What is a requirement

What is a requirement

an overview of:

- what a requirement is, and the
- activities involved in dealing with requirements.

What is a requirement

Definitions, from wikipedia,

By Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE):

- (1) A condition or capability needed by a user to solve a problem or achieve an objective.
- (2) A condition or capability that must be met or possessed by a system or system component to satisfy a contract, standard, specification, or other formally imposed documents.
- (3) A documented representation of a condition or capability as in (1) or (2). (IEEE, 1990).

A concise definition:
Requirements are specific descriptions of your client's needs.

Quiz

Of the following, which would you consider software requirements?

- A. As a hotel manager, I want to be able to check guests in.
- B. I'm required to make you sign a contract.
- C. Account holders will enter their banking pin into a numeric keypad
- D. Users are male

Quiz

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requirements "activities"

[recall] "activities are associated with phases in software development"
Five important activities in this phase:

- eliciting,
- expressing,
- prioritizing,
- analyzing,
- managing requirements.

eliciting requirements

"Elicitation is the act of getting requirements from your client."

Gathering vs elicitation
» **Difference**: how a software product manager interact with a client

- gathering: "the act of asking your client for a list of things they want done."
- but "elicitation" is a much more involved, interactive, and investigative process.

P.S. elicit: If you elicit a piece of information, you find it out by asking carefull questions. (Collins)

advices from software product managers

[video]

- How do you figure out what the customer wants and what they really need?
- what is the difference between the right product and the product done right?

wants & needs

» "Wants" are desired functions that they'd like to see in the product.
» "Needs" are the core functions required in order to address the specific problem that the product is intended to solve.

✗"Desires are invalid or that they can't be done."?
✓"Consideration must go into the product from the technical side, in order to ensure that the product can be done with success."