STEP BY STEP PROCESS ON HOW TO DO EXPLORATORY TESTING

Following is a step by step process on **How to do Exploratory Testing** which is also called session based test management (SBTM Cycle):

1. **Create a Bug Taxonomy (classification)**
    - Categorize common types of faults found in the past projects
    - Analyze the root cause analysis of the problems or faults
    - Find the risks and develop ideas to test the application.
2. **Test Charter**
    - Test Charter should suggest
        1. what to test
        2. how it can be tested
        3. What needs to be looked
    - Test ideas are the starting point of exploration testing
    - Test charter helps determine how the end user could use the system
3. **Time Box**
    - This method includes a pair of testers working together not less than 90 minutes
    - There should not be any interrupted time in those 90 minutes session
    - Time box can be extended or reduced by 45 minutes
    - This session encourages testers to react on the response from the system and prepare for the correct outcome
4. **Review Results:**
    - Evaluation of the defects
    - Learning from the testing
    - Analysis of coverage areas
5. **Debriefing:**
    - Compilation of the output results
    - Compare the results with the charter
    - Check whether any additional testing is needed

For Example, during exploratory execution, the following needs to be done:

- The mission of testing should be very clear
- Keep notes on what needs to be tested, why it needs to be tested and the assessment of the product quality
- Tracking of questions and issues raised during exploratory testing
- Better to pair up the testers for effective testing
- The more we test, more likely to execute right test cases for the required scenarios

It is very important to take a document and monitor the following

- Test Coverage - Whether we have taken notes on the coverage of test cases and improve the quality of the software
- Risks - Which risks need to be covered and which are all important ones?

- Test Execution Log - Recordings on the test execution
- Issues / Queries - Take notes on the question and issues on the system

Smarter exploratory testing finds more errors in less time.