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The document is to provide Kanban basics Framework of Visual-based Agile method focused on continuous flow, work-in-progress limits, and incremental improvements.

kanban basics

**Agile Fundamentals > Kanban Framework**

[Agile Fundamentals 1](#_Toc204345994)

[Kanban Basics 1](#_Toc204345995)

[Purpose 1](#_Toc204345996)

[📘 Theory 1](#_Toc204345997)

[🗂️ Core Principles of Kanban 1](#_Toc204345998)

[🧩 Common Kanban Board Columns 2](#_Toc204345999)

[Scrum VS Kanban 2](#_Toc204346000)

[Key Differences 2](#_Toc204346001)

**Epic 1: Agile Fundamentals**

**Task 3: Kanban Basics**

# Agile Fundamentals

## Kanban Basics

### Purpose

To understand **Kanban**, a visual-based Agile method focused on **continuous flow**, **work-in-progress limits**, and **incremental improvements**.

### 📘 Theory

**Kanban** is a lean method used to **manage and improve workflow**. It helps teams **visualize work**, **limit WIP (work in progress)**, and **optimize flow**.

### 🗂️ Core Principles of Kanban

| **Principle** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| **Visualize the workflow** | Represent workflow stages (To Do, In Progress, Done) visually using a Kanban board |
| **Limit Work in Progress (WIP)** | Restrict the number of tasks in each stage to prevent overload |
| **Manage flow** | Monitor and improve the movement of tasks across stages |
| **Make policies explicit** | Define rules for how work items move |
| **Implement feedback loops** | Regular meetings and retrospectives to improve flow |
| **Improve collaboratively** | Evolve processes through team feedback and data |

### 🧩 Common Kanban Board Columns

| **Column** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| **Backlog** | Ideas or work to be picked up |
| **To Do** | Ready for the team to start |
| **In Progress** | Work currently being done |
| **Testing** | Items under QA or review |
| **Done** | Completed tasks |

**Kanban** promotes **continuous delivery** rather than working in fixed-length iterations like Scrum.

## Scrum VS Kanban

Both are popular Agile frameworks used for managing work, but they have distinct approaches, roles, and practices.

### Key Differences

| **Aspect** | **Scrum** | **Kanban** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Approach** | Structured, time-boxed iterations (*sprints*) | Continuous, workflow-based |
| **Delivery** | Work delivered in fixed-length sprints (2–4 weeks) | Tasks delivered continuously |
| **Roles** | Prescribed roles: Scrum Master, Product Owner, Development Team | No mandatory roles; team structure is flexible |
| **Meetings** | Set ceremonies: Sprint Planning, Daily Stand-up, Sprint Review, Retrospective | No required meetings; meetings are optional |
| **Workflow Limits** | Defined by sprint commitment | Work-in-progress (WIP) limits per workflow stage |
| **Changes During Work** | No changes during active sprint | Changes/additions can be made at any time |
| **Board Reset** | Board resets after each sprint | Board is continuous, never resets |
| **Metrics** | Sprint velocity, burndown charts | Lead time, cycle time, WIP |

**Scrum** and **Kanban** are both **different types of frameworks or methodologies Inside the Agile Principles**.

**Key Points**

* **Agile** is a broad philosophy or set of guiding principles for managing and delivering work in an adaptive, iterative, and collaborative way.
* Within Agile, there are various specific frameworks—also called methodologies or approaches—that provide their own structures and practices.
* **Scrum** and **Kanban** are two of the most widely used Agile frameworks, each with distinctive practices, workflows, and terminology.

Scrum vs. Kanban as Agile Frameworks

| **Category** | **Scrum** | **Kanban** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type** | Agile Framework / Methodology | Agile Framework / Methodology |
| **Structure** | Prescriptive; time-boxed sprints | Flexible; continuous flow |
| **Roles** | Defined roles | Roles are optional/flexible |
| **Origins** | Software development | Lean manufacturing, IT, etc. |
| **Agile Relation** | Implements Agile principles | Implements Agile principles |

**Other Examples**

Besides Scrum and Kanban, other Agile methodologies include:

* **Extreme Programming (XP)**
* **Lean**
* **Crystal**
* **Feature-Driven Development (FDD)**

**Summary**

* **Scrum** and **Kanban** are *different frameworks/methodologies that put Agile values and principles into practice*.
* Both help teams apply Agile concepts, but do so in different ways, with their own structures and best-use cases.
* Can think of them as different styles, methods, or "recipes" for working within the Agile philosophy.