

Characteristics of Projects

1. Unique Deliverables

-  *Explanation:* Every project produces something new or different.
-  *Example:* Designing a new mobile app for food delivery is different from updating an existing one.

2. Temporary Nature

-  *Explanation:* Projects have a defined start and end.
-  *Example:* Organizing a wedding ends once the event is over.

3. Initiates Change

-  *Explanation:* Projects often improve or transform something.
-  *Example:* Upgrading a hospital's patient record system changes how data is stored and accessed.

4. Creates Value

-  *Explanation:* Projects must deliver benefits—tangible or intangible.
-  *Example:* Building a bridge (tangible) vs. launching a mental health awareness campaign (intangible).

Definition of Project Management

1. Project = Temporary Effort to Create Value

-  *Explanation:* It's not ongoing work—it's goal-driven and ends when the goal is met.
-  *Example:* Developing a new e-commerce website.

2. Management = Planning, Organizing, Leading, Controlling

-  *Explanation:* These are the core functions to guide any effort.
-  *Example:* A manager plans a product launch, organizes teams, leads meetings, and controls budget.

3. Project Management = Applying Skills & Tools to Deliver Value

-  *Explanation:* It's about using structured methods to achieve project goals.
-  *Example:* Using Gantt charts and Agile sprints to build a new CRM system.

4. Role of Project Manager

-  *Explanation:* They solve problems, manage resources, and ensure timely delivery.
-  *Example:* A PM in a construction project coordinates architects, engineers, and suppliers.

Roles & Responsibilities of a Project Manager

1. Initiation

-  *Explanation:* Define what the project is and why it matters.
-  *Example:* Writing a project charter for launching a new product line.

2. Planning

-  *Explanation:* Detail the steps, resources, and risks.
-  *Example:* Estimating costs and creating a timeline for a marketing campaign.

3. Execution

-  *Explanation:* Put the plan into action and manage the team.
-  *Example:* Overseeing developers during a software rollout.

4. Monitoring & Controlling

-  *Explanation:* Track progress and adjust as needed.
-  *Example:* Noticing a delay in delivery and reallocating resources to stay on schedule.

5. Closing

-  *Explanation:* Wrap up, evaluate, and document lessons.
-  *Example:* Finalizing a report after completing a community outreach program.

PMI & PMP Certification

1. PMI = Global Project Management Body

-  *Explanation:* Sets standards and supports professionals.
-  *Example:* PMI publishes PMBOK, a guide used worldwide.

2. PMP Certification

-  *Explanation:* Validates your expertise in project management.
-  *Example:* A PMP-certified manager is often preferred for high-stakes projects.

3. PMBOK Guide

-  *Explanation:* A framework of best practices.
-  *Example:* It outlines how to manage scope, time, cost, and quality.

4. Professional Development

-  *Explanation:* PMI offers events, courses, and networking.
-  *Example:* Attending PMI conferences to learn about emerging trends.

5. Project Manager Traits

-  *Explanation:* Strategic, adaptable, and service-oriented.
-  *Example:* A PM who adjusts plans based on client feedback while keeping the team motivated.

Process Groups & Knowledge Areas

1. Five Process Groups

-  *Explanation:* Lifecycle stages of a project.
 - Initiating, Planning, Executing, Monitoring & Controlling, Closing
-  *Example:* Planning a music festival involves all five—from idea to post-event review.

2. Ten Knowledge Areas

-  *Explanation:* Domains of expertise in project management.
 - Scope, Time, Cost, Quality, Resource, Communication, Risk, Procurement, Stakeholder, Integration

Integration Management

- Scope Management
- Schedule Management
- Cost Management
- Quality Management
- Resource Management
- Communications Management
- Risk Management
- Procurement Management
- Stakeholder Management

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-  *Example:* Managing a construction project requires cost control, risk mitigation, and stakeholder engagement.

3. 49 Processes

-  *Explanation:* Specific actions within each group and area.
-  *Example:* “Develop Project Charter” is a process in the Initiating group under Integration Management.

Methodologies: Waterfall vs Agile vs Hybrid

1. Waterfall

-  *Explanation:* Linear, step-by-step approach.
-  *Example:* Building a highway—each phase must be completed before the next begins.

2. Agile

-  *Explanation:* Iterative, flexible, and collaborative.
-  *Example:* Developing a mobile app with weekly sprints and user feedback loops.

3. Hybrid

-  *Explanation:* Combines Waterfall’s structure with Agile’s flexibility.

-  *Example:* Creating a smart device—hardware follows Waterfall, software follows Agile.