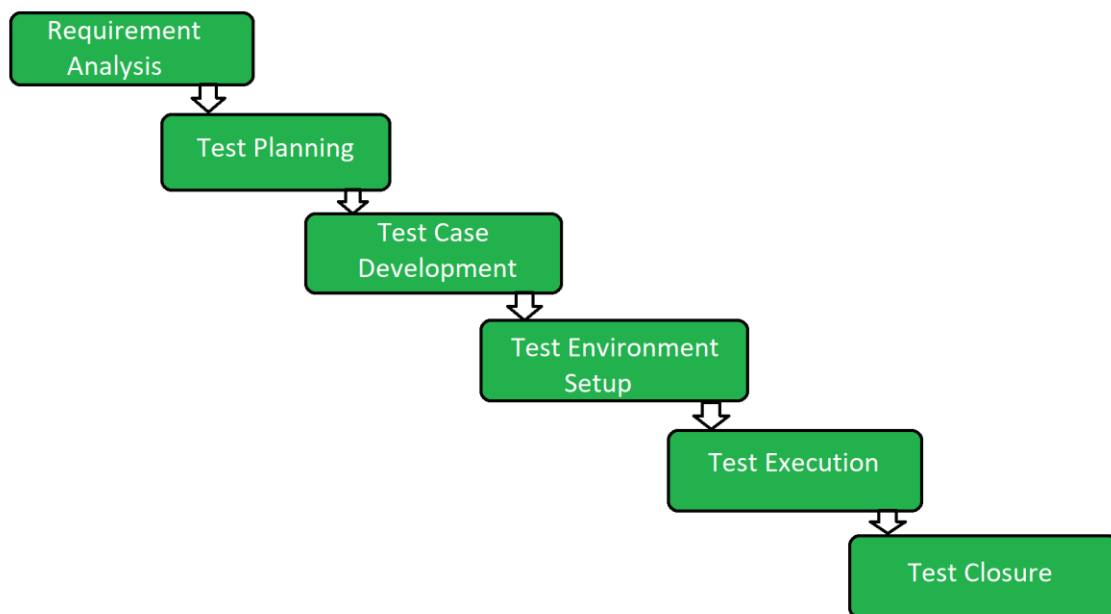


What is stlc?

Software Testing Life Cycle (STLC) is a process used to test software and ensure that quality standards are met. Tests are carried out systematically over several phases. During product development, phases of the STLC may be performed multiple times until a product is deemed suitable for release.

Diagrammatic representation of stlc:



Phases of STLC

1. Requirement Analysis: Requirement Analysis is the first step of the Software Testing Life Cycle (STLC). In this phase quality assurance team understands the requirements like what is to be tested. If anything is missing or not understandable then the quality assurance team meets with the stakeholders to better understand the detailed knowledge of requirements.

2. Test Planning: Test Planning is the most efficient phase of the software testing life cycle where all testing plans are defined. In this phase manager of the testing, team calculates the estimated effort and cost for the testing work. This phase gets started once the requirement-gathering phase is completed.

3. Test Case Development: The test case development phase gets started once the test planning phase is completed. In this phase testing team notes down the detailed test cases. The testing team also prepares the required test data for the

testing. When the test cases are prepared then they are reviewed by the quality assurance team.

4. Test Environment Setup: Test environment setup is a vital part of the STLC. Basically, the test environment decides the conditions on which software is tested. This is independent activity and can be started along with test case development. In this process, the testing team is not involved. either the developer or the customer creates the testing environment.

5. Test Execution: After the test case development and test environment setup test execution phase gets started. In this phase testing team starts executing test cases based on prepared test cases in the earlier step.

- **Test execution:** The test cases and scripts created in the test design stage are run against the software application to identify any defects or issues.
- **Defect logging:** Any defects or issues that are found during test execution are logged in a defect tracking system, along with details such as the severity, priority, and description of the issue.
- **Test data preparation:** Test data is prepared and loaded into the system for test execution
- **Test environment setup:** The necessary hardware, software, and network configurations are set up for test execution
- **Test execution:** The test cases and scripts are run, and the results are collected and analyzed.
- **Test result analysis:** The results of the test execution are analyzed to determine the software's performance and identify any defects or issues.
- **Defect retesting:** Any defects that are identified during test execution are retested to ensure that they have been fixed correctly.
- **Test Reporting:** Test results are documented and reported to the relevant stakeholders.

It is important to note that test execution is an iterative process and may need to be repeated multiple times until all identified defects are fixed and the software is deemed fit for release.

6. Test Closure: Test closure is the final stage of the Software Testing Life Cycle (STLC) where all testing-related activities are completed and documented. The main objective of the test closure stage is to ensure that all testing-related activities have been completed and that the software is ready for release.

- **Test summary report:** A report is created that summarizes the overall testing process, including the number of test cases executed, the number of defects found, and the overall pass/fail rate.

- **Defect tracking:** All defects that were identified during testing are tracked and managed until they are resolved.
- **Test environment clean-up:** The test environment is cleaned up, and all test data and test artifacts are archived.
- **Test closure report:** A report is created that documents all the testing-related activities that took place, including the testing objectives, scope, schedule, and resources used.
- **Knowledge transfer:** Knowledge about the software and testing process is shared with the rest of the team and any stakeholders who may need to maintain or support the software in the future.
- **Feedback and improvements:** Feedback from the testing process is collected and used to improve future testing processes
- It is important to note that test closure is not just about documenting the testing process, but also about ensuring that all relevant information is shared and any lessons learned are captured for future reference. The goal of test closure is to ensure that the software is ready for release and that the testing process has been conducted in an organized and efficient manner.

Characteristics of STLC

- STLC is a fundamental part of the [Software Development Life Cycle \(SDLC\)](#) but STLC consists of only the testing phases.
- STLC starts as soon as requirements are defined or software requirement document is shared by stakeholders.
- STLC yields a step-by-step process to ensure quality software.