

Lean Thinking in Software Development

Lean thinking, conceived to improve manufacturing, adapts powerfully to software. It optimizes efficiency, minimizes waste, and raises product quality — all while maximizing customer value. Seven principles put it to work.

01 Eliminate Waste

Remove non-value work: redundant code, excess documentation, waiting, context-switching, and defect rework.

03 Create Knowledge

Retain and share expertise through pair programming, documentation, and shared codebases; learn continuously.

05 Deliver Fast

Tighten feedback loops with continuous delivery, adapting quickly to customers and the market.

07 Optimize the Whole

View delivery holistically: break down silos and align every team toward the end goal.

02 Enhance Quality

Build quality in with code reviews, automated testing, and continuous integration — prevent defects rather than patch them.

04 Defer Commitment

Keep options open with reversible decisions and iterative planning until the last responsible moment.

06 Respect People

Empower self-organizing teams to decide collaboratively — driving motivation, innovation, and performance.

THE RESULT

Shorter cycle times, higher productivity, better product quality — and measurably more value delivered to customers.