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Frequently Asked Questions

As I work with people I find there are often situations where the same kind of questions come up. Rather than invent answers every time, here are some standard ideas, based on experience that has worked in the past, to get you started.

Warning

I wrote most of these because they came up more than once. Some of the ideas / responses are basic, especially if you've been doing Agile / Scrum for some time. Note - these are just ideas / approaches. If

the approach does not suite your context, believe the context, and adjust the approach.



Also, some of these are WIP (work-in-progress). Typically they are labelled "ToDo". A list of these is at [Pages Where There is Work ToDo](#). Plus a [Table View of FAQ](#).

This question came up during the facilitator's guild meeting and I thought I'd put thinking "out there" for all to see.

[What do we do with Stories that are not "Done" at the end of an Iteration](#)

FAQ

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- What Kinds of Problems Do you Typically See As The Organization Transforms to Agile / Lean? faq, antipatterns, smells, problems, transformation, mindset, culture
- What Other Kind of Structural Approaches Have You Seen? faq, organization, managers, structure, people, executive
- What Problems Have You Seen With the Business Value Assignment Process? consultant, tools, piplanning, program, piobjectives, safe, faq
- What Question are we Voting on When we do a Confidence Vote in PI Planning? consultant, tools, piplanning, program, confidencevote, planning, ceremony, piobjectives, safe, faq
- What Should Our Iteration Goals (Sprint Goals) Look Like? sprintgoals, team, firstsprint, sprintplanning, faq, goals
- What Should We Consider When Forming a New Team? consultant, tools, teamformation, kickoff, firstsprint, faq, team
- What Subjects Should We Cover at a Team Kickoff or Re-Baseline Event? faq, kickoff, team
- What Team Events Is A Scrum Master Typically Involved In? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, events, scrummaster, structure
- What Team Events is the Product Owner Involved In? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, events, productowner, structure
- What tips and tricks do you have to make a good System Demo? faq, safe, systemdemo, consultant, tools, tips, program
- What Tips Do You Have for a Product Owner? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, tips, productowner, structure
- What Tips Do You Have for a Scrum Master? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, tips, scrummaster, structure
- What Tips Do You Have To Help Develop the Definition of Ready? faq, diy, agile, tips, dor, practice, userstory, ready
- What We Don't Want to See in a Scrum Master? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, smells, antipatterns, scrummaster, structure
- What's The Difference Between Kanban and Scrum? - SSA faq, kanban, scrum, comparison, agile, subjectspecificarticle
- When should the System Demo be scheduled? faq, safe, systemdemo, consultant, tools, program
- Where Did This Estimation Approach Come From? team, estimates, forecast, faq, points, estimationapproach
- Where Do We Find Product Owners? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, source, productowner, structure
- Where Do We Find Scrum Masters? faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, source, scrummaster, structure
- Which is Best for My Team? Kanban, Scrum or ...? faq, kanban, scrum, comparison
- Who is invited to the System Demo? faq, safe, systemdemo, consultant, tools, program

• Who is responsible for orchestrating and facilitating the System Demo?	faq, safe, systemdemo, consultant, tools, program
• Why a Plan Based on Average Velocity Will Fail?	blogentry, estimates, forecast, montecarlo, research, faq
• Why Do People Overcommit?	faq, commit, wip, behavior, team
• Why Do We Assign Business Values to PI Objectives?	consultant, tools, piplanning, program, piobjectives, safe, faq
• Why Do We Do a System Demo in SAFe? - SSA	faq, safe, systemdemo, consultant, tools, program, subjectspecificarticle
• Why Do We Establish a Cadence of Events?	consultant, tools, meetings, firstsprint, cadence, faq
• Why Do We Form Teams When We Transition To Agile?	consultant, tools, teamformation, kickoff, firstsprint, faq, team
• Why Do We Have a Definition of Ready?	faq, diy, agile, userstory, dor, ready, practice
• Why Do We Have the Product Owner and Scrum Master Roles?	faq, roles, scrummaster, productowner, structure, firstsprint
• Why Do We Have the Role of Product Owner?	faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, why, productowner, structure
• Why Do We Have the Scrum Master Role?	faq, diy, agile, coaching, leadership, why, scrummaster, structure
• Why do we run a System Demo when we've just done a Sprint Review or Iteration (Team) Review?	faq, safe, systemdemo, consultant, tools, program
• Why Do We Start and End Iterations (Sprints) Mid-week?	consultant, tools, meetings, firstsprint, cadence, diy, agile, faq
• Why Do We Use Story Points Instead of Hours or Days?	team, estimates, forecast, faq, points, estimationapproach
• Why Does a High Utilization Rate Make It Impossible to Create Good Estimates?	faq, estimation, utilization, basics
• Why Does a Lean-Agile Approach Encourage Collaborative Decision Making?	faq, collaboration, decisionmaking, workingagreement
• Why does a Lean-Agile approach focus on the completion of work (running, tested features)?	faq, fte, agilebasics, dod
• Why Don't Agile Tools Automatically Change Status When a Related Item Changes?	faq, promote, tool, feature, story
• Why Don't We Burn-down Stories Instead of Hours for a Sprint?	consultant, tools, team, burndown, storypoints, hours, firstsprint, faq
• Why Don't We Use Gantt Charts in Agile?	faq, projectmanager, project, pm, gantt
• Why Don't We Use Written English to Communicate Requirements?	consultant, tools, userstory, stories, faq, firstsprint
• Why Have an Organizational Impediment Removal System?	faq, ssa, impediment, removal, organization
• Why Is Agile So Hard - The Backward Bicycle?	blogentry, knowledge, understanding, faq
• Why Not Just Track Hours Like We Traditionally Do?	team, estimates, dollars, cost, faq, points
• Why Should an Architect Collaborate with Teams?	faq, architect, enterpriseasset, role

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