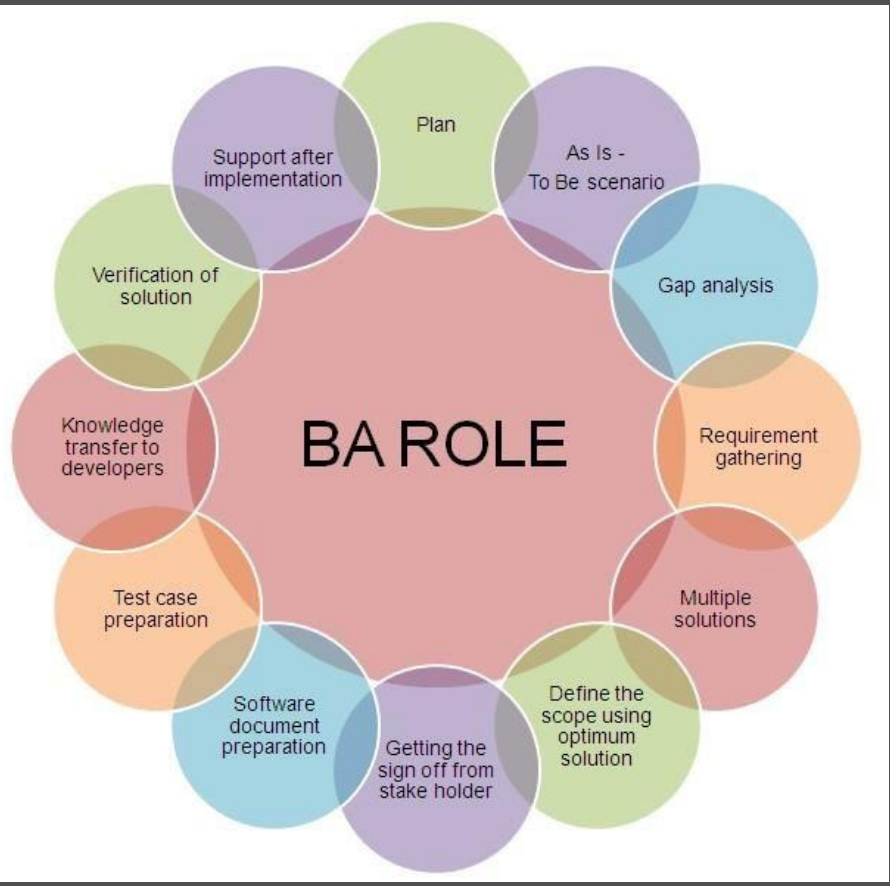
Product Owner

- **Product Vision** and final decisions on backlog item priority and questions
- Prioritize and manage backlog
- Really **own** the backlog and keep track of all changes to it and update the team



Business Analysts

- Gather requirements and create user stories
- **Relate** user stories to one another so links are clear
- **Convey** user stories to the team to help them build

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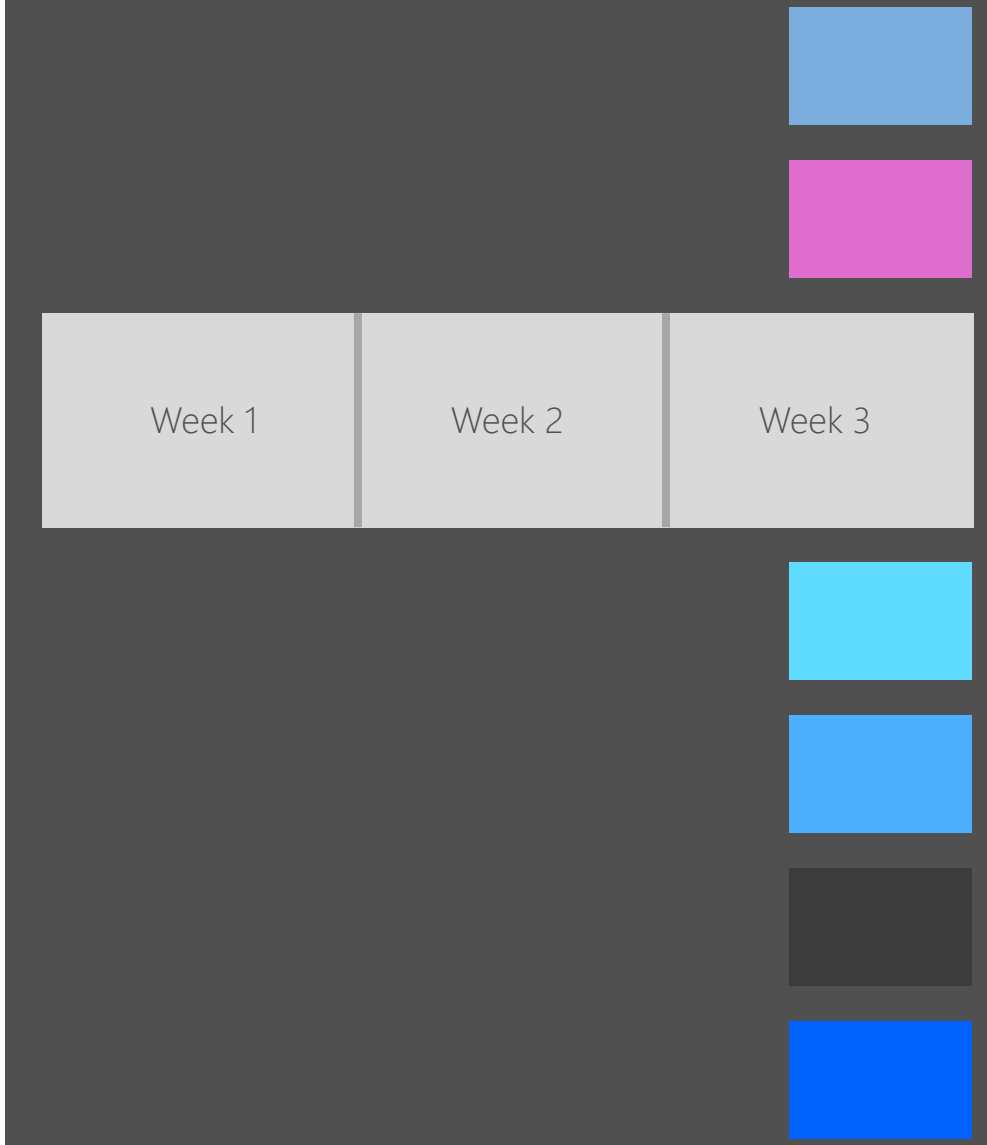
Day in the life of an Engineer

- **Work** on Code, build the product
- Process and tools should help you do more. **Communicate** with your team to ensure product is built right!
- Continuous deployment



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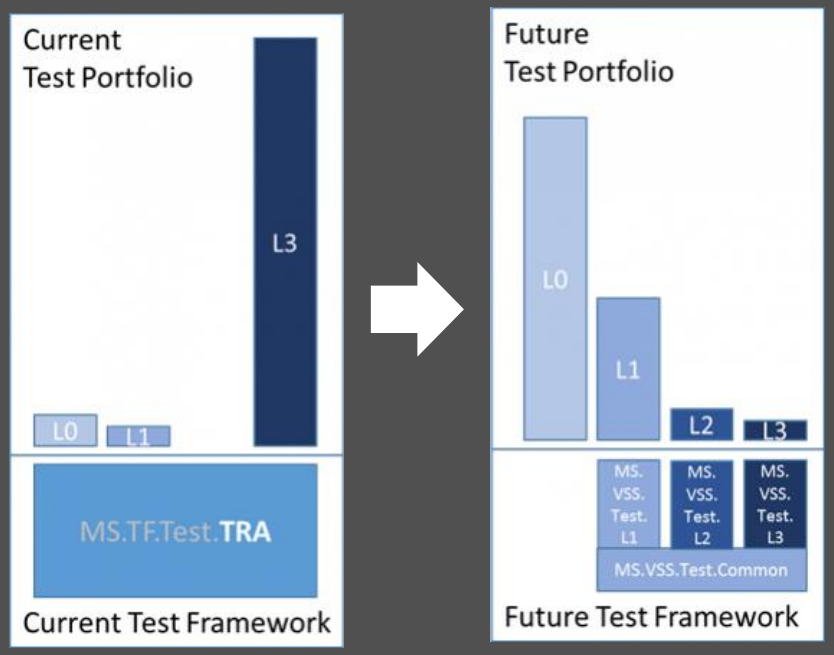

Quality and Testing

- Test accountability with dev
- Zero tolerance for Flakey tests or Flakey code
- Test closer to the code
- Test **early** and test often!
- Ensure shippable product is **solid**.

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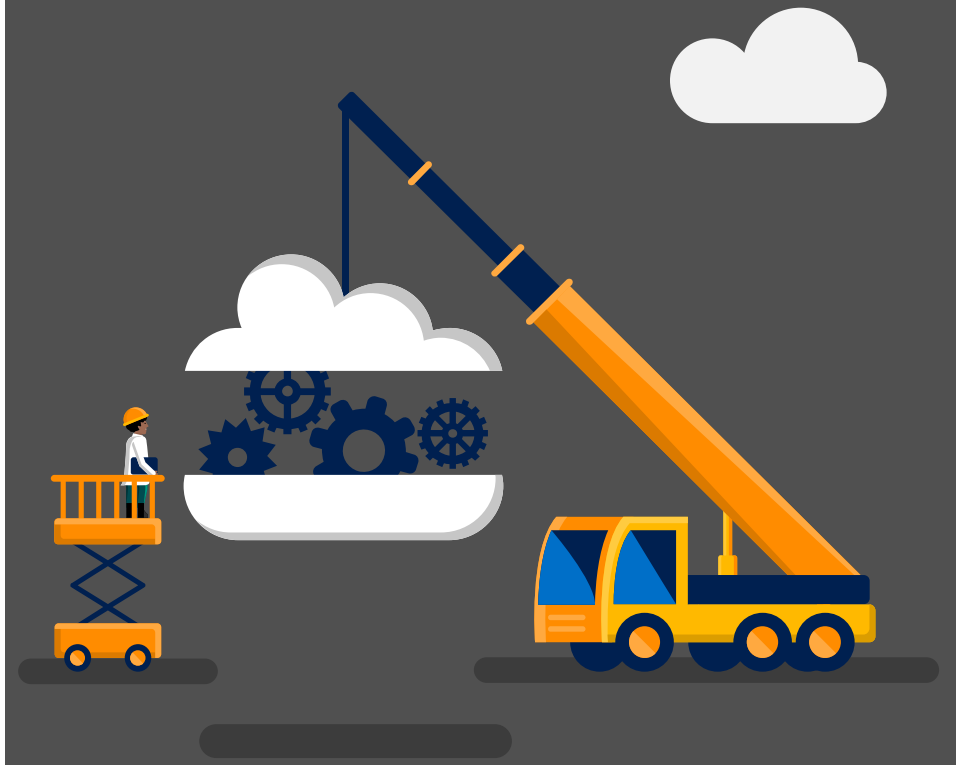
Architecture

- Move to the cloud & evolve in flight
- Oversee and **design** code patterns
- Prevent cascading failure
- **Communicate** technical needs to business



Security

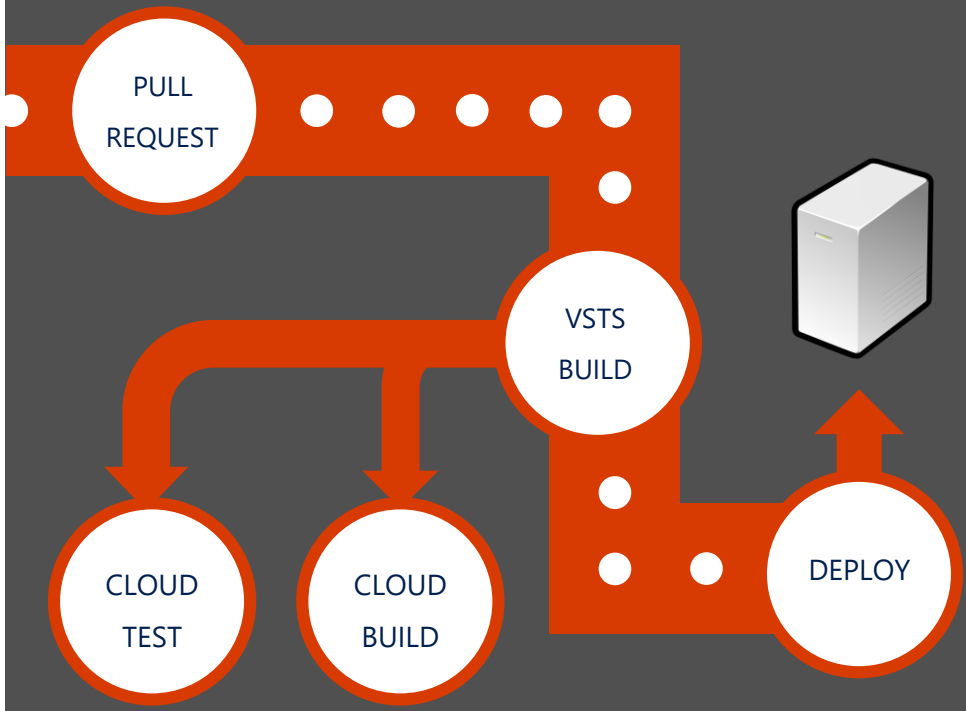
- Throw formality aside! Make it real
- Assume breach, plan the reaction
- Humans are human

Deployment Practices

Deploy early and often so testers can test sooner in the Sprint!

Make a team that handles deployment and managing the CI/CD processes

Stay green throughout the sprint

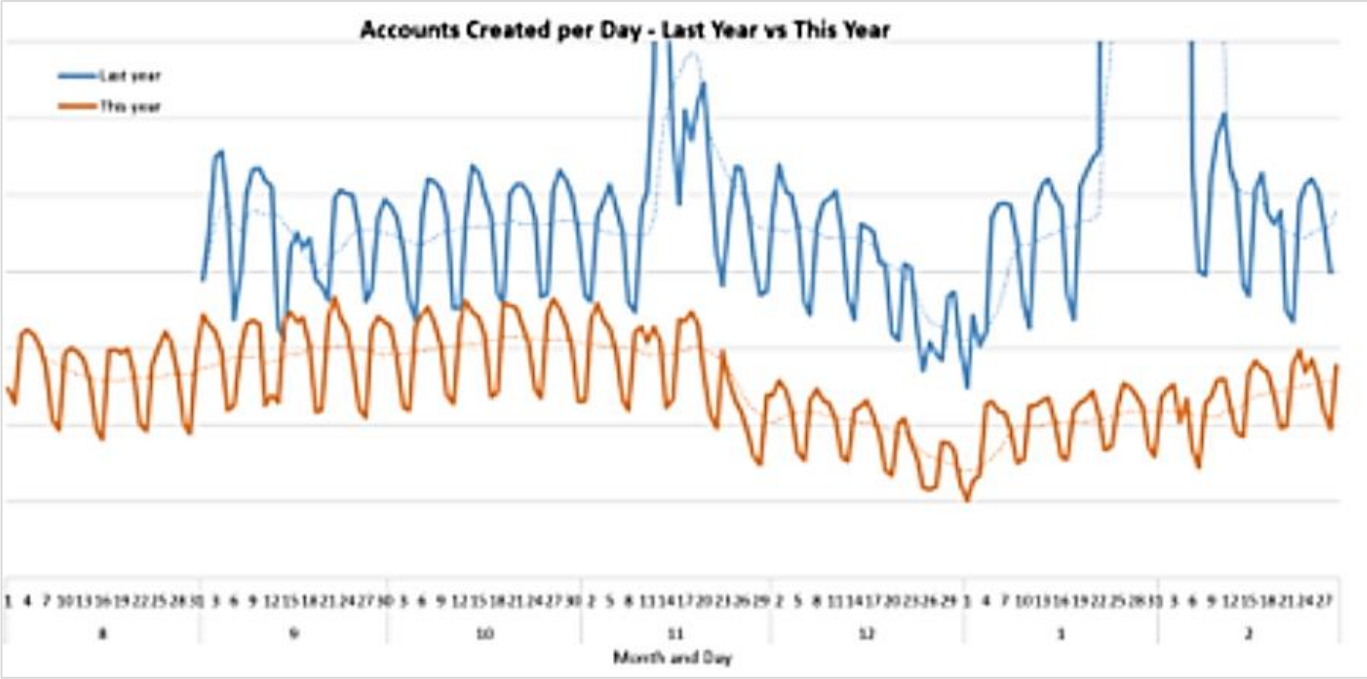


Running the Business on Metrics

Start with what is most important/painful & evolve

Designing metrics is as hard as designing features

Bake it into the review culture to spur activity



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VSTS Scorecard

Things we don't watch

- Team burndown
- Team velocity
- Original estimate
- Completed hours
- Team capacity
- # of bugs found

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“Culture eats strategy for breakfast.”

Peter Drucker

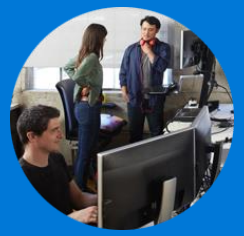
It all starts with the Culture

The DevOps conversation

PEOPLE

Collaborate more
Share common goals
Focus on improvement

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER



PROCESS

Eliminate waste
Increase efficiency
Streamline feedback

DELIVERING VALUE FASTER

TOOLS

Enhance productivity
Enable collaboration
Facilitate experimentation

EXECUTING A DEVOPS STRATEGY

Testimonial 3: Agile Planning at Scale

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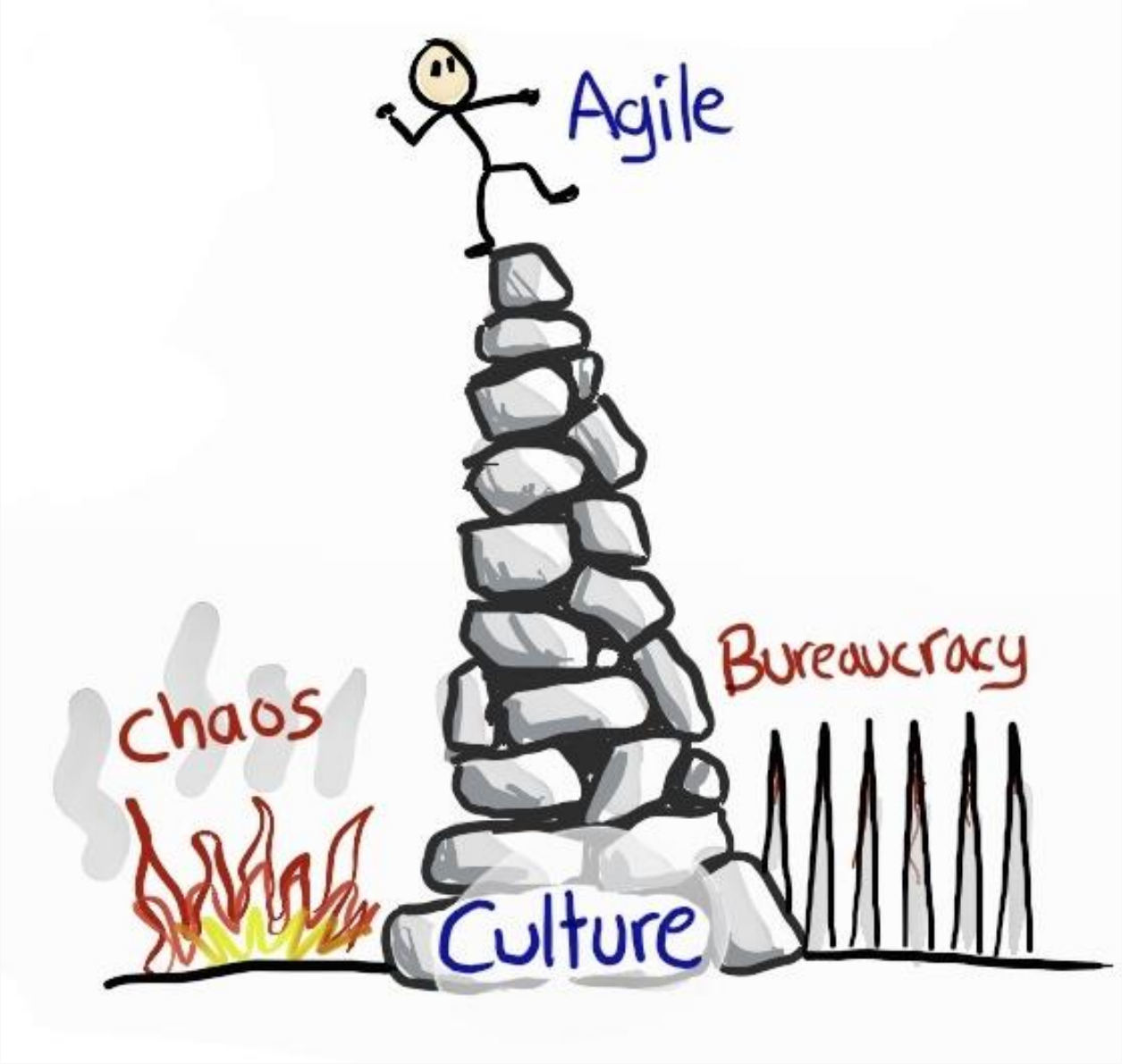
Build and Protect the Culture!



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Agile Methodologies – Retrospective

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Transformation

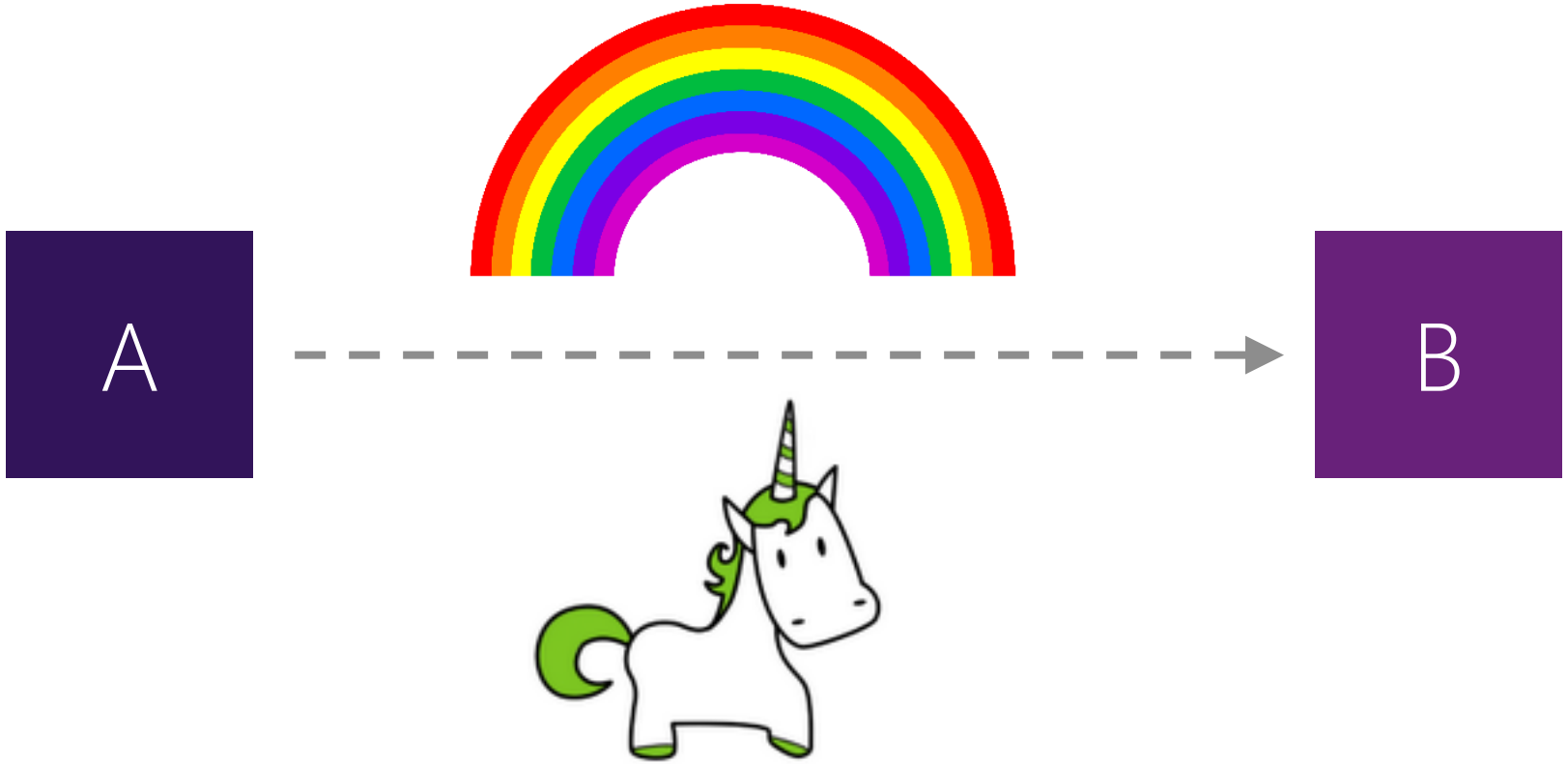
Before

- 4-6 month milestones
- Horizontal teams
- Personal offices
- Long planning cycles
- PM, Dev, Test
- Yearly customer engagement
- Feature branches
- 20+ person teams
- Secret roadmap
- Bug debt
- 100 page spec documents
- Private repositories
- Deep organizational hierarchy
- Success is a measure of install numbers
- Features shipped once a year

After

- 3-week sprints
- Vertical teams
- Team rooms
- Continual Planning & Learning
- PM & Engineering
- Continual customer engagement
- Everyone in master
- 8-12 person teams
- Publicly shared roadmap
- Zero debt
- Specs in PPT
- Open source
- Flattened organization hierarchy
- User satisfaction determines success
- Features shipped every sprint

Too good to be true?



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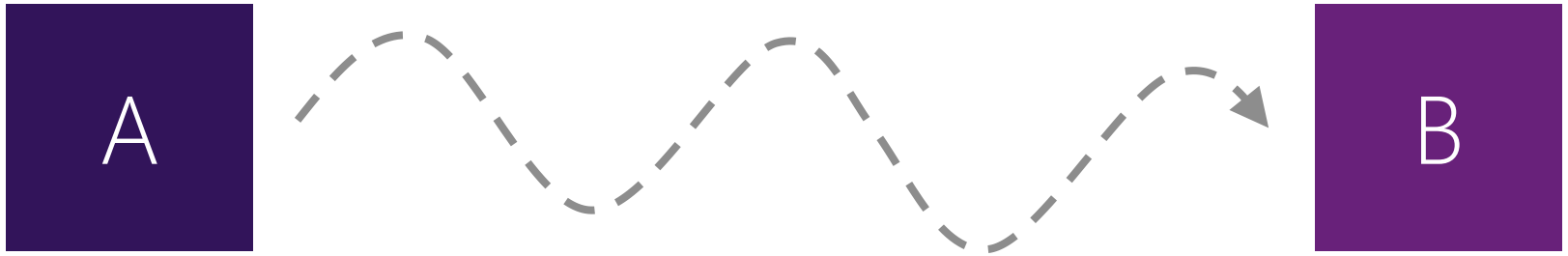
… a journey of continued improvement.



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This journey does not end.

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Demo + Lab Time!