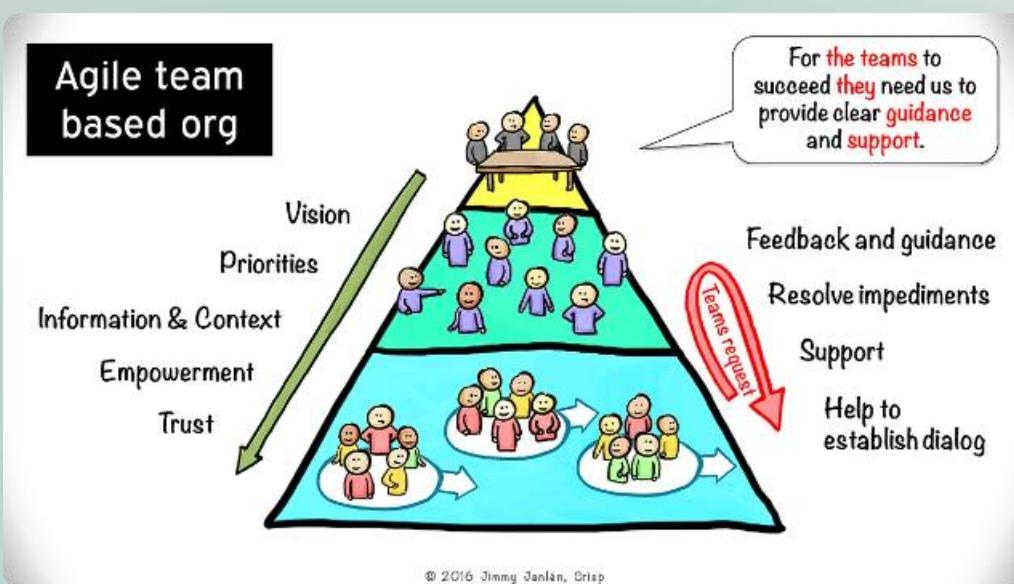


Scrum vs Kanban: Agile Methodologies Compared



Scrum and Kanban are two popular Agile frameworks used in software development. While they share similar approaches, there are key differences that can impact your project management strategy.



by Dr. Kirti Makwana

What is Scrum?

Scrum is an iterative and incremental Agile framework that emphasizes teamwork, accountability, and continuous improvement. It involves short sprints, daily standups, and a focus on delivering working software.

Daily Scrum Meeting

 Time Box (15 min)

 Same place

 Same time

 Facilitated by Scrum Master

-  Focus upon 3 questions:
- What did I do yesterday?
 - What will I do today?
 - Is there any impediment?

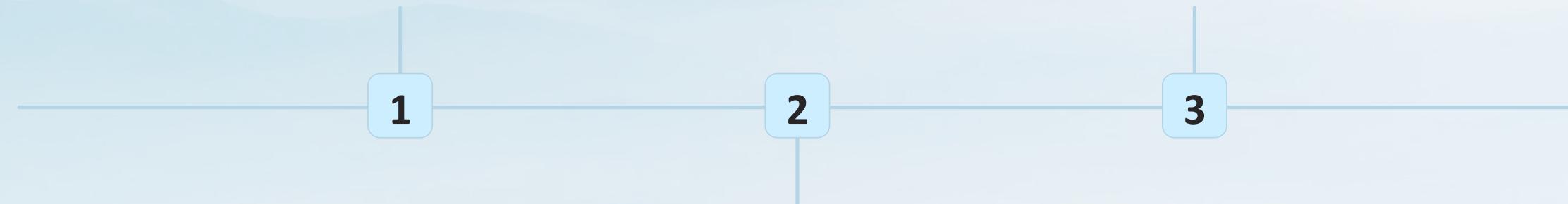
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How Scrum Works

Sprint Planning

The team plans the work for the upcoming sprint.



Sprint Review

The team demonstrates the completed work to stakeholders.

Daily Scrum

The team meets daily to discuss progress and impediments.

What is Kanban?

Kanban is a visual workflow management system that emphasizes continuous delivery. It uses a Kanban board to visualize work in progress and identify bottlenecks.

The screenshot shows a digital Kanban board titled "Marketing Executive To-Do List". The board is divided into five columns: Today, Tomorrow, This week, Next week, and On Hold. Each column contains several task cards with descriptions and due dates. The "Today" column has two cards: "Schedule social comms for client" (due Jul 5, 2021) and "Check Google Analytics for ThinkEngine" (due Jul 5, 2021). The "Tomorrow" column has three cards: "Run Twitter follower strategy for clients" (due Jul 6, 2021), "Ensure newsletter is sent at 4pm" (due Jul 6, 2021), and "Upload press release at 9am" (due Jul 6, 2021). The "This week" column has four cards: "Create newsletter for 2 weeks time" (due Jul 9, 2021), "Book in a catch up call for all clients" (due Jul 9, 2021), "Run keyword research for SEO" (due Jul 5, 2021), and "Write up latest updates blog" (due Jul 6, 2021). The "Next week" column has three cards: "Write up monthly reports for all clients" (due Jul 16, 2021), "Prompt for Google Analytics access if not received" (due Jul 16, 2021), and "Complete website build" (due Jul 16, 2021). The "On Hold" column has two cards: "Send out weekly newsletter" (due Jul 21, 2021) and "Amends on social media graphics" (due Jul 21, 2021). A logo for "ThinkEngine Digital Direction" is visible in the bottom right corner of the board.

How Kanban Works

Visualize Workflow

Kanban uses a board with columns representing different stages of the workflow.

Limit Work in Progress

Kanban sets limits on the number of tasks that can be in progress at once.

Continuous Delivery

Kanban focuses on delivering value to customers as quickly as possible.

Similarities Between Scrum and Kanban

1 Agile Principles

Both frameworks are based on Agile principles like flexibility, collaboration, and customer focus.

2 Continuous Improvement

Improvement

Both Scrum and Kanban emphasize continuous improvement and adaptation.

3 Visual Management

Both use visual tools like boards to manage and optimize the workflow.

Differences Between Scrum and Kanban

Time-boxed Sprints

Scrum has fixed-length sprints, while while Kanban has a continuous flow. flow.

Roles and Ceremonies

Scrum has defined roles and events, while Kanban is more flexible.

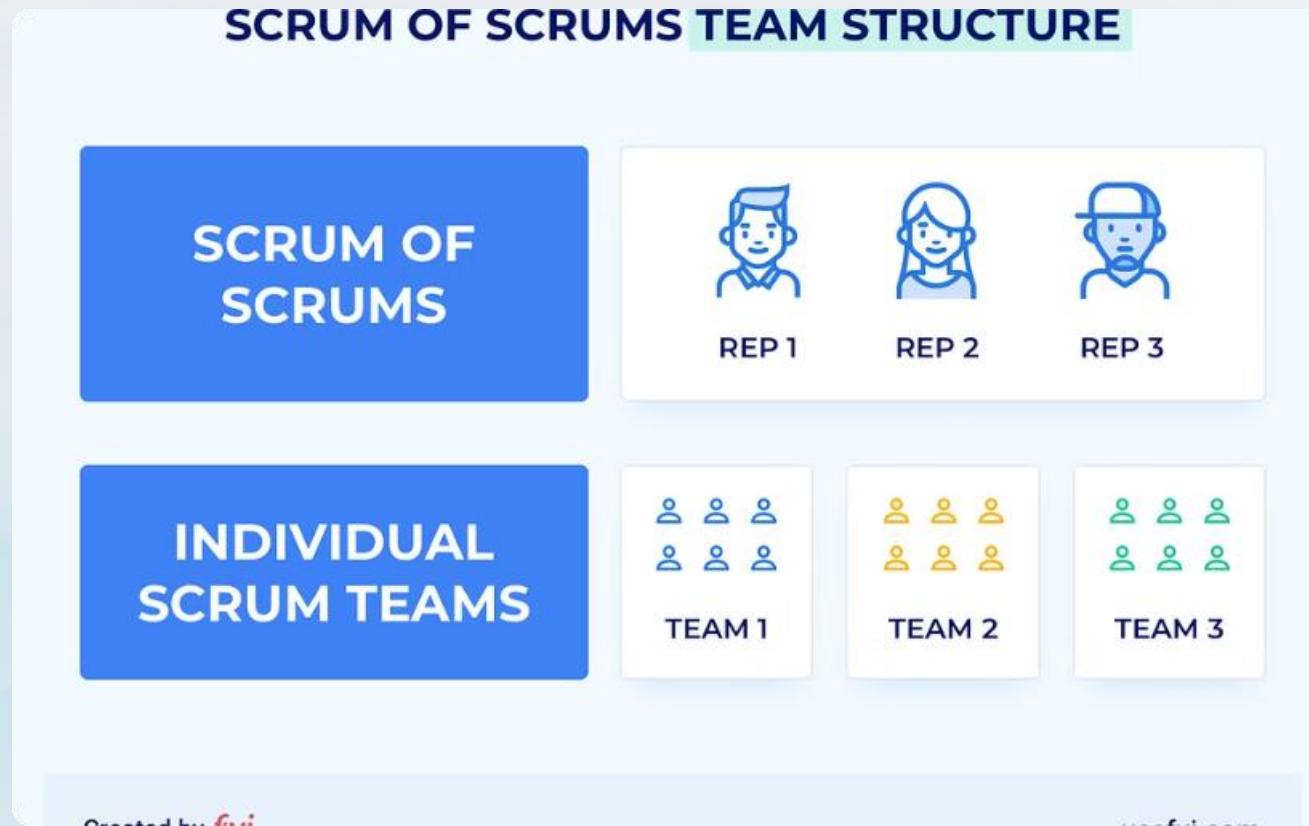
Work in Progress

Scrum limits work per sprint, while while Kanban limits work in progress. progress.

Delivery Cadence

Scrum has a regular cadence, while while Kanban delivers continuously. continuously.

When to Use Scrum vs. Kanban



Scrum

Use Scrum for projects with clear, defined requirements and a need for structured planning and delivery.



Kanban

Use Kanban for projects with more ambiguous or changing requirements, and a need for continuous delivery.

Combining Scrum and Kanban



Scrum

Scrum's time-boxed sprints and defined roles can provide structure.



Kanban

Kanban's continuous flow and visual management can add flexibility.



Hybrid

Many teams use a hybrid approach, approach, blending the best of both both frameworks.

Choosing the Right Agile Methodology

Methodology

1

Assess Your Needs

Consider your project's requirements, team dynamics, and organizational culture.

2

Evaluate Scrum and Kanban

Understand the key differences and how they align with your needs.

3

Experiment and Adapt

Try different approaches and be willing to adjust as your needs evolve.