

LEGO SCRUM EXERCISE

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1 Involve product owner

In order to fully understand the purpose of each task it is important to grasp the intentions of the product owner. It is also of utmost importance to question the product owners choices regarding the product. This to avoid gold-plating and wasting valuable development time. One vital way of involving the product owner is including them in the sprint planning meetings. In the eyes of the product owner this can seem irrelevant since they already have stated their needs but can as mentioned above be crucial. The tasks' scope and importance is up to the PO, while the estimate for them is the team's decision.

2 Avoid unnecessary planning

Planning is a process with extremely diminishing returns. It's easy to spend more time than what is healthy for the project on planning the next step, and that is what we will try to avoid. This allows for more time to be spent actually participating in the sprint and creating value. The project's short length makes the risks connected to wasting time that much bigger.

The fairest way to avoid spending too much time on planning is, ironically, planning. We will set specific lengths for our planning meetings and then cut them short if we run out of time. Another way to avoid double-work and having to replan is to have separate meetings for the backlog refinement and for the actual sprint planning.

3 Communicate with other groups

This strategy was chosen to ensure that each group in a project always know what their specific task is. Without a clear vision of what the group's task is, implementing this specific task will be incredibly tough and valuable time will be wasted. To meet the specifications of the product owner, distributing the work between the groups evenly and being very clear about what each group has to do is very important.

To implement this strategy in our project, each group's scrum master must keep contact with the other scrum masters. A way of keeping contact could be weekly meetings or communication via a Slack channel. Once again, this strategy will help in preventing double-work and gold-plating.