

The two processes that will be compared in this paper are Scrum and Kanban. Scrum was designated as the group project development process in the course, and Kanban seemed fitting due to our group (team 4) using Github as our depository for the project. Github's project dashboard, which is called backlog, is set up in a way very similar to Kanban's "billboard" style of organization.

The main benefits to Scrum are that responsibilities are flexible and adaptable based on the changing needs of the team - one member finishes his task(s) early, he can go on to help a team member falling behind. Scrum heavily relies on regular, clear communication, this is a benefit if everyone is transparent as the regular meetings can be quick and concise. One of the other major benefits: improved accountability and reflection as all parties are encouraged to be retrospective on their work. Downsides to Scrum: the complexity to Scrum can leave inexperienced members constantly playing catch-up. It can be unpredictable to manage expectations on timelines and workload as the process is ever changing. Finally, Scrum requires a lot of cooperative and individual discipline, to both work together with teammates and finish one's own tasks.

Kanban also benefits from flexibility, but its two other main benefits are visualization of the workflow and the bitesize breakdown of work. Changes in the plan are made known to the entire team so everyone can just refer back to the board. Also, Kanban promotes focusing on a minimal number of tasks to avoid overwhelming. The cons to Kanban are that it can be a little less structured than Scrum, leading to confusing ambiguity. This also stems from not having set timeframes for individual tasks meaning projects might be released late. Kanban also suffers from a dependency on self-discipline, meaning one squeaky cog can slow down the entire process.