

User Stories Deep Dive

User Story

A user story is an informal, general explanation of a software feature written from the perspective of the end user. Its purpose is to articulate how a software feature will provide value to the customer.

“As a [persona], I [want to], [so that].”

"As a blog reader, I want to sort comments from newest to oldest so that I can see the latest discussions."

INVEST principle

- The INVEST principle is a guideline used in Agile software development and project management to create well-formed user stories.
- INVEST stands for:
 - Independent
 - Negotiable
 - Valuable
 - Estimable
 - Small
 - Testable

Independent

"As an online shopper, I want to filter search results by price range so that I can find products within my budget."

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This story can be developed and delivered **without depending on other stories,** such as adding new products or modifying the search engine.

Negotiable

"As a user, I want to be able to upload my profile picture so that I can personalize my profile."

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The specifics of how the profile picture is uploaded (e.g., drag and drop, file selection dialog) are not set in stone and can be discussed and agreed upon during development.

Valuable

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This story directly adds value to the frequent flyer by simplifying the booking process, clearly showing the benefit to the end-user.

Estimable

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This is a common feature with known steps (generate link, send email, reset password), allowing the team to estimate the effort based on similar tasks.

Small

"As a blog reader, I want to sort comments from newest to oldest so that I can see the latest discussions."

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This story is focused on a single, straightforward functionality that can be completed in a short amount of time, fitting well within an iteration.

Testable

"As an admin, I want to generate monthly sales reports so that I can analyze trends."

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The story's outcome is clear—generate sales reports. It implies criteria (monthly, sales data, trend analysis) that can be used to develop tests to verify the story's implementation.