

▪ **Black Box Testing:**

Black Box Testing is a software testing method in which the functionalities of software applications are tested without having knowledge of internal code structure, implementation details and internal paths. Black Box Testing mainly focuses on input and output of software applications and it is entirely based on software requirements and specifications. It is also known as Behavioral Testing.



The above Black-Box can be any software system you want to test. For Example, an operating system like Windows, a website like Google, a database like Oracle or even your own custom application. Under Black Box Testing, you can test these applications by just focusing on the inputs and outputs without knowing their internal code implementation.

How to do Black Box Testing

Here are the generic steps followed to carry out any type of Black Box Testing.

- Initially, the requirements and specifications of the system are examined.
- Tester chooses valid inputs (positive test scenario) to check whether SUT processes them correctly. Also, some invalid inputs (negative test scenario) are chosen to verify that the SUT is able to detect them.
- Tester determines expected outputs for all those inputs.
- Software tester constructs test cases with the selected inputs.
- The test cases are executed.
- Software tester compares the actual outputs with the expected outputs.
- Defects if any are fixed and re-tested.

Types of Black Box Testing

There are many types of Black Box Testing but the following are the prominent ones -

- **Functional testing** - This black box testing type is related to the functional requirements of a system; it is done by software testers.
- **Non-functional testing** - This type of black box testing is not related to testing of specific functionality, but non-functional requirements such as performance, scalability, usability.
- **Regression testing** - Regression Testing is done after code fixes, upgrades or any other system maintenance to check the new code has not affected the existing code.

Tools used for Black Box Testing:

Tools used for Black box testing largely depends on the type of black box testing you are doing.

- For Functional/ Regression Tests you can use - [QTP](#), [Selenium](#)

- For Non-Functional Tests, you can use - [LoadRunner](#), [Jmeter](#)

Black Box Testing Techniques

Following are the prominent [Test Strategy](#) amongst the many used in Black box Testing

- **Equivalence Class Testing:** It is used to minimize the number of possible test cases to an optimum level while maintains reasonable test coverage.
- **Boundary Value Testing:** Boundary value testing is focused on the values at boundaries. This technique determines whether a certain range of values are acceptable by the system or not. It is very useful in reducing the number of test cases. It is most suitable for the systems where an input is within certain ranges.
- **Decision Table Testing:** A decision table puts causes and their effects in a matrix. There is a unique combination in each column.

▪ White Box Testing:

White Box Testing is software testing technique in which internal structure, design and coding of software are tested to verify flow of input-output and to improve design, usability and security. In white box testing, code is visible to testers so it is also called Clear box testing, Open box testing, Transparent box testing, Code-based testing and Glass box testing.

The term "WhiteBox" was used because of the see-through box concept. The clear box or WhiteBox name symbolizes the ability to see through the software's outer shell (or "box") into its inner workings.

What do you verify in White Box Testing?

White box testing involves the testing of the software code for the following:

- Internal security holes
- Broken or poorly structured paths in the coding processes
- The flow of specific inputs through the code
- Expected output
- The functionality of conditional loops
- Testing of each statement, object, and function on an individual basis

How do you perform White Box Testing?

STEP 1) UNDERSTAND THE SOURCE CODE
STEP 2) CREATE TEST CASES AND EXECUTE

WhiteBox Testing Example

Consider the following piece of code

```
Printme (int a, int b) {                                ----- Printme is a function
    int result = a+ b;
    if (result> 0)
        Print ("Positive", result)
```

```
else
    Print ("Negative", result)
} ----- End of the source code
```

The goal of WhiteBox testing in software engineering is to verify all the decision branches, loops, statements in the code.

White Box Testing Techniques

- Statement Coverage
- Decision Coverage
- Branch Coverage
- Condition Coverage
- Multiple Condition Coverage
- Finite State Machine Coverage
- Path Coverage
- Control flow testing
- Data flow testing

Types of White Box Testing

- **Unit Testing:** It is often the first type of testing done on an application. [Unit Testing](#) is performed on each unit or block of code as it is developed.
- **Testing for Memory Leaks:** Memory leaks are leading causes of slower running applications.

White Box Testing Tools

- [Parasoft Jtest](#)
- [EclEmma](#)
- [NUnit](#)
- [PyUnit](#)
- [HTMLUnit](#)
- [CppUnit](#)

Advantages of White Box Testing

- Code optimization by finding hidden errors.
- White box tests cases can be easily automated.
- Testing is more thorough as all code paths are usually covered.
- Testing can start early in SDLC even if GUI is not available.

Disadvantages of White Box Testing

- White box testing can be quite complex and expensive.

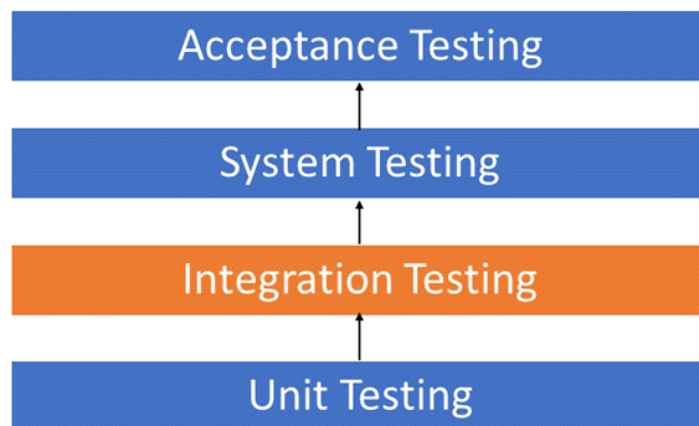
- Developers who usually execute white box test cases detest it. The white box testing by developers is not detailed can lead to production errors.
- White box testing requires professional resources, with a detailed understanding of programming and implementation.
- White-box testing is time-consuming, bigger programming applications take the time to test fully.

▪ Integration Testing:

INTEGRATION TESTING is defined as a type of testing where software modules are integrated logically and tested as a group. A typical software project consists of multiple software modules, coded by different programmers. The purpose of this level of testing is to expose defects in the interaction between these software modules when they are integrated.

Integration Testing focuses on checking data communication amongst these modules. Hence it is also termed as '**I & T**' (Integration and Testing), '**String Testing**' and sometimes '**Thread Testing**'.

Why do Integration Testing?



Although each software module is unit tested, defects still exist for various reasons like

- A Module, in general, is designed by an individual software developer whose understanding and programming logic may differ from other programmers. Integration Testing becomes necessary to verify the software modules work in unity
- At the time of module development, there are wide chances of change in requirements by the clients. These new requirements may not be unit tested and hence system integration Testing becomes necessary.
- Interfaces of the software modules with the database could be erroneous
- External Hardware interfaces, if any, could be erroneous
- Inadequate exception handling could cause issues.

Approaches, Strategies, Methodologies of Integration Testing

Software Engineering defines variety of strategies to execute Integration testing, viz.

- Big Bang Approach :
- Incremental Approach: which is further divided into the following
 - Top Down Approach
 - Bottom Up Approach
 - Sandwich Approach - Combination of Top Down and Bottom Up

Below are the different strategies, the way they are executed and their limitations as well advantages.

Big Bang Testing

Big Bang Testing is an Integration testing approach in which all the components or modules are integrated together at once and then tested as a unit. This combined set of components is considered as an entity while testing. If all of the components in the unit are not completed, the integration process will not execute.

Advantages:

Convenient for small systems.

Disadvantages:

- Fault Localization is difficult.
- Given the sheer number of interfaces that need to be tested in this approach, some interfaces link to be tested could be missed easily.
- Since the Integration testing can commence only after "all" the modules are designed, the testing team will have less time for execution in the testing phase.
- Since all modules are tested at once, high-risk critical modules are not isolated and tested on priority. Peripheral modules which deal with user interfaces are also not isolated and tested on priority.

Incremental Testing

In the **Incremental Testing** approach, testing is done by integrating two or more modules that are logically related to each other and then tested for proper functioning of the application. Then the other related modules are integrated incrementally and the process continues until all the logically related modules are integrated and tested successfully.

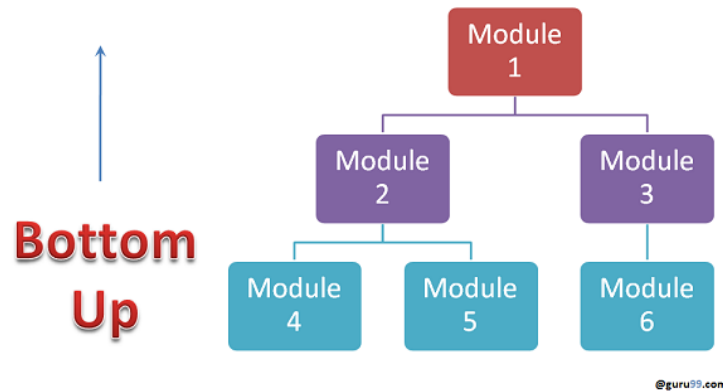
Incremental Approach, in turn, is carried out by two different Methods:

- Bottom Up
- Top Down

Bottom-up Integration Testing

Bottom-up Integration Testing is a strategy in which the lower level modules are tested first. These tested modules are then further used to facilitate the testing of higher level modules. The process continues until all modules at top level are tested. Once the lower level modules are tested and integrated, then the next level of modules are formed.

Diagrammatic Representation:



Advantages:

- Fault localization is easier.
- No time is wasted waiting for all modules to be developed unlike Big-bang approach

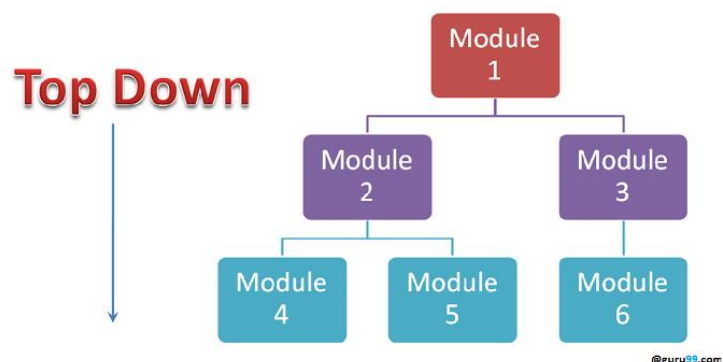
Disadvantages:

- Critical modules (at the top level of software architecture) which control the flow of application are tested last and may be prone to defects.
- An early prototype is not possible

Top-down Integration Testing

Top Down Integration Testing is a method in which integration testing takes place from top to bottom following the control flow of software system. The higher level modules are tested first and then lower level modules are tested and integrated in order to check the software functionality. Stubs are used for testing if some modules are not ready.

Diagrammatic Representation:



Advantages:

- Fault Localization is easier.

- Possibility to obtain an early prototype.
- Critical Modules are tested on priority; major design flaws could be found and fixed first.

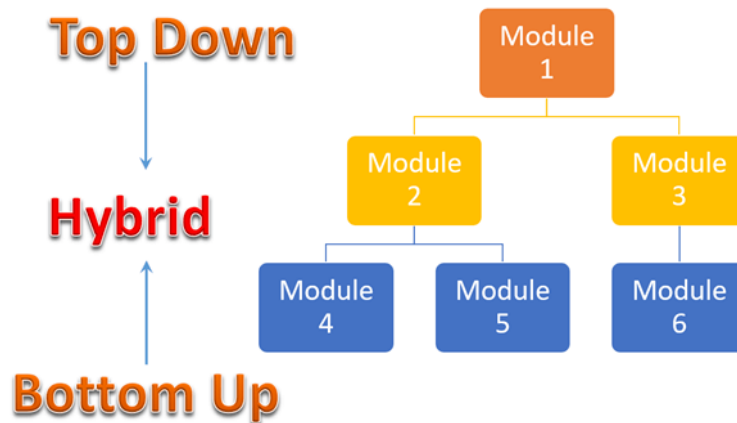
Disadvantages:

- Needs many Stubs.
- Modules at a lower level are tested inadequately.

Hybrid Integration Testing

Hybrid Integration Testing is a strategy in which top level modules are tested with lower level modules at the same time lower modules are integrated with top modules and tested as a system.

It is a combination of Top-down and Bottom-up approaches therefore it is called **Hybrid Integration Testing**. It makes use of both stubs as well as drivers.



How to do Integration Testing?

The Integration test procedure irrespective of the Software testing strategies:

- Prepare the Integration Tests Plan
- Design the Test Scenarios, Cases, and Scripts.
- Executing the test Cases followed by reporting the defects.
- Tracking & re-testing the defects.
- Steps 3 and 4 are repeated until the completion of Integration is successful.