**Assignment No.01**

**What is Agile?**

Agile is the ability to create and respond to change. It is a way of dealing with, and ultimately succeeding in, an uncertain and turbulent environment.

The authors of the Agile Manifesto chose “Agile” as the label for this whole idea because that word [represented the adaptiveness and response to change which was so important to their approach](https://martinfowler.com/articles/agileStory.html).

It's really about thinking through how you can understand what's going on in the environment that you're in today, identify what uncertainty you're facing, and figure out how you can adapt to that as you go along.

**What is Agile Software Development?**

Agile software development is more than frameworks such as [Scrum](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/scrum/), [Extreme Programming](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/xp/) or Feature-Driven Development (FDD).

Agile software development is more than practices such as [pair programming](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/pairing/), [test-driven development](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/tdd/), [stand-ups](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/daily-meeting/), [planning sessions](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/sprint-planning/)and [sprints](https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/iteration/).

Agile software development is an umbrella term for a set of frameworks and practices based on the values and principles expressed in the [Manifesto for Agile Software Development](https://www.agilealliance.org/agile101/the-agile-manifesto/)and the [12 Principles](https://www.agilealliance.org/agile101/12-principles-behind-the-agile-manifesto/) behind it. When you approach software development in a particular manner, it's generally good to live by these values and principles and use them to help figure out the right things to do given your particular context. (Ref: agilealliance,agile 101)

## Agile Process and Method Overview

Below you will find an overview of the agile process (and what has been called “agile project management for dummies”) as well as a simple definition of the agile methodology for any beginners starting out in software design and development, or those who may want to integrate the methodology into their [seo agency](https://project320.com/services/seo-strategy/) or [web design company](https://project320.com/services/website-design/).

### The Agile Method Defined

A sprint is a period of time allocated for a particular phase of a project. Sprints are considered to be complete when the time period expires. There may be disagreements among the members of the team as to whether or not the development is satisfactory; however, there will be no more work on that particular phase of the project. The remaining phases of the project will continue to develop within their respective time frames.

### The general principles of the Agile Method

* Satisfy the client and continually develop software.
* Changing requirements are embraced for the client’s competitive advantage.
* Concentrate on delivering working software frequently. Delivery preference will be placed on the shortest possible time span.
* Developers and business people must work together throughout the entire project.
* Projects must be based on people who are motivated. Give them the proper environment and the support that they need. They should be trusted to get their jobs done.
* Face-to-face communication is the best way to transfer information to and from a team.
* Working software is the primary measurement of progress.
* Agile processes will promote development that is sustainable. Sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain an indefinite, constant pace.
* Constant attention to technical excellence and good design will enhance agility.

### History of Agile Method

Many of the Agile ideas surfaced in the 1970s. Studies and reviews were conducted on the Agile Method that explains its emergence as a reaction against traditional approaches to project development.

In 1970, Dr. William Royce published a paper that discussed the managing and developing of large software systems. The paper outlined his specific ideas about sequential development. His presentation stated that a project could be developed much like a product on an assembly line. Each phase of the development had to be complete before the next phase could begin. The idea required that all developers must first put together all of the requirements of a project. The next step was to complete all of its architecture and designs. This is followed by writing the code. The sequences continue in complete increments. As these steps are completed, there is little or no contact between specialized groups that complete each phase of the project.

Pioneers of the Agile Method believed that if developers studied the process, they would find it to be the most logical and useful solution to software development.

### Companies That Use Agile Method

Although there is no official list of companies that use the Agile Method for their projects, IBM is one of the companies that openly uses this method to develop software. Many companies will adopt the use of this method within their development structure, but they aren’t always open about their choice to use it.

According to IBM, the use of the Agile Method means that significant organizational changes will take place. They believe that many Agile software development teams will increase their chances of success by partnering with a trusted guide. They help clients implement their own Agile software development strategies for their projects. They provide critical guidance that will help Agile software development teams to avoid common adoption, expansion, and implementation pitfalls.

### Benefits of Using the Agile Method

The Agile Method grew out of the experience with the real-life projects of leading software professionals from the past. Because of this, the challenges and limitations of traditional development have been discarded. Subsequently, the Agile Method has been accepted by the industry as a better solution to project development. Nearly every software developer has used the Agile Method in some form.

This method offers a light framework for assisting teams. It helps them function and maintain focus on rapid delivery. This focus assists capable organizations in reducing the overall risks associated with software development.

The Agile Method ensures that value is optimized throughout the development process. The use of iterative planning and feedback results in teams that can continuously align a delivered product that reflects the desired needs of a client. It easily adapts to changing requirements throughout the process by measuring and evaluating the status of a project. The measuring and evaluating allows accurate and early visibility into the progress of each project.

It could be stated that the Agile Method helps companies build the right product. Instead of trying to market software before it is written, the Agile Method empowers teams to optimize the release during its development. This allows the product to be as competitive as possible within the marketplace. It preserves the relevance of the critical market, and it ensures that a team’s work doesn’t wind up collecting dust on a shelf. This is why the Agile Method is an attractive developmental option for stakeholders and developers alike.

There are many critics of the Agile Method; however, this method produces results that clients can take to the bank. Although a project may not turn out exactly as the client envisions, it will be delivered within the time that it needs to be produced. Throughout the process, the client and the team are changing the requirements in order to produce the quality needed by the client. Clients are happy with the results, and the team satisfies the client’s needs. The ongoing change can sometimes give both the client and the team more than they had originally envisioned for the product. The Agile Method really is a winning solution for everyone involved in software development.

### Criticism of Agile Development

* It is developer-centric rather than user-centric.
* Agile focuses on processes for getting requirements and developing code and does not focus on product design.
* Agile methodologies can also be inefficient in large organizations and certain types of projects. (Ref: project320.com-resources-the-agile-method)