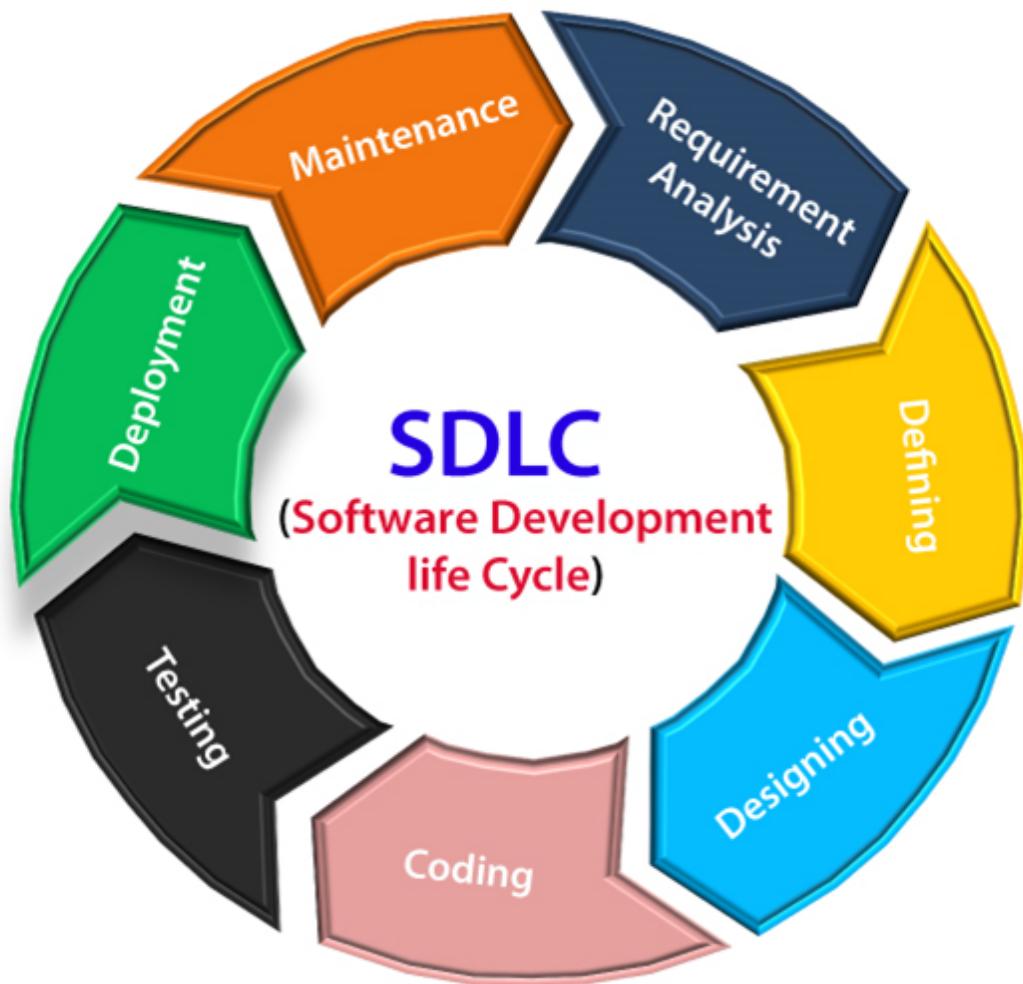


Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

A software life cycle model (also termed process model) is a pictorial and diagrammatic representation of the software life cycle. A life cycle model represents all the methods required to make a software product transit through its life cycle stages. It also captures the structure in which these methods are to be undertaken.



The stages of SDLC are as follows:

Stage1: Planning and requirement analysis

Requirement Analysis is the most important and necessary stage in SDLC.

The senior members of the team perform it with inputs from all the stakeholders and domain experts or SMEs in the industry.

Planning for the quality assurance requirements and identifications of the risks associated with the projects is also done at this stage.

Business analyst and Project organizer set up a meeting with the client to gather all the data like what the customer wants to build, who will be the end user, what is the objective of the product. Before creating a product, a core understanding or knowledge of the product is very necessary.

For Example, A client wants to have an application which concerns money transactions. In this method, the requirement has to be precise like what kind of operations will be done, how it will be done, in which currency it will be done, etc.

Once the required function is done, an analysis is complete with auditing the feasibility of the growth of a product. In case of any ambiguity, a signal is set up for further discussion.

Once the requirement is understood, the SRS (Software Requirement Specification) document is created. The developers should thoroughly follow this document and also should be reviewed by the customer for future reference.

Stage2: Defining Requirements

Once the requirement analysis is done, the next stage is to certainly represent and document the software requirements and get them accepted from the project stakeholders.

This is accomplished through "SRS"- Software Requirement Specification document which contains all the product requirements to be constructed and developed during the project life cycle.

Stage3: Designing the Software

The next phase is about to bring down all the knowledge of requirements, analysis, and design of the software project. This phase is the product of the last two, like inputs from the customer and requirement gathering.

Stage4: Developing the project

In this phase of SDLC, the actual development begins, and the programming is built. The implementation of design begins concerning writing code. Developers have to follow the coding guidelines described by their management and programming tools like compilers, interpreters, debuggers, etc. are used to develop and implement the code.

Stage5: Testing

After the code is generated, it is tested against the requirements to make sure that the products are solving the needs addressed and gathered during the requirements stage.

During this stage, unit testing, integration testing, system testing, acceptance testing are done.

Stage6: Deployment

Once the software is certified, and no bugs or errors are stated, then it is deployed.

Then based on the assessment, the software may be released as it is or with suggested enhancement in the object segment.

After the software is deployed, then its maintenance begins.

Stage7: Maintenance

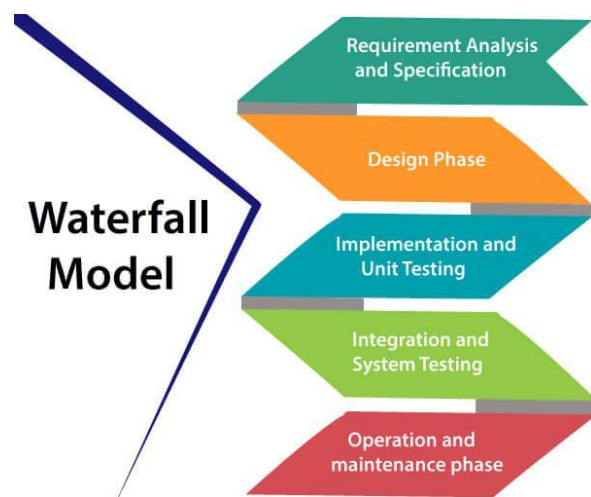
Once when the client starts using the developed systems, then the real issues come up and requirements to be solved from time to time.

This procedure where the care is taken for the developed product is known as maintenance.

Waterfall model

Winston Royce introduced the Waterfall Model in 1970. This model has five phases: Requirements analysis and specification, design, implementation, and unit testing, integration and system testing, and operation and maintenance. The steps always follow in this order and do not overlap. The developer must complete every phase before the next phase begins. This model is named "**Waterfall Model**", because its diagrammatic representation resembles a cascade of waterfalls.

1. Requirements analysis and specification phase: The aim of this phase is to understand the exact requirements of the customer and to document them properly. Both the customer and the software developer work together so as to document all the functions, performance, and interfacing requirement of the software. It describes the "what" of the system to be produced and not "how." In this phase, a large document called **Software Requirement Specification (SRS)** document is created which contained a detailed description of what the system will do in the common language.



2. Design Phase: This phase aims to transform the requirements gathered in the SRS into a suitable form which permits further coding in a programming language. It defines the overall software architecture together with high level and detailed design. All this work is documented as a Software Design Document (SDD).

3. Implementation and unit testing: During this phase, design is implemented. If the SDD is complete, the implementation or coding phase proceeds smoothly, because all the information needed by software developers is contained in the SDD.

During testing, the code is thoroughly examined and modified. Small modules are tested in isolation initially. After that these modules are tested by writing some overhead code to check the interaction between these modules and the flow of intermediate output.

4. Integration and System Testing: This phase is highly crucial as the quality of the end product is determined by the effectiveness of the testing carried out. The better output will lead to satisfied customers, lower maintenance costs, and accurate results. Unit testing determines the efficiency of individual modules. However, in this phase, the modules are tested for their interactions with each other and with the system.

5. Operation and maintenance phase: Maintenance is the task performed by every user once the software has been delivered to the customer, installed, and operational.

When to use SDLC Waterfall Model?

Some Circumstances where the use of the Waterfall model is most suited are:

- o When the requirements are constant and not changed regularly.
- o A project is short
- o The situation is calm
- o Where the tools and technology used is consistent and is not changing
- o When resources are well prepared and are available to use.

Advantages of Waterfall model

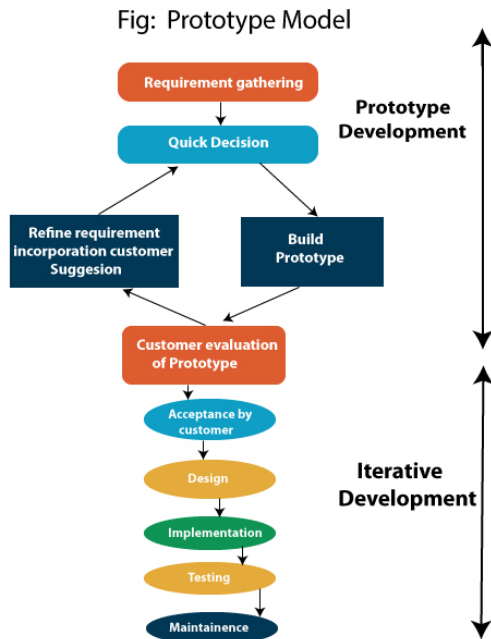
- o This model is simple to implement also the number of resources that are required for it is minimal.
- o The requirements are simple and explicitly declared; they remain unchanged during the entire project development.
- o The start and end points for each phase is fixed, which makes it easy to cover progress.
- o The release date for the complete product, as well as its final cost, can be determined before development.
- o It gives easy to control and clarity for the customer due to a strict reporting system.

Disadvantages of Waterfall model

- o In this model, the risk factor is higher, so this model is not suitable for more significant and complex projects.
- o This model cannot accept the changes in requirements during development.
- o It becomes tough to go back to the phase. For example, if the application has now shifted to the coding phase, and there is a change in requirement, It becomes tough to go back and change it.
- o Since the testing done at a later stage, it does not allow identifying the challenges and risks in the earlier phase, so the risk reduction strategy is difficult to prepare.

Prototype Model

The prototype model requires that before carrying out the development of actual software, a working prototype of the system should be built. A prototype is a toy implementation of the system. A prototype usually turns out to be a very crude version of the actual system, possible exhibiting limited functional capabilities, low reliability, and inefficient performance as compared to actual software. In many instances, the client only has a general view of what is expected from the software product. In such a scenario where there is an absence of detailed information regarding the input to the system, the processing needs, and the output requirement, the prototyping model may be employed.



Steps of Prototype Model

1. Requirement Gathering and Analyst
2. Quick Decision
3. Build a Prototype
4. Assessment or User Evaluation
5. Prototype Refinement
6. Engineer Product

Advantage of Prototype Model

1. Reduce the risk of incorrect user requirement
2. Good where requirement are changing/uncommitted
3. Regular visible process aids management
4. Support early product marketing
5. Reduce Maintenance cost.
6. Errors can be detected much earlier as the system is made side by side.

Disadvantage of Prototype Model

1. An unstable/badly implemented prototype often becomes the final product.
2. Require extensive customer collaboration
 - o Costs customer money
 - o Needs committed customer
 - o Difficult to finish if customer withdraw
 - o May be too customer specific, no broad market

3. Difficult to know how long the project will last.
4. Easy to fall back into the code and fix without proper requirement analysis, design, customer evaluation, and feedback.
5. Prototyping tools are expensive.
6. Special tools & techniques are required to build a prototype.
7. It is a time-consuming process.

Incremental Model

Incremental Model is a process of software development where requirements divided into multiple standalone modules of the software development cycle. In this model, each module goes through the requirements, design, implementation and testing phases. Every subsequent release of the module adds function to the previous release. The process continues until the complete system achieved.

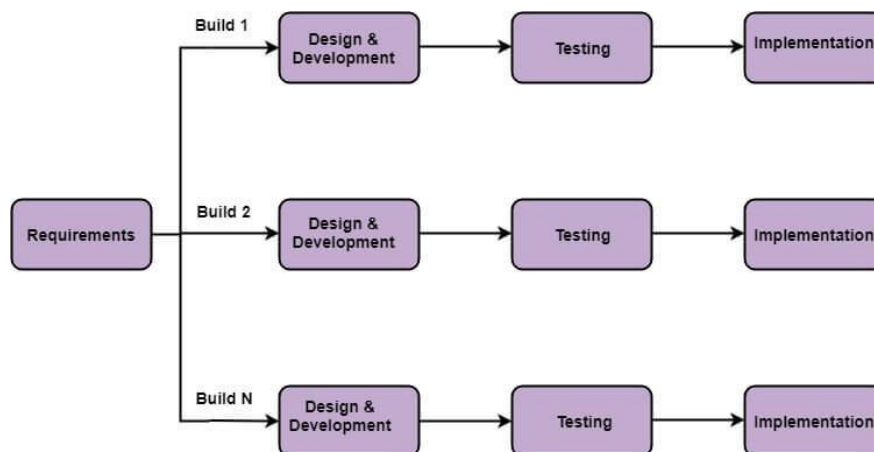


Fig: Incremental Model

The various phases of incremental model are as follows:

1. Requirement analysis: In the first phase of the incremental model, the product analysis expertise identifies the requirements. And the system functional requirements are understood by the requirement analysis team. To develop the software under the incremental model, this phase performs a crucial role.

2. Design & Development: In this phase of the Incremental model of SDLC, the design of the system functionality and the development method are finished with success. When software develops new practicality, the incremental model uses style and development phase.

3. Testing: In the incremental model, the testing phase checks the performance of each existing function as well as additional functionality. In the testing phase, the various methods are used to test the behavior of each task.

4. Implementation: Implementation phase enables the coding phase of the development system. It involves the final coding that design in the designing and development phase and tests the functionality in the testing phase. After completion of this phase, the number of the product working is enhanced and upgraded up to the final system product

When we use the Incremental Model?

- o When the requirements are superior.
- o A project has a lengthy development schedule.
- o When Software team are not very well skilled or trained.
- o When the customer demands a quick release of the product.
- o You can develop prioritized requirements first.

Advantage of Incremental Model

- o Errors are easy to be recognized.
- o Easier to test and debug
- o More flexible.
- o Simple to manage risk because it handled during its iteration.
- o The Client gets important functionality early.

Disadvantage of Incremental Model

- o Need for good planning
- o Total Cost is high.
- o Well defined module interfaces are needed.

Iterative Model

In this Model, you can start with some of the software specifications and develop the first version of the software. After the first version if there is a need to change the software, then a new version of the software is created with a new iteration. Every release of the Iterative Model finishes in an exact and fixed period that is called iteration.

The Iterative Model allows the accessing earlier phases, in which the variations made respectively. The final output of the project renewed at the end of the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) process.

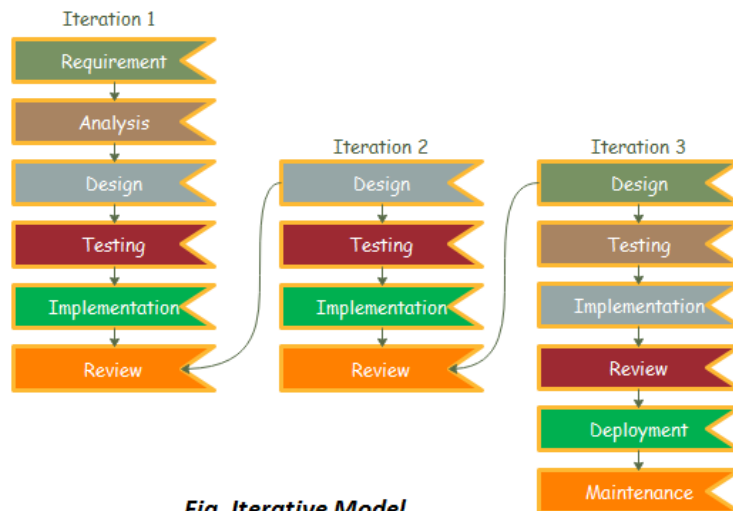


Fig. Iterative Model

The various phases of Iterative model are as follows:

1. Requirement gathering & analysis: In this phase, requirements are gathered from customers and check by an analyst whether requirements will fulfil or not. Analyst checks that need will achieve within budget or not. After all of this, the software team skips to the next phase.

2. Design: In the design phase, team design the software by the different diagrams like Data Flow diagram, activity diagram, class diagram, state transition diagram, etc.

3. Implementation: In the implementation, requirements are written in the coding language and transformed into computer programmes which are called Software.

4. Testing: After completing the coding phase, software testing starts using different test methods. There are many test methods, but the most common are white box, black box, and grey box test methods.

5. Deployment: After completing all the phases, software is deployed to its work environment.

6. Review: In this phase, after the product deployment, review phase is performed to check the behaviour and validity of the developed product. And if there are any error found then the process starts again from the requirement gathering.

7. Maintenance: In the maintenance phase, after deployment of the software in the working environment there may be some bugs, some errors or new updates are required. Maintenance involves debugging and new addition options.

When to use the Iterative Model?

1. When requirements are defined clearly and easy to understand.
2. When the software application is large.
3. When there is a requirement of changes in future.

Advantage(Pros) of Iterative Model:

1. Testing and debugging during smaller iteration is easy.
2. A Parallel development can plan.
3. It is easily acceptable to ever-changing needs of the project.
4. Risks are identified and resolved during iteration.
5. Limited time spent on documentation and extra time on designing.

Disadvantage(Cons) of Iterative Model:

1. It is not suitable for smaller projects.
2. More Resources may be required.
3. Design can be changed again and again because of imperfect requirements.
4. Requirement changes can cause over budget.
5. Project completion date not confirmed because of changing requirements.

Spiral Model

The spiral model, initially proposed by Boehm, is an evolutionary software process model that couples the iterative feature of prototyping with the controlled and systematic aspects of the linear sequential model. It implements the potential for rapid development of new versions of the software. Using the spiral model, the software is developed in a series of incremental releases. During the early iterations, the additional release may be a paper model or prototype. During later iterations, more and more complete versions of the engineered system are produced.

The Spiral Model is shown in fig:

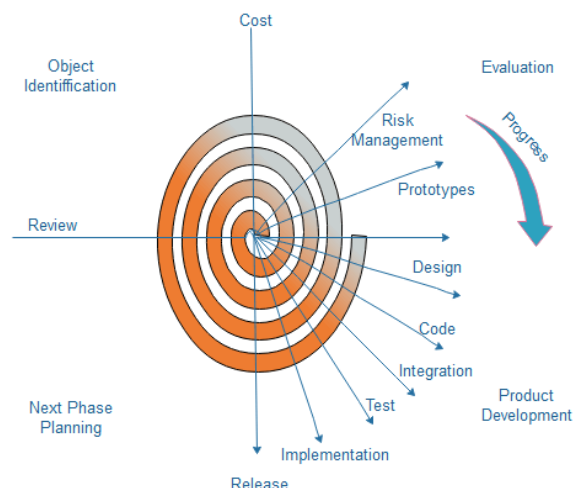


Fig. Spiral Model

Each cycle in the spiral is divided into four parts:

Objective setting: Each cycle in the spiral starts with the identification of purpose for that cycle, the various alternatives that are possible for achieving the targets, and the constraints that exists.

Risk Assessment and reduction: The next phase in the cycle is to calculate these various alternatives based on the goals and constraints. The focus of evaluation in this stage is located on the risk perception for the project.

Development and validation: The next phase is to develop strategies that resolve uncertainties and risks. This process may include activities such as benchmarking, simulation, and prototyping.

Planning: Finally, the next step is planned. The project is reviewed, and a choice made whether to continue with a further period of the spiral. If it is determined to keep, plans are drawn up for the next step of the project.

The development phase depends on the remaining risks. For example, if performance or user-interface risks are treated more essential than the program development risks, the next phase may be an evolutionary development that includes developing a more detailed prototype for solving the risks.

The **risk-driven** feature of the spiral model allows it to accommodate any mixture of a specification-oriented, prototype-oriented, simulation-oriented, or another type of approach. An essential element of the model is that each period of the spiral is completed by a review that includes all the products developed during that cycle, including plans for the next cycle. The spiral model works for development as well as enhancement projects.

When to use Spiral Model?

- o When deliverance is required to be frequent.
- o When the project is large
- o When requirements are unclear and complex
- o When changes may require at any time
- o Large and high budget projects

Advantages

- o High amount of risk analysis
- o Useful for large and mission-critical projects.

Disadvantages

- o Can be a costly model to use.
- o Risk analysis needed highly particular expertise
- o Doesn't work well for smaller projects.

RAD (Rapid Application Development) Model

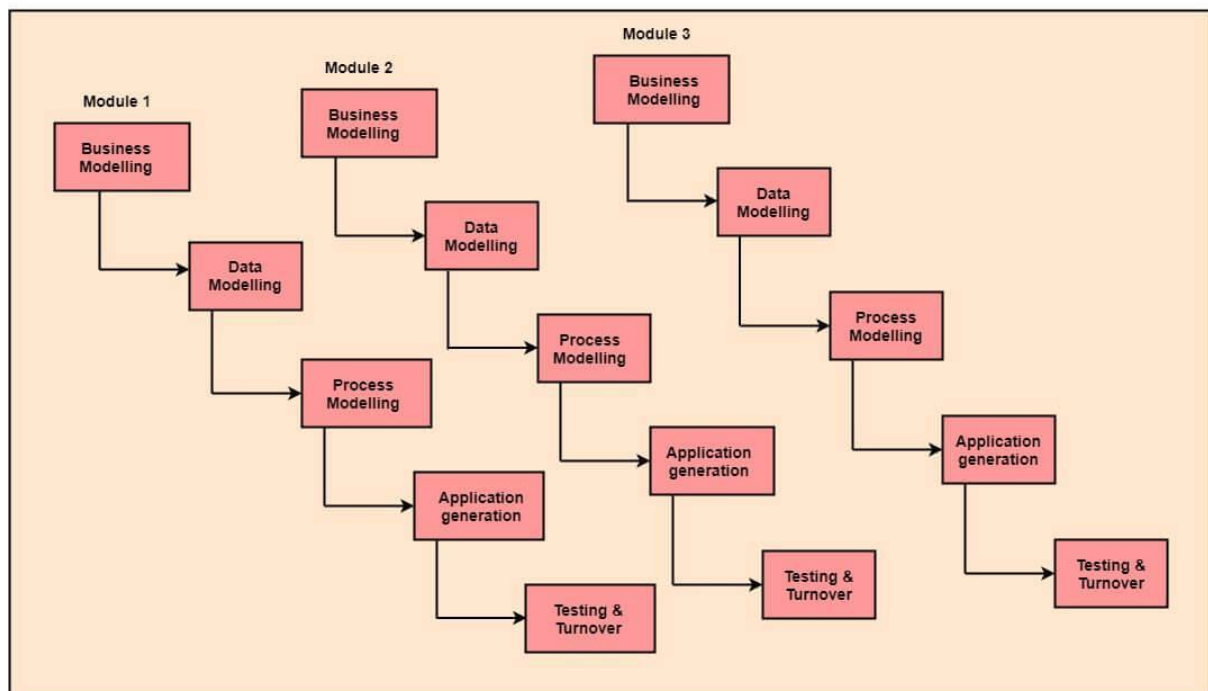
RAD is a linear sequential software development process model that emphasizes a concise development cycle using an element based construction approach. If the requirements are

well understood and described, and the project scope is a constraint, the RAD process enables a development team to create a fully functional system within a concise time period.

RAD (Rapid Application Development) is a concept that products can be developed faster and of higher quality through:

- o Gathering requirements using workshops or focus groups
- o Prototyping and early, reiterative user testing of designs
- o The re-use of software components
- o A rigidly paced schedule that refers design improvements to the next product version
- o Less formality in reviews and other team communication

Fig: RAD Model



The various phases of RAD are as follows:

1. Business Modelling: The information flow among business functions is defined by answering questions like what data drives the business process, what data is generated, who generates it, where does the information go, who process it and so on.

2. Data Modelling: The data collected from business modeling is refined into a set of data objects (entities) that are needed to support the business. The attributes (character of each entity) are identified, and the relation between these data objects (entities) is defined.

3. Process Modelling: The information object defined in the data modeling phase are transformed to achieve the data flow necessary to implement a business function. Processing descriptions are created for adding, modifying, deleting, or retrieving a data object.

4. Application Generation: Automated tools are used to facilitate construction of the software; even they use the 4th GL techniques.

5. Testing & Turnover: Many of the programming components have already been tested since RAD emphasis reuse. This reduces the overall testing time. But the new part must be tested, and all interfaces must be fully exercised.

When to use RAD Model?

- o When the system should need to create the project that modularizes in a short span time (2-3 months).
- o When the requirements are well-known.
- o When the technical risk is limited.
- o When there's a necessity to make a system, which modularized in 2-3 months of period.
- o It should be used only if the budget allows the use of automatic code generating tools.

Advantage of RAD Model

- o This model is flexible for change.
- o In this model, changes are adoptable.
- o Each phase in RAD brings highest priority functionality to the customer.
- o It reduced development time.
- o It increases the reusability of features.

Disadvantage of RAD Model

- o It required highly skilled designers.
- o All application is not compatible with RAD.
- o For smaller projects, we cannot use the RAD model.
- o On the high technical risk, it's not suitable.
- o Required user involvement.