

Scrum-ban

What NOT to expect : -)

Hi. This is a quick explanation before you see my extra videos on scrum. As you know this is NOT a scrum or scrum-ban course, but I thought I would include some lessons on scrum and a few words on scrum-ban since scrum-ban is an emerging method and since scrum is often used in conjunction with kanban within departments in industry.

What is Scrum-ban

Scrum is a simple method for managing and completing complex projects.

Kanban is a simple method for just in time delivery of products or services.

Scrum-ban is a blend of Scrum and Kanban and it initially emerged as teams started to transition from Scrum to Kanban. However, I have used it rather to combine the pros of both methods.

I would say that this is a reasonably new, young method and as a scrum expert I would say that it has not been very well defined (you will see there are not a wealth of books on the matter). Let me give you a few pointers.

What are Key Differences between Kanban and Scrum?

Scrum	Kanban	
Iterations	No Iterations	In Scrum we have iterations of under a month called Sprints. There is no fixed period of time for delivery prescribed in Kanban. There are various target Cycle Times for different classes of task.
Velocity	Flow and Cycle Time	Velocity measures the size of the work completed in each iteration (Sprint.)
Scrum Master	No Scrum Master	The team own the process in Kanban. The process evolves and is not prescribed. Though I mention a Kanban Master in the video as a made up person who helps support it. This is just a role we made up because it suited us. It was not prescribed by Kanban.

When to use

This is down to your judgement however, I have used Scrum-ban when I have a team that needs to accomplish both delivery of a complex long term project AND just-in-time maintenance or support of a product or service.

The best example is when you have a team that has both a fixed deadline for a project and an element of maintenance or support. Then you can use:

Kanban: for just in time maintenance, sales or support

Scrum: to deliver to the fixed deadline or scope in iterations

How I use Scrum-ban

I have used a blend of Scrum and Kanban as above in a very simple way:

1. Keep the Kanban process as described in this course and use it for rapid fire in-coming support/maintenance/service oriented tasks
2. Keep the Scrum framework as described in the upcoming lessons for any well defined project work with a fixed scope or deadline
3. Add a planning meeting and a retrospective on an sprint by sprint basis (a sprint is an iteration - see the next videos to understand sprints).
4. Separate your board or have two boards (usually with the same workflow).
 1. Scrum board for planned work
 2. Kanban board for just in time work

Therefore the Scrum-ban method is simply the Kanban method with retrospective, planning and a separation of the board. It allows planned work and un-planned work to co-exist happily for the same team.

Next steps

See the next videos for more information about how you can use scrum with your kanban method.

Thank you : -)