Scrum Ceremonies – Quick, Clear & Real

Master the 5 core events that drive Agile teams to success

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Sprint Planning

Purpose: Define what will be delivered in the upcoming sprint.

Who Attends: Scrum Master, Product Owner, Development Team

Duration: 2 hours for a 2-week sprint

Questions Asked:

- Why is this Sprint valuable?
- What can be Done this Sprint?
- How will we do the work?

Example: A PO presents 5 user stories from the prioritized backlog. The dev team estimates and commits to 4 based on capacity. The sprint goal? "Improve checkout flow on mobile.

Daily Scrum

Purpose: Quick sync to align the team and surface blockers.

Who Attends: Developers (Scrum Master/Product Owner may attend but don't speak)

Duration: 15 mins max

Questions Asked:

- What did I do yesterday?
- What will I do today?
- Any blockers?

Example: A developer shares that he completed the login page UI, plans to connect it to the backend today, and is facing an issue with API integration.

Sprint Review

Purpose: Inspect the increment, gather feedback, and adapt the product backlog.

Who Attends: Scrum Team + Stakeholders

Duration: 2 hours for a 2-week sprint

Example: A PO watches the new reporting dashboard demoed live. A stakeholder suggests adding export functionality → added to backlog.

Sprint Retrospective

Purpose: Inspect how the last Sprint went and plan improvements.

Who Attends: Scrum Team

Duration: 1.5 hours for a 2-week sprint

Questions Asked:

- What went well?
- What didn't go well?
- What can we improve?

Example: Team notes that tasks were not clearly estimated, so in the next Sprint, they decide to improve story point discussions.

Backlog Refinement

(Not an official ceremony, but vital!)

Purpose: Refine and prioritize the Product Backlog items to ensure they are clear, detailed, and ready for upcoming Sprints.

Who Attends: PO, BA, SM, Dev Team

Duration: Ongoing (often 1-2 times per week)

Example: PO & BA clarifies acceptance criteria on a new "user onboarding" story → They break it down into smaller tasks such as designing UI, setting up APIs, and testing. The team discusses and agrees on the estimated effort required for each task.

Why Are These Ceremonies Important?

- Keep everyone aligned
- Enable early feedback
- Promote continuous improvement
- Enhance transparency

Final Thoughts: Scrum events aren't just "meetings" – they're strategic checkpoints to inspect, adapt, and improve.Mastering these events = building better products + happier teams.

Drop your thoughts in the comments—let's learn from each other!

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