

Agile Vs Waterfall model



1. What is waterfall model?

Waterfall methodology, also known as the linear sequential lifecycle model, is defined by its linear, structured approach to project management. It is made up of a series of steps that are completed in sequential order within the software development life cycle (SDLC).

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Since its publication, variations of waterfall have emerged, but there is general consensus around the following steps within the process:

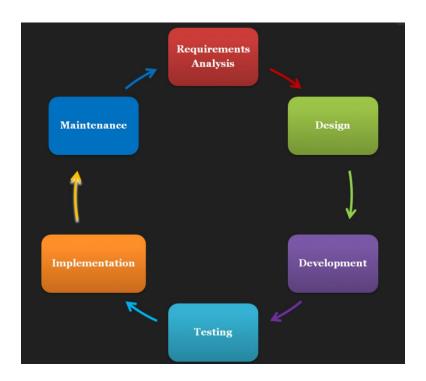
- Gathering of requirements: This stage demands upfront documentation between the development team
 and the client or end user. During this phase, the product features within the project plan are documented
 in great detail, enabling the team to determine a clear cost and timeline. After both parties align on the
 requirements, there is limited to no correspondence between the development team and client until the
 project is completed.
- 2. **Design**: The design phase is comprised of two steps: logical design and physical design. In logical design, the team brainstorms possible ways to tackle the client problem. When the development team agrees on a solution, these ideas are translated into specific technical tasks, which are then distributed across the team to construct the physical design.
- 3. **Implementation:** In next phase, developers start coding based on specifications that were developed in the prior steps.
- 4. **Verification**: This stage tests ensures that the code functions as intended and that the requirements in the scoping document have been met. The development team checks for bugs in the code and a final validation is conducted by the client to ensure that functionality met expectations.
- 5. **Maintenance:** As users onboard and use the end product, there will be a need for ongoing support as new issues arise.

Key benefits of the waterfall method

- 1. Detailed product requirements and documentation enable new programmers to onboard quickly and easily.
- 2. Documentation provides a clear scope to the project, enabling project managers to communicate budgets, timelines, and key milestones to interested parties.

Key challenges of the waterfall method

- 1. Clients can find it difficult to outline all of their requirements at the beginning of the project, leading to gaps in documentation.
- 2. Minimal customer collaboration during the development process can lead to costly changes if the product does not meet expectations.
- 3. Testers report issues and bugs later in the process, which could have informed an alternative program architecture.



2. What is Agile method?

In contrast to waterfall development, agile is defined by its iterative approach to project management. Instead of drafting lengthy project requirements at the onset, an agile team breaks out the product into specific features, and they tackle each one under a specific time constraint, known as a sprint.

Agile project management requires a cross-functional, self-organizing team that typically consists of five to nine members. Together, they develop a workable piece of software during each sprint, which combines with other functional code from previous iterations. By the end of the sprint timebox, the team demos their work to stakeholders for feedback, allowing them to be flexible in their approach to software development. Since the team has access to frequent feedback, they can adapt the product roadmap during the development lifecycle to ensure that functionality truly meets user expectations. In a waterfall approach, customer involvement typically coincides with the delivery of the final product, which can be costly when requirements are misinterpreted or documented incorrectly.

Agile scrum framework

Inspired by the game of rugby, agile scrum emphasizes teamwork to meet deliverables, similar to the way that forwards need to work together in a scrum to gain possession of a rugby ball. The skillset of the agile scrum team varies, but they usually include the following roles:

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- **Product owner:** This team member represents the needs of both the customer and the business. By crafting user stories, the team can understand how a feature request can help resolve a specific problem, and these stories formulate the backlog of tasks for the team to tackle. This person also prioritizes the stories by their value to the customer, which should, in theory, translate into value for the business. While the product owner leads the team in this way, they do not set deadlines or instruct the team on how work should be delivered.
- **Scrum master:** This team member facilitates the overall agile development process. Similar to a project manager, this person keeps the team on task, ensuring that the team remains focused during the project. They

can also act as a neutral party to mediate disagreements among team members. For example, team members may disagree on how much to take on in a given sprint. Product owners, in particular, may pressure teams to commit to more than they can deliver within a given timeframe. In these cases, scrum masters can remind team members the scope of their role on the team.

Other team members of an agile team can vary, but they typically include users from a variety of disciplines, such as design, analytics, QA, and development. These individuals collaborate together to decide on how much work to take on and how they will complete it.

Agile methodologies are also defined by the ways in which the team comes together. There are specific meetings which help facilitate the workflow across the team. Some of them include the following:

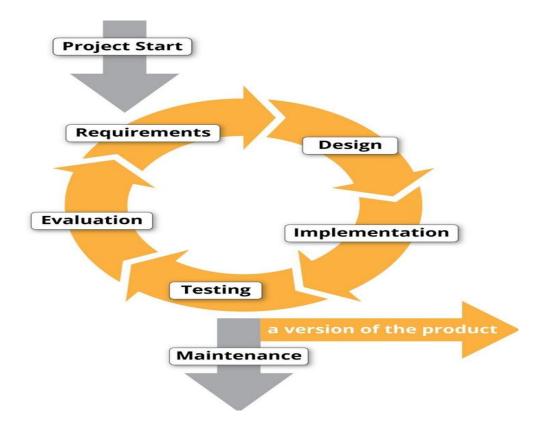
- **Sprint planning:** During this meeting, the team comes together to determine which stories will be part of the current sprint. The product owner will prioritize the user stories, but the rest of the team will need to agree on how many and which user stories they can complete during that set time period.
- Daily standup: These brief meetings are also known as daily scrums. During these check-ins, each team
 member communicates their individual progress, such as completed tasks, upcoming ones, and any blockers or
 dependencies which may result in delays.
- **Demo:** This meeting showcases the working software that the team completed over the course of the sprint, which can range between two- to four-week increments. The product owner will determine if a user story has met the definition of "done." If not, the product backlog may be groomed to account for anything missing. This is also an opportunity for the team to present to stakeholders for feedback.
- **Retrospective:** This time is reserved for team introspection, where the team identifies how they could improve upon their workflow to achieve better results in the future.

Key benefits of the agile method-

- Team design facilitates more collaboration.
- Product development takes an adaptive design approach.
- Since code is tested with each iteration in the development phase, code defects can inform future design of the software.
- Tends to yield higher customer satisfaction since frequent feedback leads to increased prioritization of customer needs.
- Enables <u>continuous integration</u> as each feature is its own workable piece of software.
- This lean type of software development can lead to lower costs as there is less risk of customer and product misalignment.

Key challenges of the agile method

- An agile approach can lack comprehensive documentation. This makes it difficult to onboard new developers, project timelines to stakeholders, and provide accurate cost estimates.
- Can be difficult to scale.

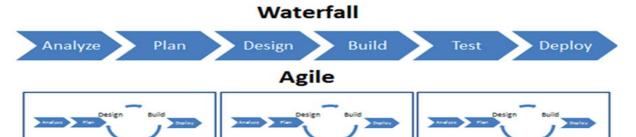


3. Difference between Agile and Waterfall Model:

Below is a difference between Agile and Waterfall methodologies:

<u>Agile</u>	<u>Waterfall</u>
It separates the project development lifecycle into sprints.	Software development process is divided into distinct phases.
It follows an incremental approach	Waterfall methodology is a sequential design process.
Agile methodology is known for its flexibility.	Waterfall is a structured software development methodology so most times it can be quite rigid.
Agile can be considered as a collection of many different projects.	Software development will be completed as one single project.
Agile is quite a flexible method which allows changes to be made in the project development requirements even if the initial planning has been completed.	There is no scope of changing the requirements once the project development starts.
Agile methodology, follow an iterative development approach because of this planning, development, prototyping and other software development phases may appear more than once.	All the project development phases like designing, development, testing, etc. are completed once in the Waterfall model.
Test plan is reviewed after each sprint	The test plan is rarely discussed during the test phase.
Agile development is a process in which the requirements are expected to change and evolve.	The method is ideal for projects which have definite requirements and changes not at all expected.

In Agile methodology, testing is performed concurrently with software development.	In this methodology, the "Testing" phase comes after the "Build" phase	
Agile introduces a product mindset where the software product satisfies needs of its end customers and changes itself as per the customer's demands.	This model shows a project mindset and places its focus completely on accomplishing the project.	
Agile methdology works exceptionally well with Time & Materials or non-fixed funding. It may increase stress in fixed-price scenarios.	Reduces risk in the firm fixed price contracts by getting risk agreement at the beginning of the process.	
Prefers small but dedicated teams with a high degree of coordination and synchronization.	Team coordination/synchronization is very limited.	
Products owner with team prepares requirements just about every day during a project.	Business analysis prepares requirements before the beginning of the project.	
Test team can take part in the requirements change without problems.	It is difficult for the test to initiate any change in requirements.	
Description of project details can be altered anytime during the SDLC process.	Detail description needs to implement waterfall software development approach.	
The Agile Team members are interchangeable, as a result, they work faster. There is also no need for project managers because the projects are managed by the entire team	In the waterfall method, the process is always straightforward so, project manager plays an essential role during every stage of SDLC.	
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4. Supporting Tools

Service Now (Snow)

Ticketing software allows organizations to resolve their internal IT issues by streamlining the resolution process. The elements they handle, called tickets, provide context about the issues, including details, categories, and any relevant tags.

What is a ticket?

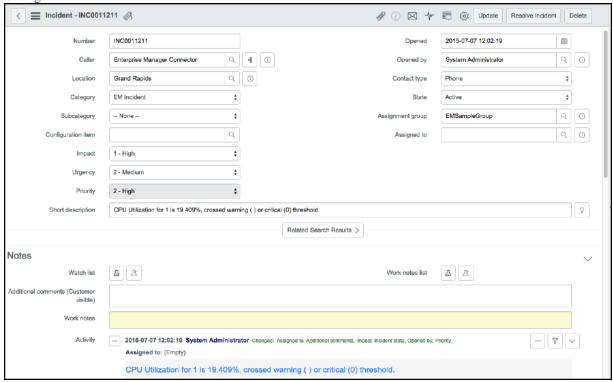
Within an employee IT ticketing system, a ticket is a special document or record that represents an incident, alert, request, or event that requires action from the IT department. It often contains additional contextual details and may also include relevant contact information of the individual who created the ticket.

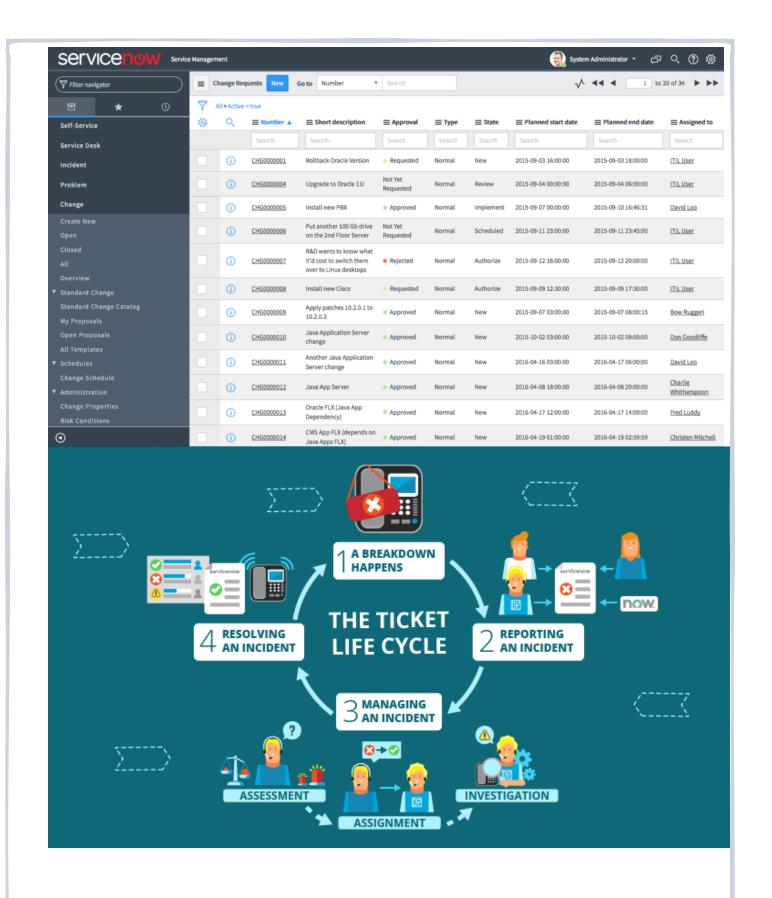
Tickets are usually employee-generated, but automated tickets may also be created when specific incidents occur and are flagged. Once a ticket is created, it is assigned to an IT agent to be resolved. Effective ticketing systems allow tickets to be submitted via a variety of methods. These include submissions through virtual agents, phone, email, service portals, live agents, walk-up experience, etc.

There are a number of work types used for IT Service Management. When assigned to the correct type, work gets the handling appropriate to it.

The types are:

- Service request
- Incident
- Change







Service request

A service request is a request from a user for information, advice, or access to an IT service, such as:

- Associate asks for a access of particular server.
- A telecom coordinator requests a new desk phone on behalf of someone they support.

Incident

Let's suppose you work in an organization, and you are using outlook for connectivity, then you face issue while opening the outlook you are not able to connect to the outlook.

Then you will raise this concern to the related team (who is responsible for outlook).

Problem

The corresponding team will look into it, and try to fix it. If they don't find any root cause for the incident and if they get multiple incidents for the same underlying cause then the incident will be considered as a problem. They will give you some workaround until the root cause is determined.

• If multiple users are facing the same issue with the outlook.

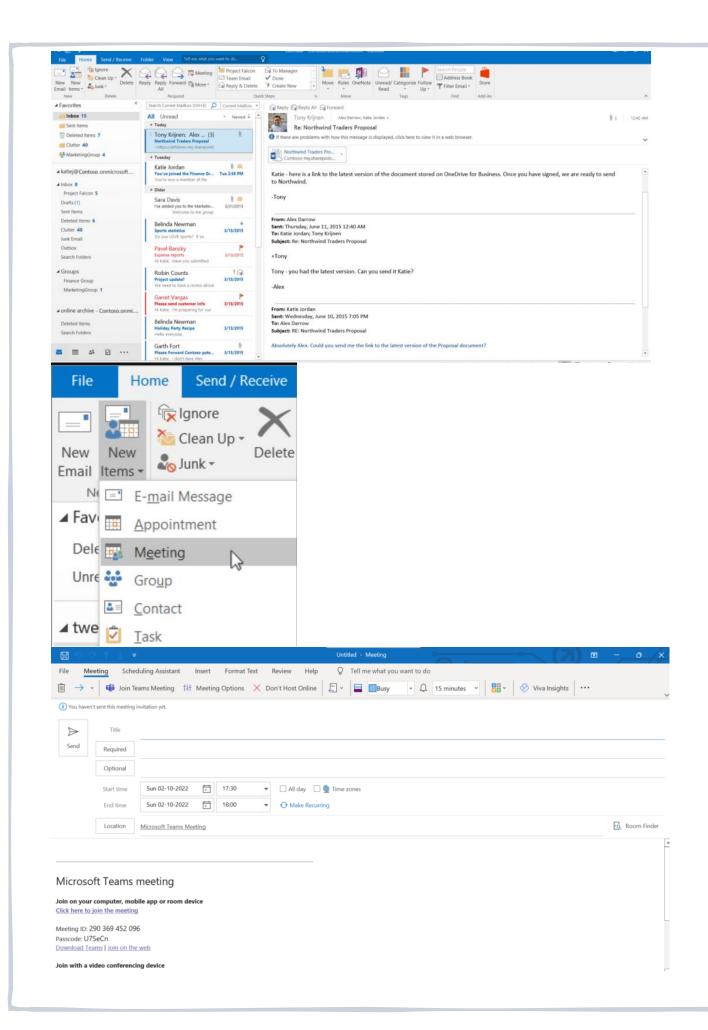
Change

If after investigation, the technical team found that the outlook server requires patching to resolve this issue. the respective team will raise the change request to apply OS patch on the server.

A change is an addition, modification, or removal of anything that could affect Production. This may include IT services, configuration items, processes, documentation, and other related elements.

Outlook:

Outlook allows you to send and receive email messages, manage your calendar, store names and numbers of your contacts, and track your tasks. However, even if you use Outlook every day, you might not know some of the cool things it can do to help you be more productive.



Teams:

