Test Management and Issue Tracking

Test Roles, Test Strategy and Approach, Entry and Exit Criteria, Planning, Design, Execution, Monitoring, Closure

SoftUni Team Technical Trainers







https://about.softuni.bg

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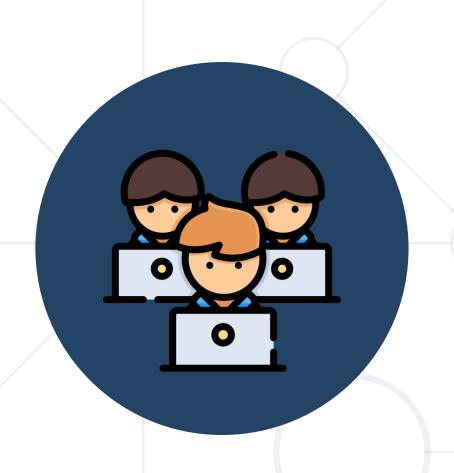
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Have a Question?







Roles and Responsibilities in Testing

Navigating the Testing Landscape

Roles in Testing



- Most common roles in testing are:
 - Test Manager
 - Test Lead
 - Test Analyst
 - Test Engineer
 - Manual Tester
- Other roles can be found, depending on the organization, e.g. Test Coordinator



Test Manager

- Responsible for overseeing the testing process and ensuring its successful execution
 - Develops the test strategy and test plans
 - Allocates resources, defines timelines, and sets priorities
 - Coordinates with stakeholders for clear communication and understanding of testing goals
 - Monitors the progress of testing activities and report on test metrics
 - Manages risks and issues related to testing
 - Provides guidance and mentoring to the test team
 - Ensures compliance to testing standards and best practices
 - Collaborates with project managers and stakeholders to align testing activities with project objectives



Test Lead

- Manages the testing team and plays a crucial role in coordinating and driving testing activities
 - Assists in developing the test strategy and test plans
 - Assigns tasks to test team members and monitors their progress
 - Conducts regular team meetings to discuss test progress, challenges, and solutions
 - Provides guidance and support to test analysts and engineers
 - Reviews test artifacts such as test cases, scripts, and data
 - Coordinates with the Test Manager to ensure appropriate resource allocation
- Collaborates with other leads and managers to ensure testing integration and alignment with project activities
- Identifies and resolves issues or roadblocks that may impact testing

Test Analyst

- Responsible for analyzing requirements and designing test scenarios and cases
 - Reviews system requirements and specifications to identify testable features
 - Designs test scenarios based on business and technical requirements
 - Creates and executes test cases, scripts, and data
 - Identifies defects, working with the development team to resolve them
 - Participates in test estimation and test strategy discussions
 - Conducts various types of testing
 - Collaborates with the Test Lead and Test Manager
 - Provides input for test automation opportunities and support automation efforts



Test Engineer

- Focuses on the technical aspects of testing, including test automation and test execution
 - Develops and maintains automated test scripts
 - Collaborates with the Test Analyst to identify test cases suitable for automation
 - Sets up and configures test environments and test data
 - Executes automated test scripts and analyze test results
 - Debugs and troubleshoots issues in the test automation framework
 - Creates and maintains test documentation, such as test plans and reports
 - Collaborates with the development team to ensure proper test coverage
 - Continuously improves test automation processes and frameworks
 - Stays updated with industry trends and best practices in test automation



Manual Tester

- Responsible for executing tests manually to ensure software quality
 - Reviews and understands software requirements and specifications
 - Develops test cases based on functional and technical specifications
 - Executes test cases manually to verify software functionality
 - Identifies and reports software defects using defect tracking tools
 - Validates and verifies bug fixes after they have been resolved
 - Performs regression testing to ensure existing functionalities are not impacted by changes
 - Documents test results, including defects and test execution status
 - Collaborates with the development team to resolve issues and improve software quality
 - Provides feedback and suggestions for improving test processes and test coverage







Test Management

Coordinating Activities

What is Test Management?



- Integral part of the Software Testing Lifecycle (STLC)
- Encompasses the planning, coordination, and control of testing activities within SDLC
- Ensures that testing is carried out effectively, efficiently,
 and in alignment with project objectives
 - Plays a vital role in delivering high-quality software and mitigating risks
- Provides the framework and guidelines for managing testing activities within each phase of the STLC
- Ensures that testing objectives, strategies, and approaches are aligned with the specific phase of the STLC

Key Components – Test Strategy



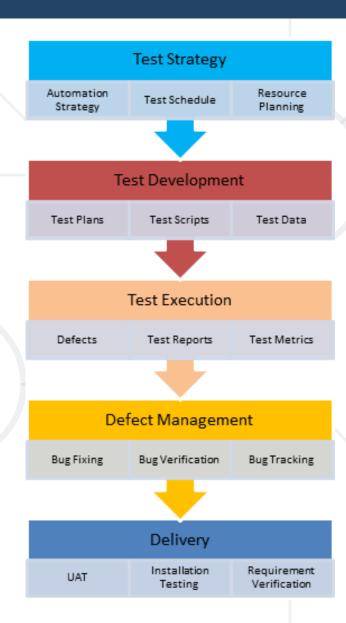
- Test Strategy sets the overall direction, objectives, and scope of the testing effort
- It defines the approach to be followed, considering factors such as test levels, techniques, and resource requirements
- The Test Strategy is developed early in the testing process, aligning with the project's goals and quality objectives
- It provides a roadmap for the testing team, ensuring that testing efforts are focused and effective
- The Test Strategy also takes into account factors like risk assessment, timelines, and stakeholder expectations

How to Prepare a Good Test Strategy



- Every organization has their unique priority and set of rules for software designing, so do not copy any organization blindly, include the following in your Test Strategy:
 - Scope
 - Test Approach
 - Test Environment
 - Testing Tools
 - Release Control
 - Risk Analysis

Sample Test Strategy Template



Key Components – Test Approach



 Test Approach is a more detailed document derived from the Test Strategy, providing specific instructions for executing testing activities within each phase

It defines:

- Process of testing
- Testing levels
- Roles and responsibilities of each team member
- Types of Testing (Load testing, Security testing, Performance testing etc.)
- Automation tools if applicable
- Adding new defects, re-testing, Defect triage, Regression Testing and test sign off

Different Test Approaches



- Analytical Focusing testing on the most critical functionality (risk based)
- Model-based Stochastic or Monkey testing using random or statistical information (tool), Operational profiles
- Methodical Testing approaches Failure based (error guessing and fault attack),
 Experience-based, Check-list based and Quality characteristic-based
- Process- or standard-compliant Testing approach Industry-specific standards (e.g., medical, aviation), Various agile methodologies
- Dynamic and heuristic approaches such as exploratory testing (more reactive approach than pre-planned approach), Execution and evaluation are concurrent tasks
- Consultative approaches Test coverage is driven primarily by the advice and guidance of technology and/or business, Domain experts outside the test team
- Regression-averse approach in Software Testing Includes reuse of existing test material, extensive automation of functional regression tests, and standard test suite

Key Components - Entry Criteria



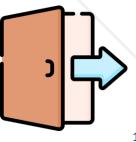
- Entry Criteria define the prerequisite to be achieved before starting the testing activity
- The main focus is to check whether a tester can perform the testing tasks on the software without major obstacles
- Areas to look at while defining entry criteria
 - Testing environment setup and availability
 - Availability of all testing tools
 - Accessibility of the testable code
 - Availability of the test data



Key Components - Exit Criteria



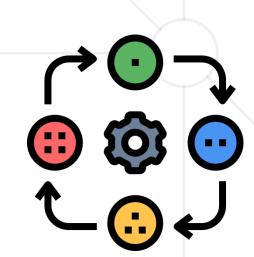
- Exit Criteria define the conditions to be met before testing can be considered as complete
- Indicate that the software is up to the required quality
- Focus points for exit criteria are
 - Coverage of code, functionality, risk
 - Estimation of defect density or reliability measures
 - Cost or budget
 - Residual risks
 - Schedules like time for marketing



Key Components Recap



- Test Strategy sets the overall direction
- Test Approach offers specific instructions
- Entry Criteria establish predefined conditions that must be met
- Exit Criteria outline the conditions that need to be fulfilled
- Together these four, form the foundation for effective test management
 throughout all phases
 of the testing process





Test Planning and Estimation

Strategizing Testing Efforts

What is Test Planning and Estimation?



- Test planning is the process of defining the approach, scope, and objectives of testing activities for a specific project or release
- It involves creating a comprehensive test strategy and test plan to guide the testing efforts

Importance:

- Sets the foundation for effective and organized testing activities
- Ensures clear understanding of testing goals and objectives
- Helps identify risks, challenges, and dependencies upfront
- Facilitates resource allocation and time management



Key Activities in Planning and Estimation



Defining Testing Objectives:

 Identify goals and expectations, determine quality attributes to focus on, establish clear criteria for test completion

Test Scope and Coverage:

 Define boundaries and extent of testing, determine features, functions, and platforms to be tested, identify test environments and configurations

Test Strategy:

 Select appropriate test techniques, approaches, and levels, decide balance between manual and automated testing, outline test data and test environment requirements

Key Activities in Test Planning and Estimation (2)



Test Schedule and Timeline:

 Define testing milestones and deliverables, allocate time for different testing activities, consider dependencies and interdependencies

Resource Planning:

 Identify and allocate testing resources, determine roles and responsibilities, assess training needs and skill availability

Risk Assessment and Mitigation:

 Identify potential risks and their impact on testing, develop risk mitigation strategies and contingency plans, prioritize risks based on likelihood and impact

Key Activities in Test Planning and Estimation (3)



Test Documentation:

 Create and maintain test plans, test cases, and test scripts, document test data, environments, and configurations, prepare guidelines and standards for testing activities

Communication and Collaboration:

 Establish clear communication among stakeholders, coordinate with development and other teams, conduct regular meetings for alignment and issue resolution



Test Design

From Requirements to Execution

What is Test Design?



- The process of creating test cases and test scenarios based on the defined test objectives and requirements
- It involves translating test conditions into detailed test cases that validate specific functionalities and system behavior
- Importance:
 - Ensures comprehensive test coverage
 - Identifies test conditions and test cases to validate system behavior
 - Helps in early detection of defects
 - Enhances the effectiveness and efficiency of testing
 - Facilitates traceability between requirements and test cases



Key Activities in Test Design



Reviewing Requirements:

 Understand the system requirements, identify functional and nonfunctional aspects to be tested, clarify any ambiguities or inconsistencies

Identifying Test Conditions:

 Identify specific test conditions, determine inputs, expected outputs, and system states to be tested, positive and negative scenarios

Creating Test Cases and Test Suits:

 Develop test cases based on identified test conditions, define steps for each test case, include preconditions and expected results

Key Activities in Test Design (2)



Test Data Preparation:

 Create test data to support test cases, consider various data combinations and boundary conditions

Test Case Prioritization:

 Determine the order of test case execution, prioritize based on risk, business impact, or dependencies, consider critical functionalities or frequently used features

Test Case Optimization:

 Identify redundant or duplicate test cases, optimize test coverage while maintaining adequate coverage

Key Activities in Test Design (3)



Traceability:

 Between test cases and requirements, each requirement has corresponding test cases, tracking of test coverage and impact analysis

Documentation and Maintenance:

 Document test cases, test case repositories for future reference, update and revise test cases as necessary



Test Execution

Driving Quality Forward: Thorough Validation

What is Test Execution?



- The phase where the planned test cases are executed, and the actual testing takes place
- It involves running the test cases, capturing test results, and comparing the actual outcomes with expected results
- Importance:
 - Validates the functionality and behavior of the software or system under test
 - Identifies defects and deviations from expected results
 - Enables real-world simulation to ensure software readiness
 - Verifies that the system meets the desired quality standards
 - Provides feedback on the overall product stability



Key Activities in Test Execution



Test Environment Setup:

 Prepare the necessary test environment and configurations, install and configure the software or system under test

Test Case Execution:

 Run the test cases, follow the specified test steps and procedures, record the actual results and observations

Defect Logging:

 Log defects with detailed information, including steps to reproduce, observed behavior, and environment details

Key Activities in Defect Management



Defect Prioritization:

 Prioritize defects based on their severity, impact on the system, and business priorities

Defect Triage:

 Conduct defect triage meetings to review and prioritize reported defects, determine the appropriate course of action for each defect

Test Progress Monitoring:

 Track and monitor the overall progress of test execution, identify any gaps or missed areas, assess the test execution against the planned schedule

Key Activities in Test Execution (2)



Regression Testing:

 Perform regression tests, address any issues or defects identified during regression testing

Test Execution Documentation:

 Maintain test execution logs, update test case statuses to reflect their execution status, document any issues

Defect Resolution and Verification:

 Re-test and verify the fixed defects to ensure they have been resolved satisfactorily

Defect Closure:

 Close defects that have been successfully resolved and verified, proper documentation



Test Monitoring and Control

Keeping Testing on Track

What is Test Monitoring and Control?



- Involves overseeing the progress, quality, and effectiveness of the testing activities throughout the testing lifecycle
- Importance:
 - Enables effective tracking and control of the testing process
 - Facilitates timely decision-making and issue resolution
 - Ensures adherence to defined objectives and quality standards

Key Activities in Test Monitoring and Control



- Involves overseeing and managing the testing activities throughout the software development lifecycle
- The focus is on monitoring the progress, quality, and effectiveness of testing
- Ensures keeping up with defined objectives, timelines, and quality standards
- Includes tracking test execution, managing issues and risks, monitoring the test environment, and communicating the testing status
- Enables timely decision-making and issue resolution
- Helps ensure that testing efforts align with project goals and quality standards

^{*} This topic will be discussed in full in a separate lecture (14. Test Monitoring and Control), delving into more detailed discussions and best practices



Test Closure

Wrapping Up the Testing Journey

What is Test Monitoring and Control?



 Wrapping up the testing activities and documenting the overall outcomes and lessons learned from the testing effort

Importance:

- Provides a comprehensive summary of the testing effort and its outcomes
- Facilitates decision-making on the software's release readiness
- Enables lessons learned and continuous improvement for future testing projects



Key Activities in Test Closure



- Test Completion Evaluation
- Test Closure Reporting
- Defect Analysis and Metrics
- Lessons Learned Documentation
- Post-Implementation Review
- Archiving and Documentation

^{*} This topic will be discussed in full in a separate lecture (14. Test Monitoring and Control), delving into more detailed discussions and best practices for effective Test Closure



Test Management Tools

TestRail

TestRail



- TestRail is a test management tool
 - Centralized test management
 - Efficient test case organization
 - Effective test execution and tracking
 - Comprehensive reporting and metrics
 - Seamless integration with other tools (e.g., Jira)
 - Customizable to fit unique testing workflows
- TestRail simplifies testing processes, enhances collaboration, provides valuable insights, and improves overall efficiency and effectiveness

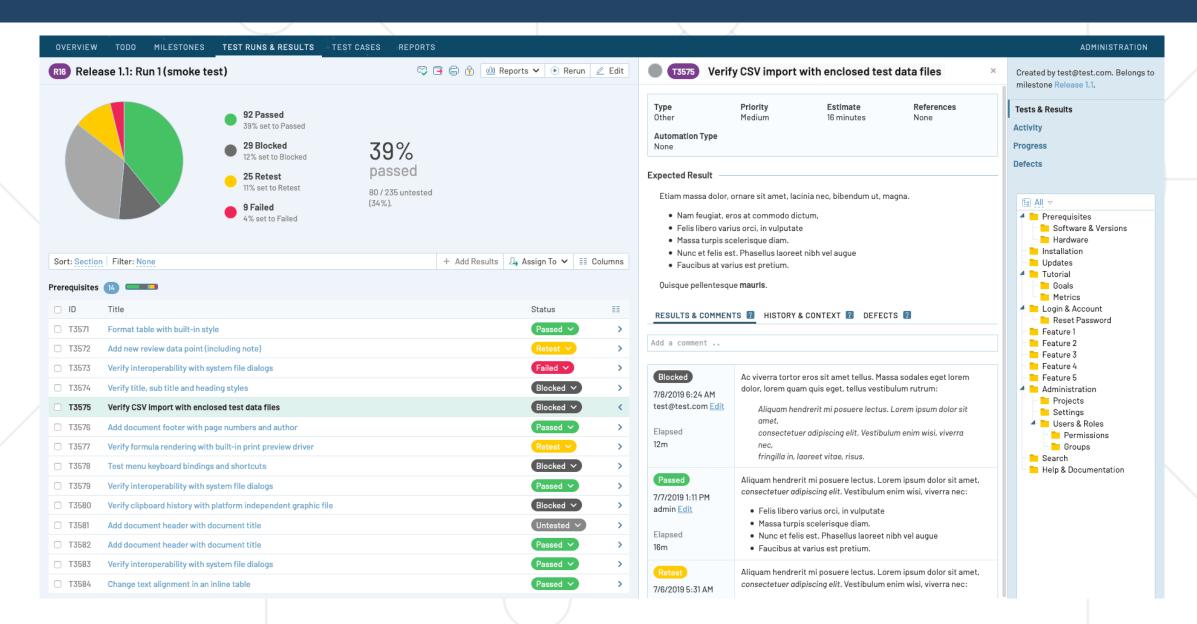
Functions



- The Primary Functions of TestRail:
 - Document test cases with steps, expected results, screenshots, and much more
 - Organize test cases into test suites and sections
 - Assign test cases for execution and manage team workloads
 - Track the results of test runs in real-time
 - Review progress toward milestones
 - Generate reports on a variety of metrics
- TestRail supports every type of software testing
- Used to organize manual/script-based testing, schedule and report the results of exploratory testing, and integrate with the test automation tools
- Integrates with defect tracking tools out-of-the-box and includes an open API

TestRail Example







Test Management Tools

TestRail Demo & connect with Jira

Summary



- What Roles there are in Test Management?
 What are their responsibilities?
- Test Strategy, Test Approach, Entry and Exit
 Criteria key components of Test Management
- Phases in Test Management
 - Test Planning and Estimation
 - Test Design
 - Test Execution
 - Test Monitoring and Control
 - Test Closure
- Test Management Tools TestRail + Jira





Questions?

















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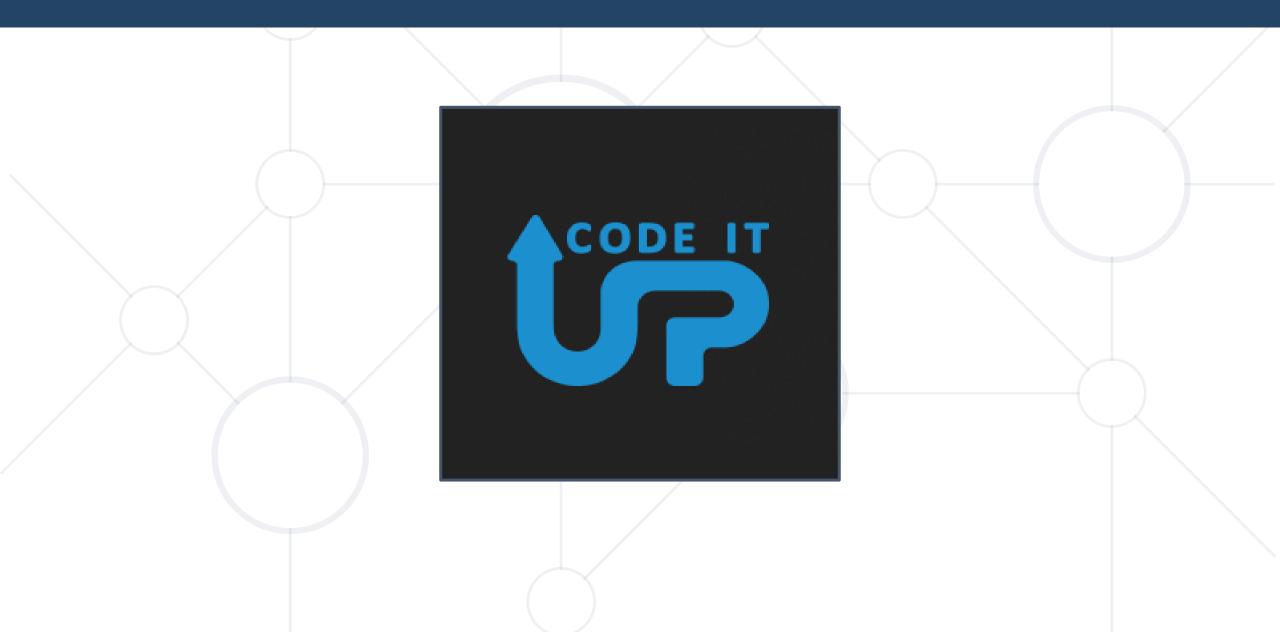






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