

# Agile software development

Bertrand Meyer

## Part A: context

1: The Agile Manifesto

2: Agile methods

3: Official agile principles

4: Agile values



## Manifesto for Agile Software Development

We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it.  
Through this work we have come to value:

**Individuals and interactions** over processes and tools  
**Working software** over comprehensive documentation  
**Customer collaboration** over contract negotiation  
**Responding to change** over following a plan

That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

Kent Beck  
Mike Beedle  
Arie van Bennekum  
Alistair Cockburn  
Ward Cunningham  
Martin Fowler

James Grenning  
Jim Highsmith  
Andrew Hunt  
Ron Jeffries  
Jon Kern  
Brian Marick

Robert C. Martin  
Steve Mellor  
Ken Schwaber  
Jeff Sutherland  
Dave Thomas

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[agilemanifesto.org](http://agilemanifesto.org)

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# Twelve principles (from the Manifesto)

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1. Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software.
2. Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage.
3. Deliver working software frequently, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale.
4. Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project.
5. Build projects around motivated individuals. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done.
6. The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation.
7. Working software is the primary measure of progress.
8. Agile processes promote sustainable development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely.
9. Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.
10. Simplicity—the art of maximizing the amount of work not done—is essential.
11. The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from self-organizing teams.
12. At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly.

# Agile Software Development

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Part A: Context

1: The Agile Manifesto

**What we have seen:**


A set of principles,  
defining Agile as seen by its creators

Bertrand Meyer



# Agile!

*The Good, the Hype and the Ugly*

 Springer

## Supporting textbook

*Agile!*

*The Good, the Hype and the Ugly*

Bertrand Meyer  
Springer, 2014



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# Agile methods

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(Extreme programming) Kent Beck



Mary Poppendieck



Alistair Cockburn



Schwaber & Sutherland

# XP: The revolt of the cubicles

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“Write contracts for software development that fix time, costs, and quality but call for an ongoing negotiation of the precise scope of the system. Reduce risk by signing a sequence of short contracts instead of one long one.”

“You can move in the direction of negotiated scope. Big, long contracts can be split in half or thirds, with the optional part to be exercised only if both parties agree. Contracts with high costs for change requests can be written with less scope fixed up front and lower costs for changes”

# Agile Software Development

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Part A: Context

2: Agile methods

## **What we have seen:**

A number of agile methods have emerged

They share the basics

but differ in their goals and emphases

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# Twelve principles

Source: Agile manifesto

1. Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through **early and continuous delivery** of valuable software. Redundancy
2. Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage. Practice
3. **Deliver working software frequently**, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale. What about testing?
4. Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project.
5. Build projects around motivated individuals. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done. Redundancy
6. The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation. Assertion
7. **Working software** is the primary measure of progress. Assertion
8. Agile processes promote sustainable development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely. Assertion
9. Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.
10. **Simplicity — the art of maximizing the amount of work not done — is essential.** Assertion
11. The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from self-organizing teams.
12. At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly. Wrong Practice

# Finishing a design

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*It seems that the sole purpose of the work of engineers, designers, and calculators is to polish and smooth out, lighten this seam, balance that wing until it is no longer noticed, until it is no longer a wing attached to a fuselage, but a form fully unfolded, finally freed from the ore, a sort of mysteriously joined whole, and of the same quality as that of a poem. It seems that perfection is reached, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is no longer anything to remove.*

(Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *Terre des Hommes*, 1937)

# Steve Jobs, 1998

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That's been one of my mantras — focus and simplicity. Simple can be harder than complex: You have to work hard to get your thinking clean to make it simple. But it's worth it in the end because once you get there, you can move mountains.



# Agile Software Development

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Part A: Context

3: Official agile principles

## **What we have seen:**

The official principles give us a good starting point  
for understanding Agile,  
but they fall short of explaining exactly what the method is

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# A more precise description

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Agile values

Agile principles

- Managerial
- Technical

Agile roles

Agile practices

- Managerial
- Technical

Agile artifacts

# Agile values

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- **A** New, reduced role for manager
- **B** No “Big Upfront” steps
- **C** Iterative development
- **D** Limited, negotiated scope
- **E** Focus on quality, achieved through testing

# Agile Software Development

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Part A: Context

4: Agile values

## **What we have seen:**

Beyond specific principles, practices and artifacts,  
Agile is defined by general values,  
representing a vision of how development should proceed