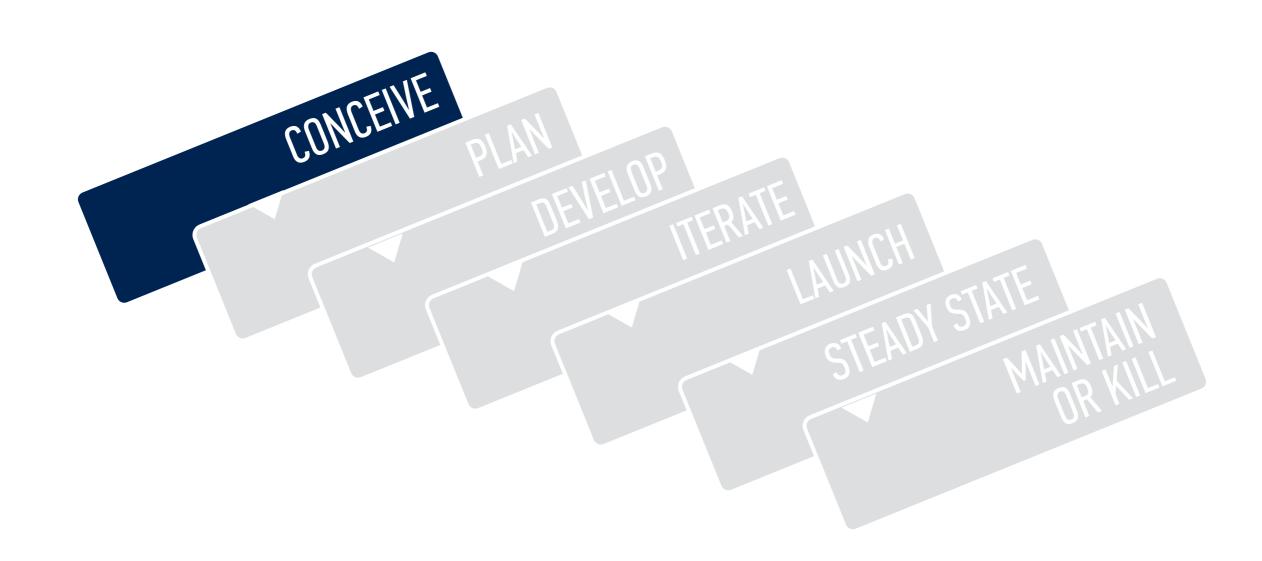


David R. Miller PDM7 Instructor



## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Define the purpose of a Product Roadmap in aligning a team and company
- Learn how to build both a product roadmap and project timeline
- Determine what factors can alter a product roadmap or project timeline

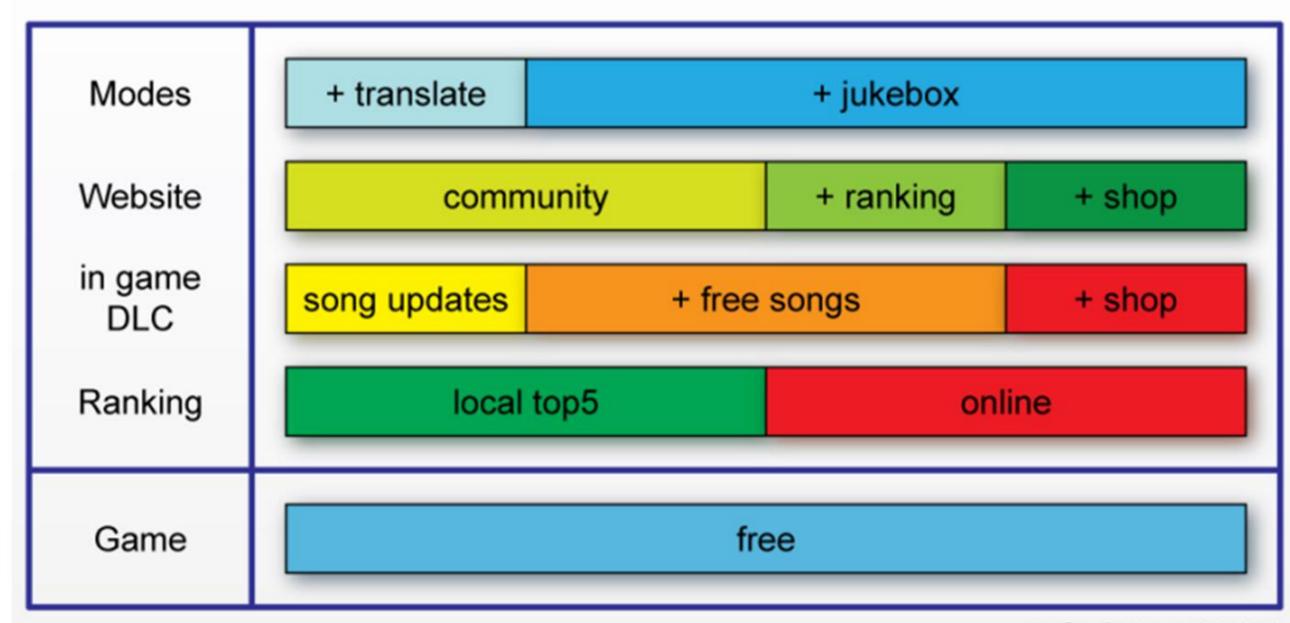
# THE PRODUCT ROADMAP

# WHAT IS A PRODUCT ROADMAP

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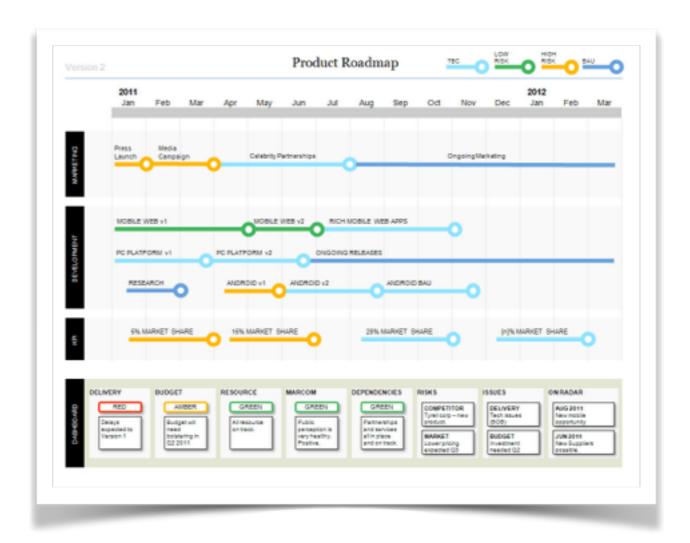
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## THE PURPOSE OF A PRODUCT ROADMAP

- Internal Communication
- Team Alignment
- Product Positioning
- Resource Planning
- Achieving Stakeholder Buy-in
- Future Vision



## THE PRODUCT ROADMAP

## WHAT SHOULD BE IN A PRODUCT ROADMAP?

- Themes (near term and long term)
- Goals and progress
- Individual projects
- Broad Timelines
- Priorities

# EVERYTHING IN A PRODUCT ROADMAP SHOULD RELATE TO A GOAL OR KPI.

## THE PRODUCT ROADMAP

## BASIC PRODUCT ROADMAP EXAMPLE

Themes Q1

Overhaul Emails

Better Seller Experience

Increase Conversions

## Email System Upgrade

Goal: Time to build email decreases by 1/2

Priority: High

Progress: Not started

Effort: Medium

#### Seller Portal

Goal: Uploading products decreases by 3/4

Priority: High

Progress: Planned

Effort: High

## **Drip Email Implementation**

Goal: Drip emails increase conversion by 15%

Priority: High

Progress: Planned & Designed

Effort: Low

#### **Checkout Overhaul**

Goal: Increase conversion by 5%

Priority: High

Progress: Not started

Effort: High

## THE PRODUCT ROADMAP

## **HOW DO YOU ESTIMATE TIME FOR PROJECT?**

- Talk to the design and development team about effort
- Consider all the resources you'll need (marketing, design, development)
- Figure out what you need to launch spec lightly
  - Don't try to build everything, consider time constraints
- Try to balance large efforts with smaller efforts for a time frame per team.

# PREDICTING TIME FOR DEVELOPMENT IS HARD.

## **ACTIVITY**



#### **KEY OBJECTIVE(S)**

TIMING

Create a product roadmap for an ecommerce company.

IIMINU	
10 min	In groups of 4, think through what main themes would be needed to build out a basic ecommerce site.
10 min	Think of which main projects would likely sit in each of those themes.
10 min	Discuss the priority and effort of each piece, and slate projects in quarters for a year plan.

#### **DELIVERABLE**

A year Product Roadmap broken down by quarters with projects in each quarter. Include priorities and effort for each project.

## THE PRODUCT ROADMAP

## WHO REALLY BUILDS THE PRODUCT ROADMAP?

**Enterprise:** Senior Product Directors per division

Mid-Size: VP of Product, maybe CEO

Startups: CEO & VP of Product

# PROJECT TIMELINES

## THE PRODUCT ROADMAP IS MADE UP OF PROJECTS.

Themes Q1

Overhaul Emails

Better Seller Experience

Increase Conversions

## **Email System Upgrade**

Goal: Time to build email decreases by 1/2

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## DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT TO LAUNCH IN THIS TIME.

**MVP** 

V1, V2, V3

**Added Features** 

Redesign

**Improvements** 

## THE PROJECT TIMELINE



## YOU SHOULD SCHEDULE TIME FOR:

- User research
- Speccing
- Designing
- Development
- QA Testing
- User Testing
- Iteration
- Approvals from stakeholders

## **ACTIVITY**



#### **KEY OBJECTIVE(S)**

Create a project timeline for a checkout flow for an commerce site (ie. Amazon).

#### **TIMING**

10 min	In groups of 4, think through what is needed on an ecommerce site to checkout.
20 min	Create a rough project timeline to build a new flow. Use your best judgement for the development piece, but explain how you would find out better estimates in real life.

#### **DELIVERABLE**

A project timeline for a new checkout flow in an commerce site.

## **TOOLS & RESOURCES**



**ProdPad** 

prodpad.com

idea management, roadmap, feature prioritisation

(US\$59/month)



Trello

trello.com

collaborative task management, feature prioritisation.

(FREE)

# HOMEWORK

## CREATE A 3 OR 6 MONTH PRODUCT ROADMAP FOR YOUR PRODUCT DETAILING THEMES AND HIGH LEVEL EFFORTS.

# 

# EXITTICKETS

HTTP://GA.CO/PDMTICKET

- 1. What is a product roadmap?
  - 1. The exact dates products will be delivered throughout the year.
  - 2. A high level plan of themes and products to be built over a given timeframe Answer
  - 3. The breakdown of the lifecycle of one product.

- 2. What is the main purpose of a product roadmap?
  - 1. To make sure everyone abides by the due dates.
  - 2. To show commitment to all the work that is on there.
  - 3. As a communication tool to align the company Answer

- 3. What should you schedule for in a project timeline?
  - 1. Development, User Research, Testing Answer
  - 2. Development Only
  - 3. Answering customer questions after launch