

NEW BOOK Automated Testing

ay_of_the_web_tester) (/about)

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Learn More

Estimation

The fine art of expectation guessing

JOHNSON! GET ME A DETAILED ESTIMATE FOR OUR ...



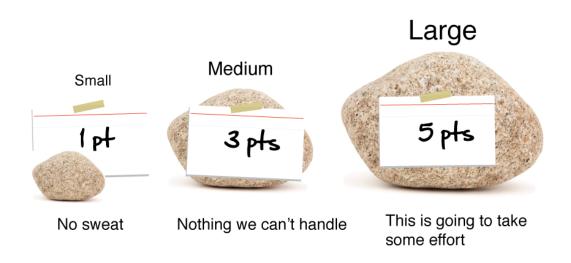
YET TO BE SPECD SYSTEM, USING OUR
YET TO BE DETERMINED TECHNOLOGY, WITH OUR
YET TO BE DETERMINED TEAM, IN OUR
YET TO BE DETERMINED BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT
TO BE BUILT NEXT YEAR.

While we aren't very good at estimating things absolutely, it turns out we are pretty good at estimating things relatively.

This looks x2 as big as that.



Sizing stories relatively means not worrying about *exactly* how big a story is, and worrying more how this story's size compares to others.



This style of estimation (relative over absolute) forms the corner stone of Agile Planning. By sizing our stories relatively, and feeding actuals back into our plan, we can make some really accurate predictions about the future while based on what we've done in the past.

To learn more watch this short video on Agile estimation

(http://www.agilenutshell.com/episodes/3-estimation).

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