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Homework #3 – Waterfall Model

The Waterfall Model is a sequential process in which each process has an exact direction and goal coming after the previous step. Essentially, each step follows with the next, “waterfalling” from each step to the next in a linear order. Common used stages include: requirements, design, implementation, testing, and system maintenance.

The pros of the Waterfall Model are that it is very easy to follow. Each step is very clearly outlined, with little room for confusion. In addition, each step must be fully addressed and completed before moving to the next. This makes it easy to measure progress, as well as estimate costs and such for the project’s projections. It is also very nice for catching errors early on in the designing process, rather than later on finding large errors later in the creation process creating delays.

The cons of this approach are mostly the fact that it’s rigid. If a customer doesn’t know what they want, or change ideas halfway through, it could start the entire process over again. Another is that when set-backs to occur, all the stages are delayed. They also might just take longer since it is more of a rigid method that doesn’t allow for switching to new areas that could be productive at a certain time.

References:

*Waterfall Methodology - A Complete Guide | Adobe Workfront*. (2021). Waterfall Methodology. https://www.workfront.com/project-management/methodologies/waterfall