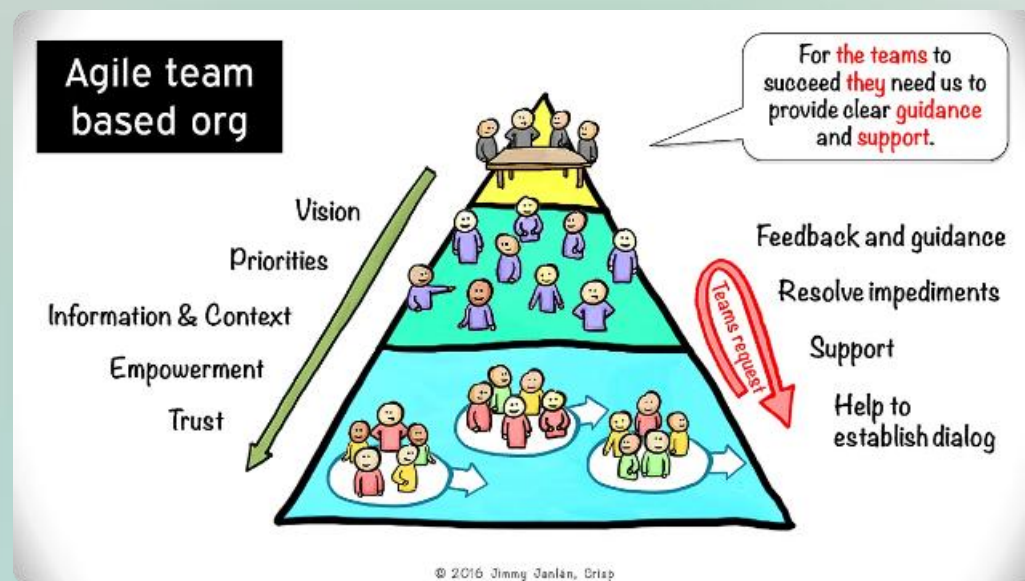# Scrum vs Kanban: Agile Methodologies Compared

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 emphasizes teamwork, accountability, and continuous improvement. It improvement. It involves short sprints, daily standups, and a focus on focus on delivering working software.

Daily Scrum Meeting

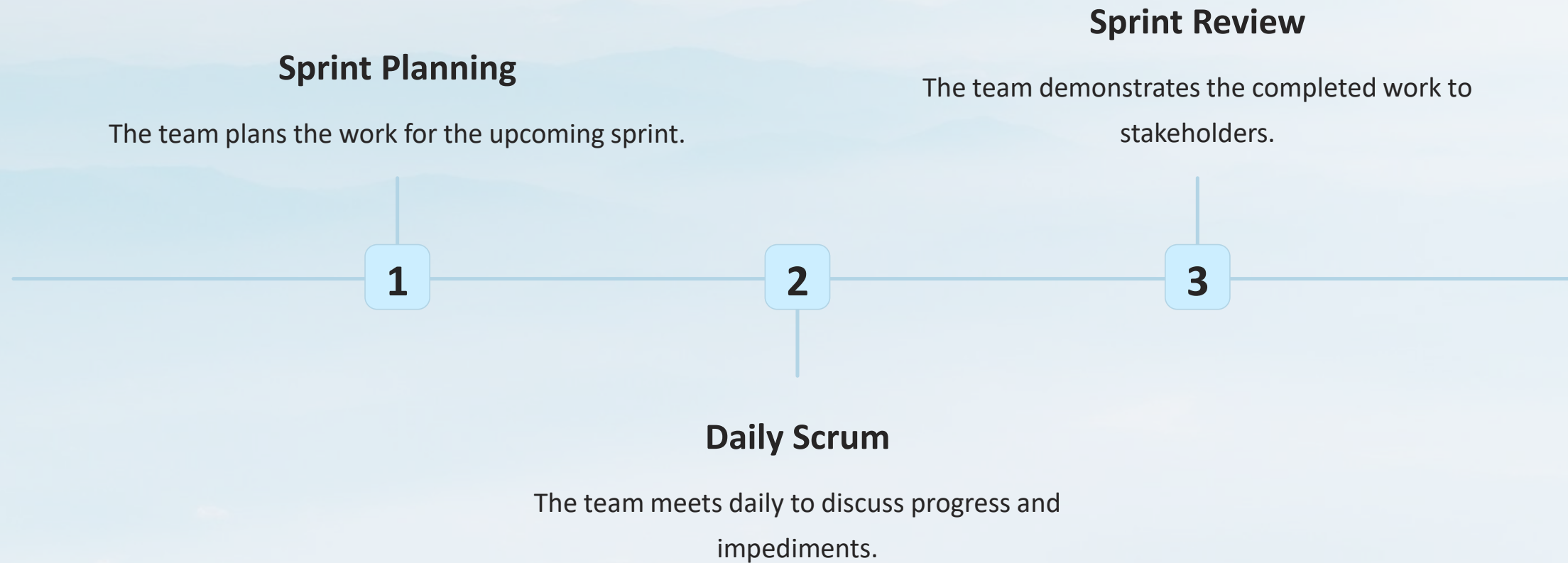- Time Box (15 min)
- Same place
- Same time
- Facilitated by Scrum Master

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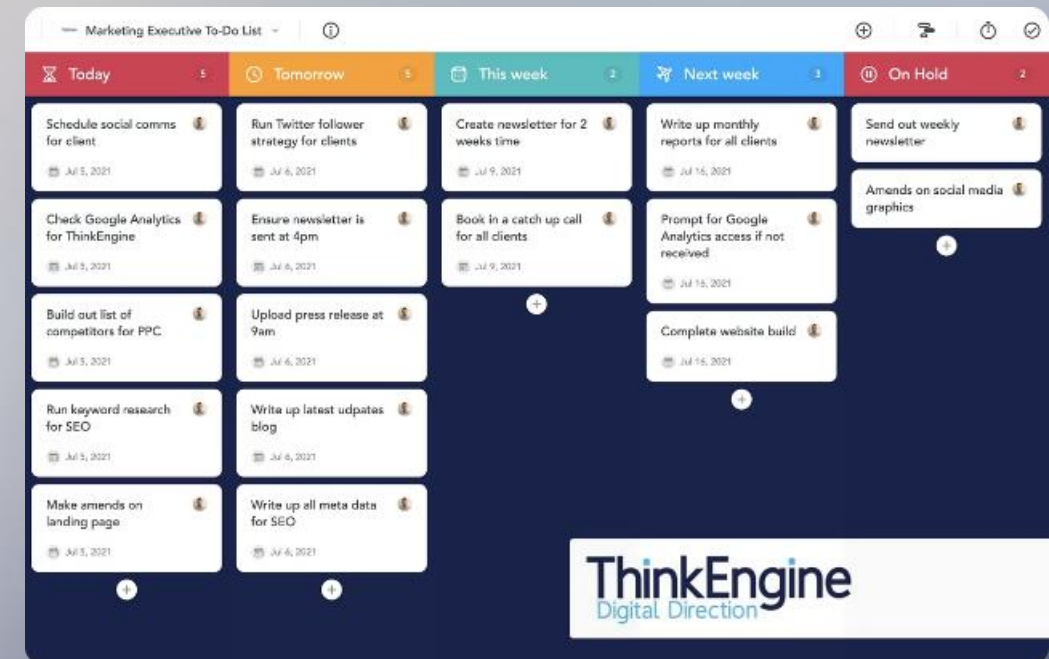- What will I do today?
- Is there any impediment?

HYGGER

How Scrum Works

Sprint Review

The team demonstrates the completed work to stakeholders.

Sprint Planning

The team plans the work for the upcoming sprint.

1   **2**   **3**

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.

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 number of tasks that can be in progress at once.

Continuous Delivery

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

Similarities Between Scrum and 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

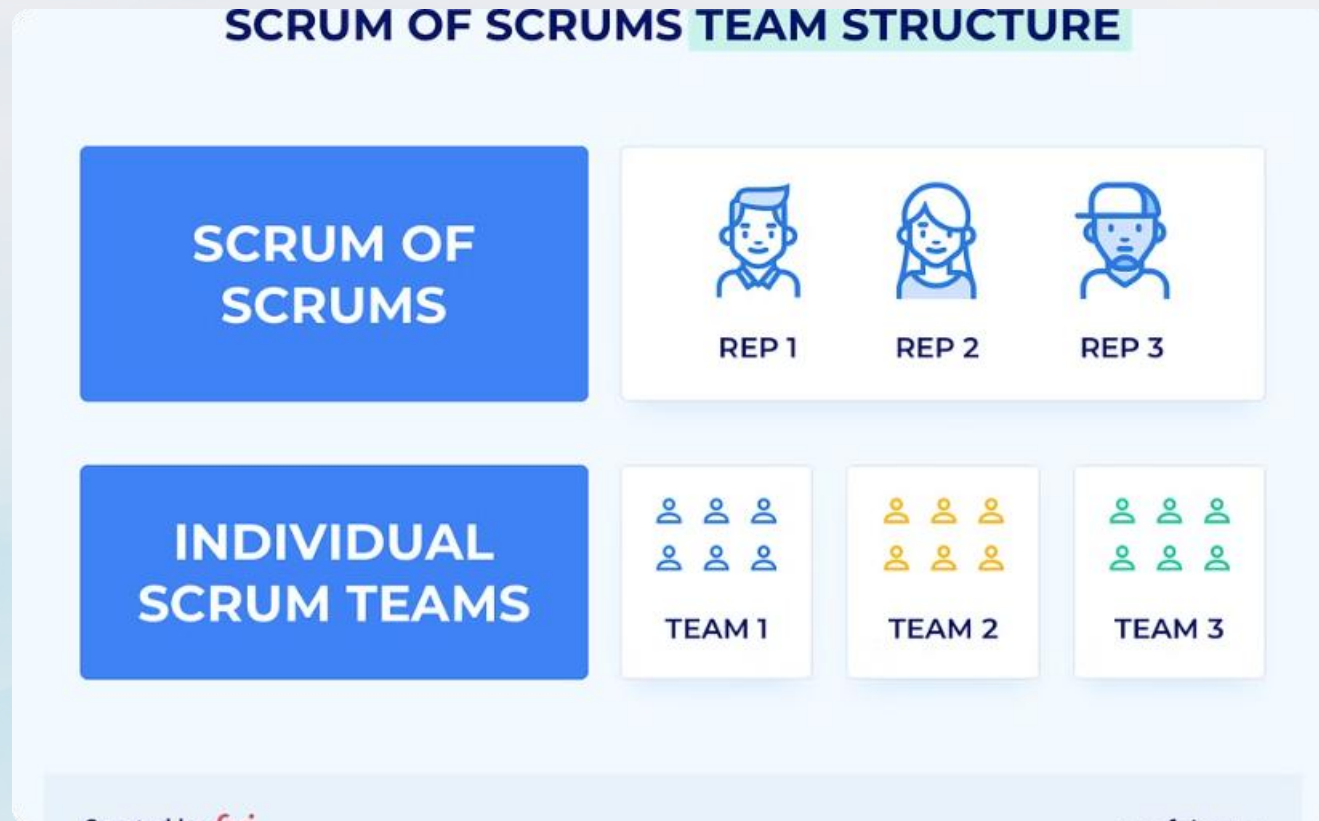Scrum has defined roles and events, while Kanban is more flexible.

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 requirements and a need for structured planning and delivery. delivery.

Kanban

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

Combining Scrum and Kanban

Scrum

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

Kanban

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