

# What is SPM?

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## Abstract

With the application and popularization of computer technology, the new functions of professional software in all areas changes quickly. The computer program becomes more and more complicated, which makes it more difficult to solve the problem in software engineering. Strengthening the management of software project, which can improve the work efficiency and software quality, reduce the cost and risks. This article gives a brief and concise explanation to the Software Project Management (SPM) and some basic features of software project. It also analyses and discusses a few project management tools in current markets.

**Keywords:** software project, project management

## 1. Concept of SPM

SPM is the discipline of managing resource, schedule, quality and risks to bring about the successful completion of software project.

Its purpose is to make sure the whole software development life cycle under control in order to complete the software project on schedule and quality. It is an important job to study management of software project, which can avoid the mistakes someone has made and complete software project successfully.

## 2. The features of SPM

Software project includes a series of activities which have a clear goal: complete the software project as required successfully in a

specific time, cost and resource. Software has some features as follows:

- Unique: means that the software project is different from all of similar software project.
- Temporary: means that every project has a definite beginning and definite end.
- Binding force: means that the resource, cost and time of every project is limited.
- Nondeterminacy: means that the unpredictable technology and scales may bring some risks to the project as the project is implemented.

## 3. Overview

What are the main points of SPM? The main contents of SPM are as follows: organization and management of people, software project plan, risk management, resource management, scope management, time management, etc.

## 4. method/Technique

With the continuous improvement of computer performance, a large number of project management tools emerge. Project manager is trying to use project management tools to support project management. Among them the representative one is Microsoft Project 2000. Here are some main functions of common project management tools:

- Control budget and cost;

- Make plan;
- Manage resource;
- Monitor project;
- Build chart;
- Work on more than one project at a time;
- what-if analysis;
- sort and filter.

## 5. Conclusion

The report is mainly to explain and discuss the software project management. This article just gives a brief explanation to software project management. SPM is a very important and large discipline, and anyone who wants to study it must spend many times in learning it and combine theory and practice.

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## Reference

Yongchang Ren, AND Tao Xing, 2011, *Software Project Management*, Jilin University Press.