Feature Driven Development (FDD)

This method is focused around “designing & building” features. Unlike other Agile methods in software engineering, FDD describes very specific and short phases of work that has to be accomplished separately per feature.

The iterative and incremental development process is central to FDD. Teams break their projects down into smaller increments that are easier to manage. The workload is divided into short Agile iterations, where developers repeat steps until the final deliverable is deemed fit for release. FDD teams also prepare progress reports and carry out regular inspections to ensure a high standard of quality.

**The five steps in FDD**

**1: Develop the overall model**

Here, an FDD team will determine the project scope. Multiple models will be proposed and merged to create one overall model.

**2: Build the features list**

Next, the team members will outline the customer-focused features to be developed. They will be small functions that can be completed in a short period of time. An example could be to create an automatic reminder for subscription renewal.

**3: Plan by feature**

The team will assess the individual features in the list and arrange them in the appropriate order. Then, the features will be assigned to team members.

**4: Design by feature**

At this stage, the team’s chief programmer will choose which features to develop within a two-week period. A design package will be created for each feature, and team members will conduct a review before building commences.

**5: Build by feature**

Developers work to build the code for the above-mentioned features. This code will be tested before the final version is created.