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Software Development 1

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Agile vs Waterfall Development

In the world of systems development, we are presented with many different methodologies that help to create systems for consumers to use. Although there isn't a specific type of methodology to use, businesses determine which plan is right for them and go along with the method. Waterfall Development is approached using a linear method of going from one step of the process to the next while Agile Development involves being iterative, using teamwork and completing each part of the process in chunks.

Agile Development starts off where all the work is broken down into small chunks and refined repetitively. They determine how long each small chunk will take to complete and put that into something called sprints backlogs. With these, they see if the amount of time that is used for each sprint will be completed before the end date. Each small chunk could be any part of the process, an example being that the design and the code are created simultaneously in order to get parts of the final project completed. Prioritization is used so that the most valuable features are created first, which reduces the risk of having an unusable product before funding runs out. Instead of knowing the features of the project beforehand, Agile will go along with changes if some are needed to be done. Waterfall development uses a linear fashion that goes from initiation to testing and are completed in bigger chunks while agile may go through two steps simultaneously but using smaller chunks to create their final end product.

Both Waterfall and Agile development are two completely different methodologies but their end goal is the same. Depending on your company, should determine on what development process is used because in the end, it all depends on how long you have before the project needs to be completed and the size of your team to complete each chunk.