

The PMI Registered Education Provider logo is a registered mark of the Project Management Institute, Inc.







Lesson 08: Project Schedule Management





This course is based on the Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)—Sixth Edition.

PMP, PMI, and PMBOK are registered marks of the Project Management Institute, Inc.

Objectives

- ▷ Define Project Schedule Management
- Explain project schedule, Gantt charts, and network diagrams
- Identify the key terms used in Project ScheduleManagement
- ▷ Describe the Project Schedule Management processes

Project Schedule Management

The definition of *Project Schedule Management is as follows:

Project Schedule Management includes processes required to manage timely completion of the project.

Project scheduling provides a detailed plan that represents how and when the project will deliver the products, services, and results defined in the project scope. It serves as a tool for communication, managing stakeholders' expectations, and as a basis for performance reporting.



Schedule management plan defines how schedule contingencies will be reported and assessed.

*Definition taken from the Glossary of the Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, (PMBOK® Guide) – Sixth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc., 2017, Page 173



Project Schedule Management Processes

The key processes of Project Schedule Management are as follows:

Identifying Activities

A list of activities to be included in the project will be identified.

Estimating Duration

Duration for each of the identified activities will be estimated.

Sequencing Activities

All the activities will be sequenced as per the dependencies.



Key Concepts for Project Schedule Management

Project scheduling provides how and when the delivery happens and acts as communication tool.

Project management team selects the scheduling method, such as critical path or Agile approach.

For small projects, the planning processes can be combined as one process.

When possible, the detailed project schedule should remain flexible throughout the project to adjust for knowledge gained, increased understanding of risk, and value-added activities.

Trends and Emerging Practices in Project Schedule Management

Iterative Scheduling with a Backlog

It is a form of Rolling Wave Planning technique that is based on adaptive life cycles. Benefit of this approach is it welcomes changes throughout the development life cycle.

On-demand Scheduling

This does not rely on a schedule that was developed previously for development of the product but rather pulls work from backlog as resources become available. This approach, typically used in a Kanban system, is based on the theory-of-constraints and pull-based scheduling concepts.

Tailoring Considerations

Life cycle Approach

Appropriate life cycle that provides detailed schedule

Resource Availability Factors that influence duration based on availability and skill

Project Dimensions Complexity, uncertainty, and progress tracking that impact the level of control

Technology Support

Technology used to develop, record, transmit, and store the available project schedule

simplilearn

Considerations for Agile/Adaptive Environments

Role of project manager will not change regardless of whether the environment is predictive or adaptive.

Project manager should be familiar with tools and techniques under agile/adaptive environments.

Project Schedule

Project schedule assigns a duration to the project activities, and the activities are sequenced in a logical order.

- Project schedule defines the start and end dates of the project and its activities.
- Each task is assigned a resource, duration, and, when appropriate, a predecessor task.
- Scheduling software is used to develop the project schedule. Microsoft Project is the most popular tool used for project schedule development.

	Task Name	S	Bitmining	g 1:	3, '0 T N		F		ug 20,
0	- PMI Process	ř	9	_	. 1	ALC: NO	1,-1,		ZIMIT.
1	Read this note to understand the context and numbers (n.n.)			0					
2	Process Groups and Knowledge Areas	П			1				
3	- Initiation Processes	П		Ψ	-		-	+	-
4	- Review Inputs to Initiation	П		4	H		_		
5	Review Contract	П		ì	5				
6	Review Project Statement of Work	П			-	5			
7	Review Enterprise Environmental Factors	П				Č	h		
8	Review Organizational Process Assets	П					Ď-		-
9	- Produce Outputs from Initiation	П							9
10	Develop Project Charter (3.2.1.1)	П							1
11	Develop Preliminary Project Scope Statement (3.2.1.2)	П							-
12	Initiation Processes COMPLETE	П							4
13	- Planning Processes (3.2.2.1)	П							4 4 4
14	- Scope Management Processes	П							-
15	Perform Scope Planning (3.2.2.2)	П							d
16	Complete Scope Definition (3.2.2.3)	П							
17	Create WBS to level of Work Packages (3.2.2.4)								
18	- Activity Planning								
19	Define Activities (3.2.2.5)								
20	Determine Activity Sequence (3.2.2.6)								

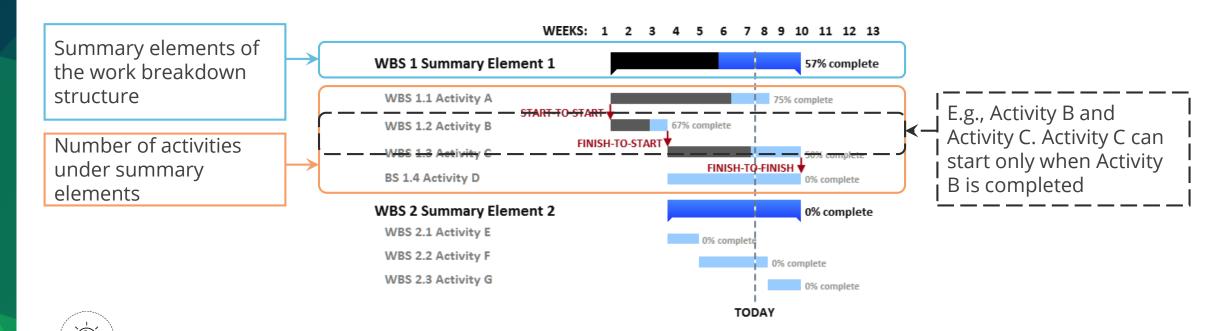


A project management plan is not a project schedule. It is more comprehensive and contains various project related plans such as risk management plan, cost management plan, etc. It may also include a schedule.



Gantt Chart

Gantt chart is a type of bar chart that displays the start and end dates for project activities and the overall project schedule. They can also show logical task relationships and indicate the task completion percentage.



Create tasks and work with the Gantt chart. Each task has a duration, and the Gantt chart facilitates a graphical representation of the overall project schedule, with path to completion.



Gantt Chart: Relationships

Project activities are related to each other. The relationships among project activities can be classified as follows:

Finish to Start (FS)

An activity must finish before the next activity can start.

Finish to Finish (FF)

An activity must finish before the next activity can finish.

Start to Start (SS)

An activity must start before the next activity can start.

Start to Finish (SF)

An activity must start before the next activity can finish.

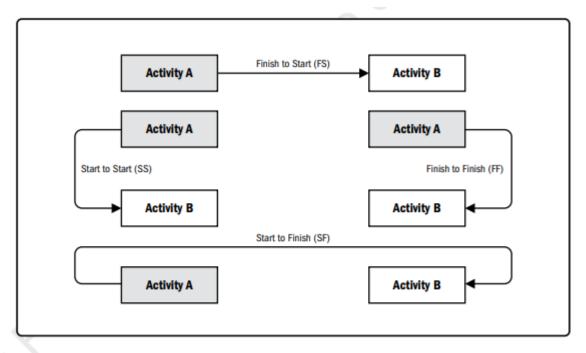


Figure 6-9. Precedence Diagramming Method (PDM) Relationship Types



Charts are generally laid out with finish-start and then time/resource adjusted by changing the relationship of tasks (start-start, finish-finish, start-finish)



Gantt Chart Relationships: Examples

Finish to Start

An activity that cannot be started until its predecessor is completed. For example, the foundation for a building cannot be poured until it has been excavated.

Finish to Finish

An activity must finish before the next activity can finish. For example, an old system must be retired before a new system can go into production.

Start to Start

An activity must start before the next activity can start. For example, the project request must be submitted before work can start on the project charter.

Start to Finish

An activity must start before the next activity can finish. For example, billing for a service must be started until the service task can be finished.

Gantt Chart: Dependencies

Dependency suggests that the project activities are interdependent. Dependencies can be classified as follows:

Classification 1

Mandatory Dependencies

These dependencies are inherent in the nature of the work and cannot be passed by. Example: The foundation of a civil structure must be laid before working on pillars and slabs.

Discretionary Dependencies

These dependencies are based on the preference of the team and can be changed if required. Example: Painting activities can be started only after all the electrical and plumbing work is done.

Classification 2

External Dependencies

These dependencies involve an external entity that may impact the project. Example: Approval by a government authority for the structural design of a building.

Internal Dependencies

These dependencies are within the control of project team.

Example: Commencement of the slab work depends on the availability of ready-mix concrete.



Network Diagram

Network diagram is used to plot the activity dependencies. Project activities are represented in the form of a network. Network diagrams can be drawn in one of the following two ways:

Precedence Diagramming Model (PDM) or Activity on Node (AON)

In precedence diagramming model:

- Boxes represent activities
- Arrows indicate dependencies
- Relationships can be of four types:
 - Finish to Start
 - Start to Start
 - Finish to Finish
 - Start to Finish

Arrow Diagramming Model (ADM) or Activity on Arrow (AOA)

In arrow diagramming model:

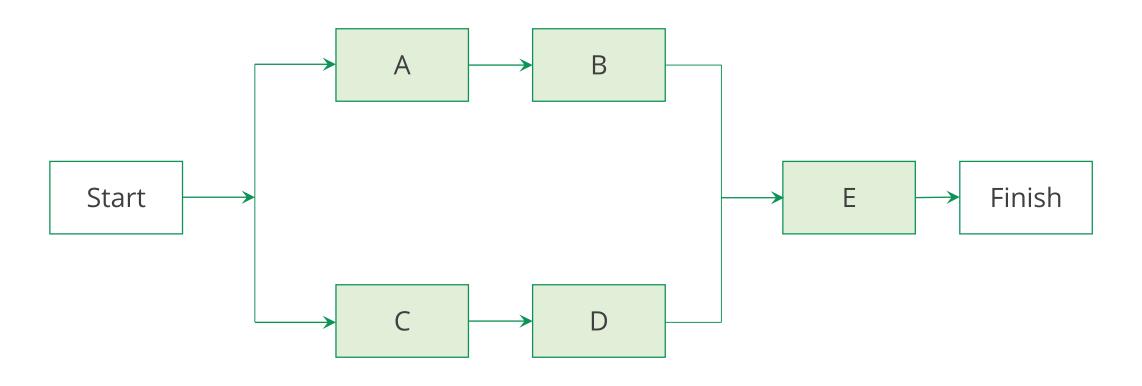
- Arrows are used to represent activities
- Direction of the arrows indicates the relationships and sequences
- Only Finish to Start relationships can be shown
- Dummy activities may be required to show a dependency



There may be questions in the PMP exam based on the Network diagram. So create and work with diagram network diagrams to ensure that you understand the value. This will make answering questions based on Network diagram easier.

Network Diagram: Example

Given below is an Activity on Node diagram:



!

Hammock activities are used to show a comprehensive summary activity, which can be used for control and reporting purposes.

Key Terms

Given below are the key terms used in Project Schedule Management:

Leads and Lags

A successor activity is said to have a lead when it can start before the predecessor. Example: Activity B can start 2 days before the completion of activity A.

A successor activity is said to have a lag when it needs to be delayed with respect to the predecessor. Example: Activity B can start 2 days AFTER activity A is completed.

*Rolling Wave Planning

Rolling wave planning is an iterative planning technique in which the work to be accomplished in the near term is planned in detail while the work in the future is planned at a higher level. It is a form of progressive elaboration applicable to work packages and release planning when using an agile or waterfall approach.

Analogous Estimating

Analogous estimating is a technique for estimating the duration or cost of an activity or a project using historical data from a similar activity or project. Analogous estimating uses parameters from a previous, similar project. For example, if the last 5 similar projects took 6 months, this one will also take 6 months.

^{*}Definition taken from the Glossary of the Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, (PMBOK® Guide) – Sixth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc., 2017, Page 185,192, and 200 Simplificarn. All rights reserved.



Key Terms

Given below are the key terms used in Project Schedule Management:

Parametric Estimating

An estimating technique in which an algorithm is used to calculate cost or duration based on historical data and project parameters

*Effort

The number of labor units required to complete a schedule activity or work breakdown structure component, often expressed in hours, days, or weeks

*Duration

The total number of work periods required to complete an activity or work breakdown structure component expressed in hours, days, or weeks

Example: An activity requires 10 people to work for 5 days; total effort is 50 person days, and duration is 5 days.

^{*}Definitions taken from the Glossary of the Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, (PMBOK® Guide) – Sixth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc., 2017, Page 200 and 705



Project Schedule Management Processes

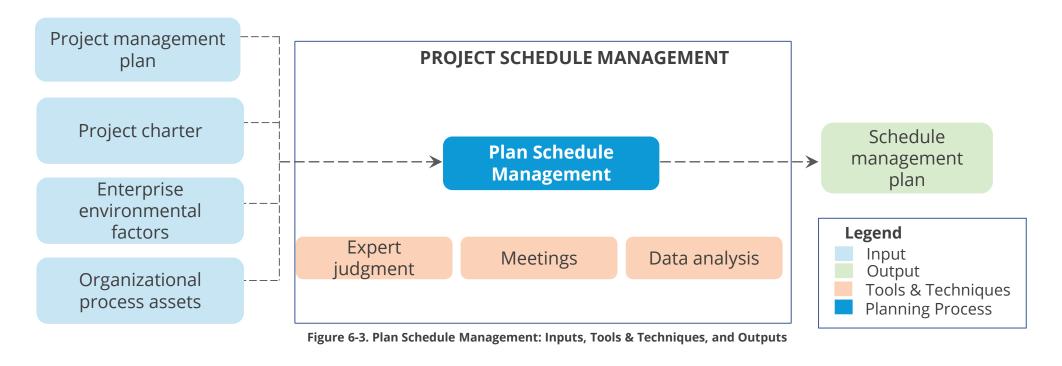
Knowledge Areas		Project Integration Management	Project Scope Management	Project Schedule Management	Project Cost Management		Project Resource Management	Project Communications Management	Management	Project Procurement Management	Project Stakeholder Management
	Initiating	4.1 Develop Project Charter									13.1 Identify Stakeholders
Project	Planning		5.2 Collect Requirements 5.3 Define Scope	Management 6.2 Define Activities	7.1 Plan Cost Management 7.2 Estimate Costs 7.3 Determine Budget	Management	9.1 Plan Resource Management 9.2 Estimate Activity Resources	10.1 Plan Communications Management	Management	12.1 Plan Procurement Management	13.2 Plan Stakeholder Engagement
Management Process Groups	Executing	4.3 Direct and Manage Project Work 4.4 Manage Project Knowledge					9.3 Acquire Resources 9.4 Develop Team 9.5 Manage Team	10.2 Manage Communications	11.6 Implement Risk Response	12.2 Conduct Procurements	13.3 Manage Stakeholder Engagement
	Monitoring and Controlling		5.5 Validate Scope 5.6 Control Scope	6.6 Control Schedule	7.4 Control Costs	8.3 Control Quality	9.6 Control Resource	10.3 Monitor Communications	11.7 Monitor Risks	12.3 Control Procurements	13.4 Monitor Stakeholder Engagements
	Closing	4.7 Close Project or Phase									

Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, (PMBOK® Guide) – Sixth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc., 2017, Page 25 ©Simplilearn. All rights reserved.



Plan Schedule Management

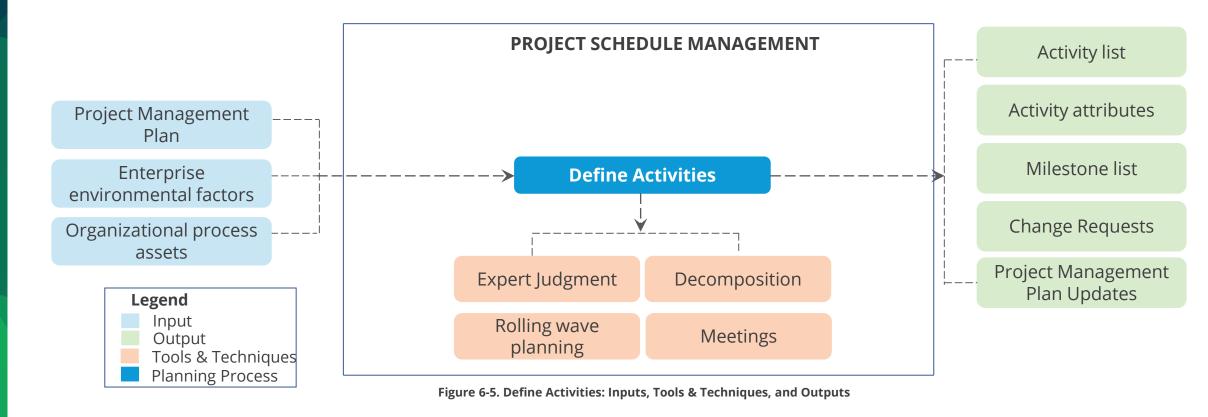
"Plan Schedule Management is the process of establishing the policies, procedures, and documentation for planning, developing, managing, executing, and controlling the project schedule." It belongs to the Planning Process Group.

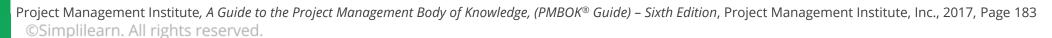




Define Activities

"Define Activities is the process of identifying and documenting the specific actions to be performed to produce the project deliverables." It belongs to the Planning Process Group.



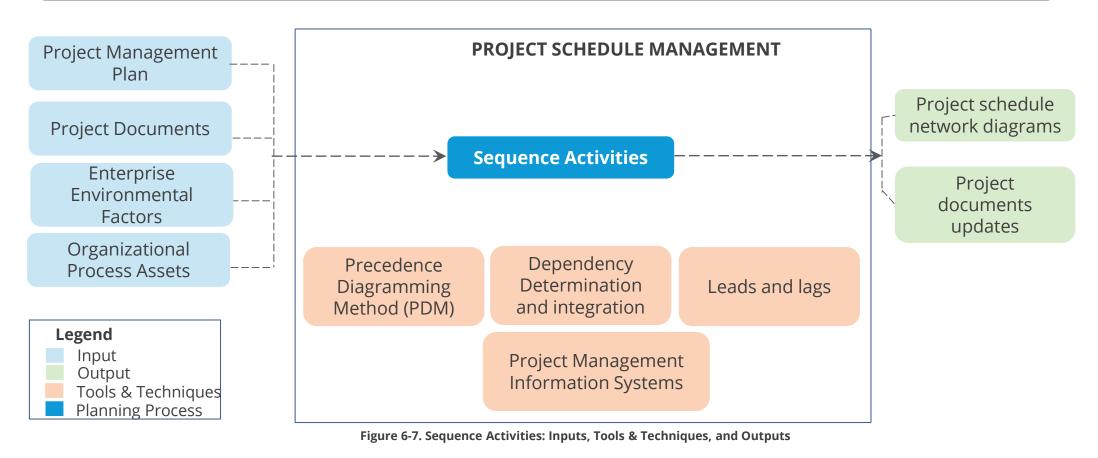




©Simplilearn. All rights reserved.

Sequence Activities

"Sequence Activities is the process of identifying and documenting relationships among the project activities." It belongs to the Planning Process Group.



Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, (PMBOK® Guide) – Sixth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc., 2017, Page 187



Estimate Activity Durations

"Estimate Activity Durations is the process of estimating the number of work periods needed to complete individual activities with estimated resources. The key benefit of this process is that it provides the amount of time each activity will take to complete, which is a major input into the Develop Schedule process." It belongs to the Planning Process Group.

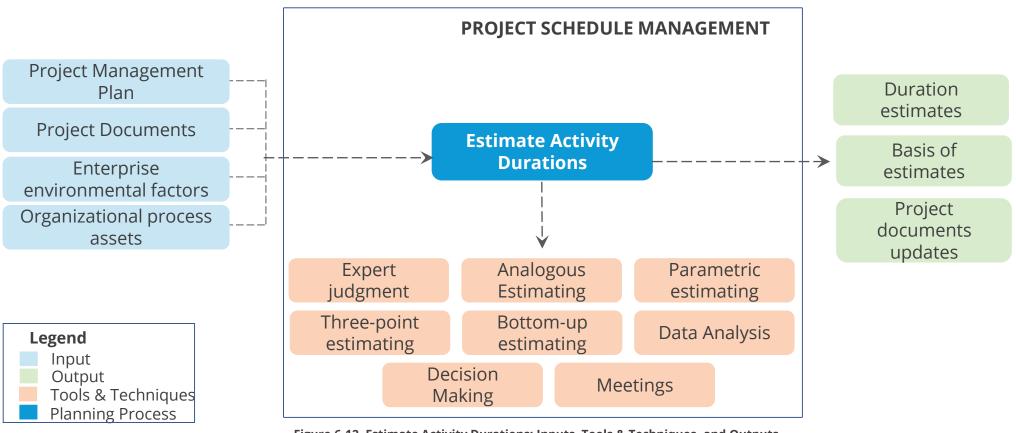


Figure 6-12. Estimate Activity Durations: Inputs, Tools & Techniques, and Outputs



Business Scenario: Problem Statement

?

Jan, the EVP of the manufacturing division, has commissioned Jack to lead a project initiative in her area of responsibility because of his attention to detail. Jack is working with his team to estimate activity durations so they can map out the schedule for the project. After a successful decomposition process of the scope statement of work, Jack is confident in his team's ability to capture the true work effort that needs to be estimated and scheduled.

In reviewing the activities to be estimated, Jack realizes that a large number of the activities could benefit from some historical data and the use of mathematical parameters. This minimizes his estimating risk for 60% of the activities. For the remaining activities, the team is able to research past practices and industry standards to come up with a range of estimates based on optimistic, pessimistic, and realistic durations. What approach are Jack and his team likely to take to determine their estimates?



Business Scenario: Solution



Jack and his team have decided to use parametric estimation technique for many activities and have decided to use three-point estimate for the remaining activities. This is also known as PERT.

Develop Schedule

"Develop Schedule is the process of analyzing activity sequences, durations, resource requirements, and schedule constraints to create the project schedule model for project execution and monitoring and controlling." It belongs to the Planning Process Group."

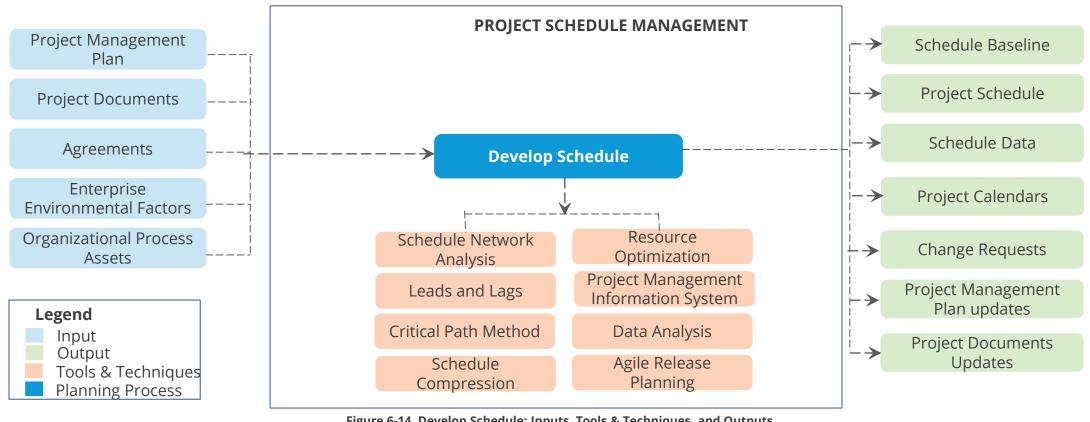


Figure 6-14. Develop Schedule: Inputs, Tools & Techniques, and Outputs



Schedule Network Analysis

Along with the time estimate, it is necessary to know if the required resources are available at a given time.

Schedule network analysis technique generates project schedule. Various schedule network techniques are as follows:

Critical Path Method

It determines a critical path on a project schedule.

Monte Carlo Analysis In this method, a computer modeling program is used to simulate the outcomes of a project by making use of input values selected at random from probability distributions.

What-If Scenario Analysis

It varies a certain parameter and observes the impact on the schedule.

Resource Optimization Techniques

They arrive at the optimal utilization of the resources on a project.

Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT)

Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT) uses three-point estimates for an activity.

- Pessimistic (P) estimate refers to the duration an activity would take in the worst case scenario.
- Most likely (M) estimate refers to the duration an activity would take in a realistic scenario.
- Optimistic (O) estimate represents the duration an activity would take in the best case scenario.

Given below are the key formulae used in PERT:

To calculate the expected duration of the estimate, based on the three estimates

$$(\mu) = (P+4M+O)/6$$

To calculate the standard deviation of an activity

$$(\sigma) = (P-O)/6$$

To calculate the variance of the activity

$$\sigma \wedge 2$$



Concept-based questions on PERT can be expected in the exam.

PERT: Example

The values of expected deviation and standard deviation can be applied to derive useful information about the likely range for values.

Given: O = 20; P = 70; M = 30

Now, $\mu = (70 + 30 * 4 + 20)/6 = 35$

And $\sigma = (70 - 20)/6 = 8$ (approx.)

Using the normal curve:

Likelihood of actual time lying between:

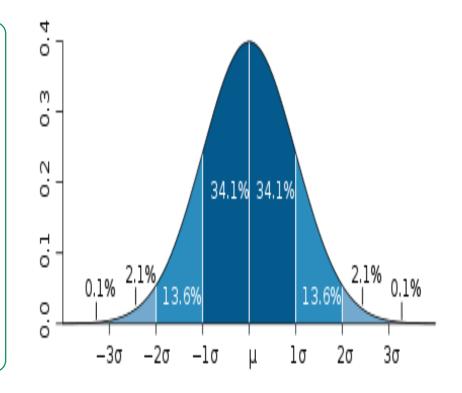
1 σ, i.e., 27 and 43 is 68.2%

2 σ, i.e., 19 and 51 is 95.4%

3 σ, i.e., 11 and 59 is 99.7%

Six Sigma:

Six Sigma is reaching a level of confidence where 3.4 times out of a million would fall outside the stated range.



(!)

PERT allows you to plan based on the intended level of confidence in the outcome and determine buffers accordingly.

Critical Path Method

Critical path is the longest duration path through a network diagram, which determines the shortest time to complete the project. Float, also called slack, is calculated in a network diagram. The three types of float are as follows:

*Total Float (Slack)

The amount of time that a schedule activity can be delayed or extended from its early start date without delaying the project finish date or violating a schedule constraint^[7]

*Free Float (Slack)

The amount of time that a schedule activity can be delayed without delaying the early start date of any successor or violating a schedule constraint^[7]



The slack of activities on the critical path is zero (0) as the activities on critical path cannot be delayed.

*Definitions taken from the Glossary of the Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, (PMBOK® Guide) – Sixth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc., 2017, Page 210, 707, 725

©Simplifearn. All rights reserved.

Calculation of Float

Steps to calculate float are as follows:

Identify the critical path of the network

Follow the forward pass to find early start and early finish for each activity

Calculate late finish and late start using backward pass method

Total Float = Late Start - Early Start or Late Finish - Early Finish



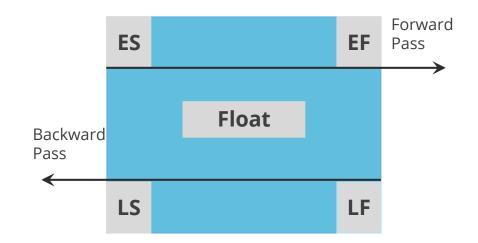
Before the start of exam, please make a note of the total float formula.



Calculation of Float (Contd.)

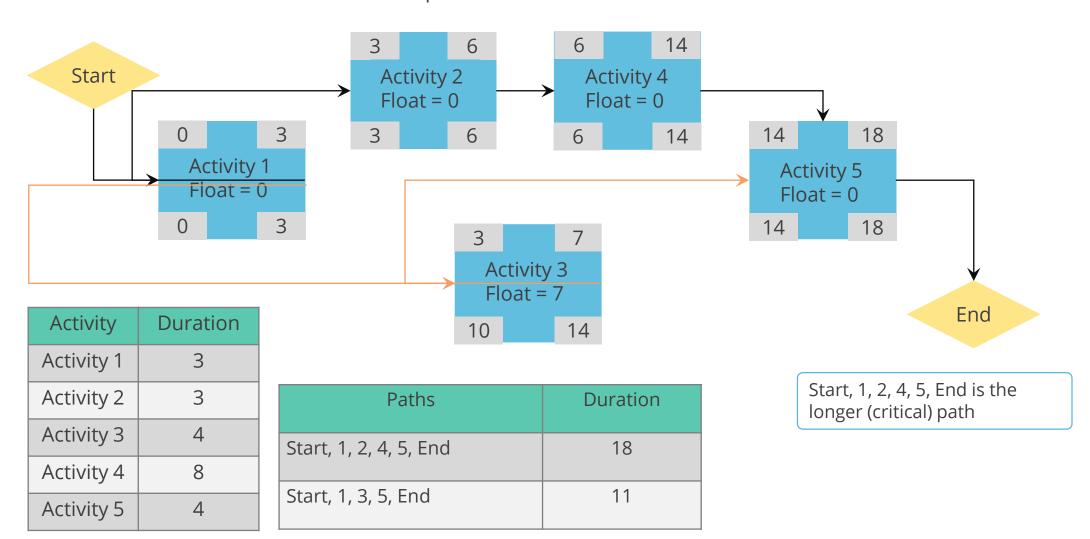
In forward pass, travel through the network starting with time zero and calculate the time required for each activity until the last activity of the project. The starting time of each activity is known as early start (ES) and the end time is known as early finish (EF).

In backward pass, travel through the network from project end date and calculate the time required for each activity. The end date is called the late finish (LF) and start date is called the late start (LS).



Critical Path: Example

Given below is the calculation of a critical path:

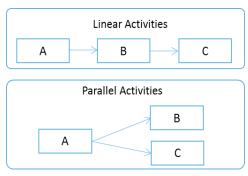


Schedule Compression

Schedule compression is done to see if the desired completion date can be met and what will have to change to meet that date. The two techniques of schedule compression are as follows:

Fast Tracking

Linear activities are checked if they can happen in parallel, thereby reducing the project cycle time



Crashing

This involves increasing resources on critical path activities while making cost and schedule tradeoffs. You must determine how to obtain the greatest amount of schedule compression for the least incremental cost while maintaining project scope.



Concept-based questions on schedule compression can be expected in the exam.



Schedule Compression: Example

(?)

The table summarizes the project activity details. Which activity would you crash to reduce the project time by 1 day?

Activity	Original Duration (in Days)	Crash Duration (in Days)	Time Savings	Original Cost in Dollars	Crash Cost	Extra Cost	Crash Cost per Day
А	10	8	2	10,000	12,000	2,000	1,000
В	14	10	4	14,000	24,000	10,000	2,500
С	5	4	1	15,000	17,000	2,000	2,000
D	9	7	2	12,000	18,000	6,000	3,000



Activity A, as it has the minimum crash cost per day.



Impact of Schedule Compression

Impact of schedule compression on projects are as follows:

Schedule Compression Technique	General Impact to the Project					
Fast track	 Adds risks Increases management time for the project manager 					
Crash	 Adds costs Increases management time for the project manager 					
Reduce scope	 Saves time and cost Increases customer dissatisfaction 					
Cut quality	 Saves cost and resources Increases risks 					
Resource reallocation	Does not add cost or increase risks					

Control Schedule

"Control Schedule is the process of monitoring the status of project to update project schedule and managing changes to the schedule baseline." It is part of the Monitoring and Controlling Process Group.

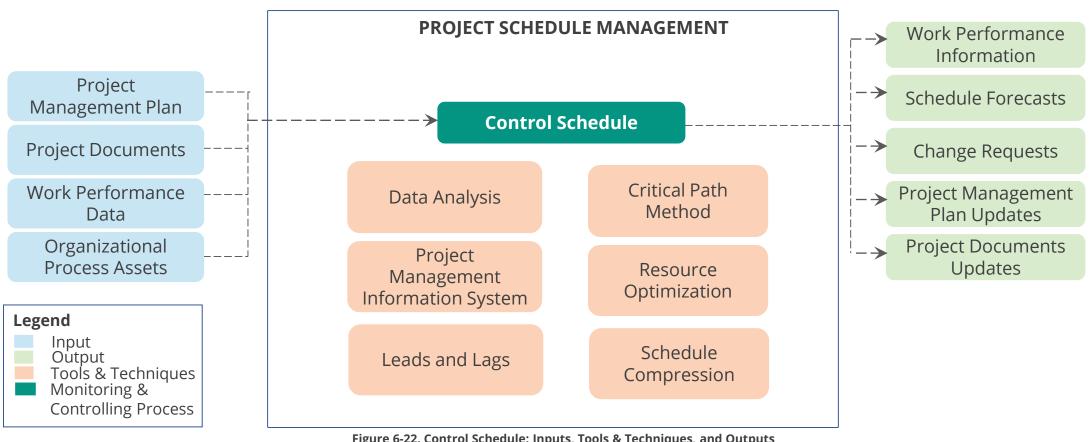


Figure 6-22. Control Schedule: Inputs, Tools & Techniques, and Outputs



Business Scenario: Problem Statement



In one of Janice's project team meetings, her team is reporting the status of their assigned activities defined on the project schedule. About halfway through the meeting, a problem with the schedule is discovered as several activities are behind schedule.

After all the activities for this phase of the project are reported, the overall schedule is determined to be progressing at about 75% of what had been planned. Janice has to figure out how she can get the schedule back on track. How can Janice go about solving this schedule problem?



Business Scenario: Solution

To aid in the decision making process, Janice needs to schedule a follow-up meeting with her team to evaluate the impact of this delay to the triple constraint. The delivery of the scope, budget, and schedule, along with quality expectations, resource availability, and risks, has to be evaluated so that she can present a strategy for correcting the project's schedule delay to the Project Sponsor.

Due to the team's assessment, Janice can make the decision to add additional resources to the scheduled activities on the critical path. Before crashing the critical path, the team can identify a series of sequenced activities that can be re-arranged and completed in parallel to free up more resources that can be re-allocated to the critical path activities. By utilizing these schedule compression techniques, Janice was able to increase the project's productivity rate to 95%.

Key Takeaways

- Project Schedule Management includes the processes required to manage the timely completion of the project.
- A project schedule defines the start and end dates of the project and the project activities. These activities are assigned a duration and sequenced in a logical order.
- Gantt charts and network diagrams are used to identify project activities and determine the relationships and dependencies between them.
- Gantt chart displays the start and end dates of project activities, the overall project schedule, and the logical task relationships, while network diagram is used to plot the activity dependencies.
- Plan Schedule Management, Define Activities, Sequence Activities, Estimate Activity Durations, Develop Schedule, and Control Schedule are the six processes under Project Schedule Management.
- Schedule network analysis technique generates project schedule based on the estimates of time and resource requirements.

Additional Reading

(Refer to the exercises provided in the PMP Classroom Exercises)



- Exercise 9
- Exercise 10
- Exercise 11





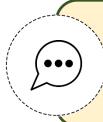
Your customer wants your project to be completed 10 days earlier than planned. You believe that you can meet the target by overlapping the project activities. What is the approach that you plan to use?

- A Concurrent Engineering
- B Crashing
- C Resource Leveling
- D Fast Tracking



Your customer wants your project to be completed 10 days earlier than planned. You believe that you can meet the target by overlapping the project activities. What is the approach that you plan to use?

- A Concurrent Engineering
- B Crashing
- C Resource Leveling
- D Fast Tracking



The correct answer is: **D**

Overlapping of activities implies taking activities that would otherwise be executed sequentially and executing them by introducing parallelism. This is referred to as fast tracking.





You are managing a project to build a multi-storey complex in your city. You are waiting for the clearance to start construction of the building. A dependency that originates outside of the project is called ______.

- A External Dependency
- B Mandatory Dependency
- C Discretionary dependency
- D Internal Dependency



You are managing a project to build a multi-storey complex in your city. You are waiting for the clearance to start construction of the building. A dependency that originates outside of the project is called ______.

- A External Dependency
- B Mandatory Dependency
- C Discretionary dependency
- D Internal Dependency



The correct answer is: A

This is an example of an external dependency that involves relationships between the project and non-project activities that are outside the control of a project manager.





Which of the following is the best action to take to complete a project one week ahead of schedule?

- A Inform customer that critical path does not allow early completion
- B Motivate the team to work hard and check the status next month
- C Meet the team and look for options for crashing or fast tracking the critical path
- D Consult project sponsor



Which of the following is the best action to take to complete a project one week ahead of schedule?

- A Inform customer that critical path does not allow early completion
- B Motivate the team to work hard and check the status next month
- C Meet the team and look for options for crashing or fast tracking the critical path
- D Consult project sponsor



The correct answer is: C

You should first seek to understand what the best course of action is. Also, when it comes to schedule compression, crashing and fast tracking are the two main options. The project sponsor would approve the actions after your team develops them.





A project team is working on the network diagram of a project and wants to determine the float of a project activity. Which of the following is the correct formula?

- A Late Finish-Early finish (LF-EF)
- B Late Finish-Early finish (LF-EF) or Late Start-Early Start (LS-ES)
- C Late Start-Early Start (LS-ES)
- D Late Finish-Late Start (LF-LS)



A project team is working on the network diagram of a project and wants to determine the float of a project activity. Which of the following is the correct formula?

- A Late Finish-Early finish (LF-EF)
- B Late Finish-Early finish (LF-EF) or Late Start-Early Start (LS-ES)
- C Late Start-Early Start (LS-ES)
- D Late Finish-Late Start (LF-LS)



The correct answer is: **B**

Float is calculated by subtracting either the Early Finish (EF) from the Late Finish (LF) or the Early Start (ES) from the Late Start (LS). Float for an activity = LS-ES or LF-EF.





The project manager, along with his team, has defined the dependencies among the activities and estimated their durations and the resources required to work on them. He is now in the process of creating the project schedule. Which of the following tools and techniques will not assist him in creating the project schedule?

- A Resource leveling
- B Schedule compression
- C Leads and lags
- D Reserve analysis



The project manager, along with his team, has defined the dependencies among the activities and estimated their durations and the resources required to work on them. He is now in the process of creating the project schedule. Which of the following tools and techniques will not assist him in creating the project schedule?

- A Resource leveling
- B Schedule compression
- C Leads and lag
- D Reserve analysis



The correct answer is: **D**

All of the above stated options, except D, are tools and techniques for the "develop schedule process." Reserve analysis is a technique for "estimate activity durations."





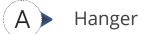
6 A summary activity that represents a group of related activities is called ______.

- A Hanger
- B Hammock
- C Float
- D Milestone





6 A summary activity that represents a group of related activities is called ______.











The correct answer is: **B**

Hammock is a summary activity that represents a group of related activities.





7 A sequence of tasks within a project schedule that has zero slack is called ______.

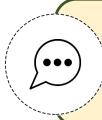
- A Critical Chain
- B Critical Path
- C Zero Slack Track
- D Network Dependency Diagram





7 A sequence of tasks within a project schedule that has zero slack is called ______.

- A Critical Chain
- B Critical Path
- C Zero Slack Track
- Network Dependency Diagram



The correct answer is: B

The Critical Path in a project has zero slack, and any delays on tasks on the critical path will delay the end date of the project.



Keri is developing a project schedule. She includes a task to order a computer server with complex configurations, which takes seven days to ship after the order is placed. How should she represent this in her Gantt chart?

- A She only needs one task for ordering and receiving the computer server in seven days.
- B She should create a task for ordering the computer server. The task should reflect the time to create the complex order and a milestone to receive the server.
- She should create a task for ordering the computer server and another task of seven days to receive it.
- This task is too detailed for inclusion in a project schedule based on the principle of decomposition.





Keri is developing a project schedule. She includes a task to order a computer server with complex configurations, which takes seven days to ship after the order is placed. How should she represent this in her Gantt chart?



- B She should create a task for ordering the computer server. The task should reflect the time to create the complex order and a milestone to receive the server.
- She should create a task for ordering the computer server and another task of seven days to receive it.
- This task is too detailed for inclusion in a project schedule based on the principle of decomposition.



The correct answer is: **B**

The best answer is to create a task and a milestone. The actual effort is creating the server order, which should be created as a task and assigned to a resource. Receiving the server is a milestone, and it should reflect the seven-day shipping duration from the point the task order is complete.

The PMI Registered Education Provider logo is a registered mark of the Project Management Institute, Inc.



This concludes "Project Schedule Management."



The next lesson is "Project Cost Management."

This course is based on the Project Management Institute, A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)—Sixth Edition.

PMP, PMI, and PMBOK are registered marks of the Project Management Institute, Inc.

simpl_ilearn