Agile Transformation

Efficient outcomes in projects with a broad scope

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Considerations With Agile Transformation

Waterfall has been utilized in some way by almost everyone who has worked on a project. It's great for projects with clearly defined steps that must be accomplished before moving on to the next. When there are no ambiguities about expectations or the implementation process, it might be a good option. When there is a clear image and detailed documentation of what customers and stakeholders want, and there is no chance of requirements changing during the project, waterfall works. External dependencies should also be identified and accounted for.

When it comes to the app development process, every app starts with an idea and then evolves into something functional. Plans can be revised and transformed no matter how well developed the idea is or how skilled the development team is. Consider hiring a company to design an application, agreeing on the completion deadline, and then receiving the agreed-upon product many months later with some things done incorrectly. End-of-life inspection and testing of a product only to discover that the outcome is incorrect can be terrible for timelines, budgets, and, most importantly, customer satisfaction.
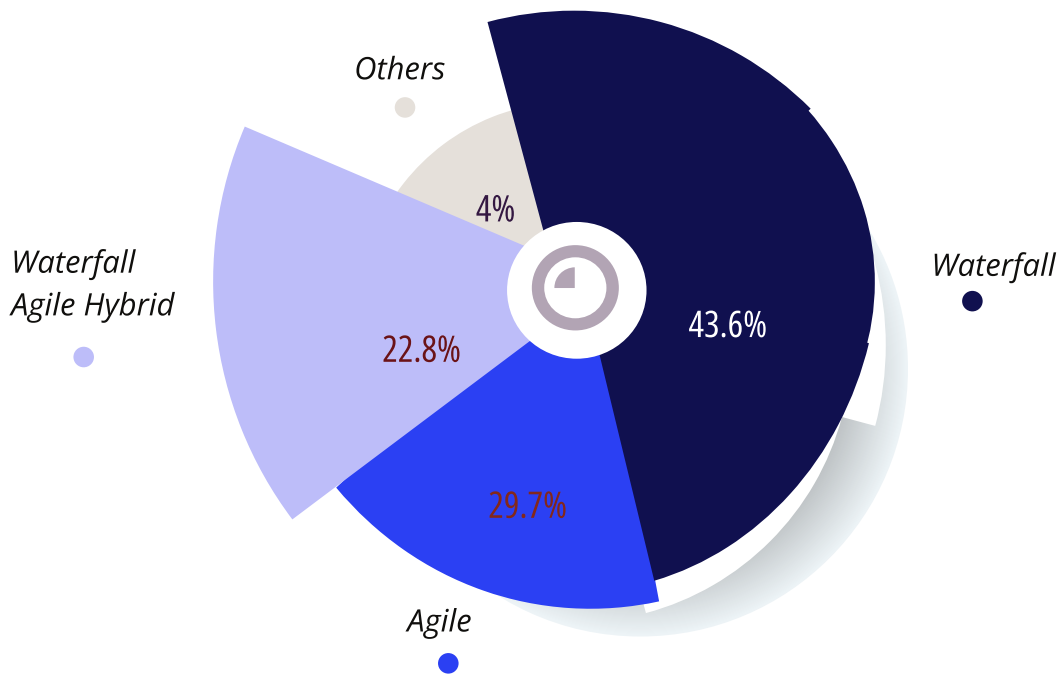

Fig. 1: Commonly Used Project Management Methods

Agile Methodology

Agile practices are about a mindset. Agile transformation is a method for companies to become nimbler and more responsive to the needs of their customers. Agile is a means to accept the unknowns, improvise with the greatest knowledge available, adapt to change, and solve problems rather than using traditional project management strategies. It is not failsafe, but it is OK to fail in Agile contexts in order to learn and find what works.

Ensure the created product meet quality standards

Create functioning software based on the design plan

Deliver finished product to customer

Test

Deploy

Develop

Plan how to build requirements into a product

Discuss how to improve the process in next steps

Review

Plan

Design

Launch

Release a quality product to the public

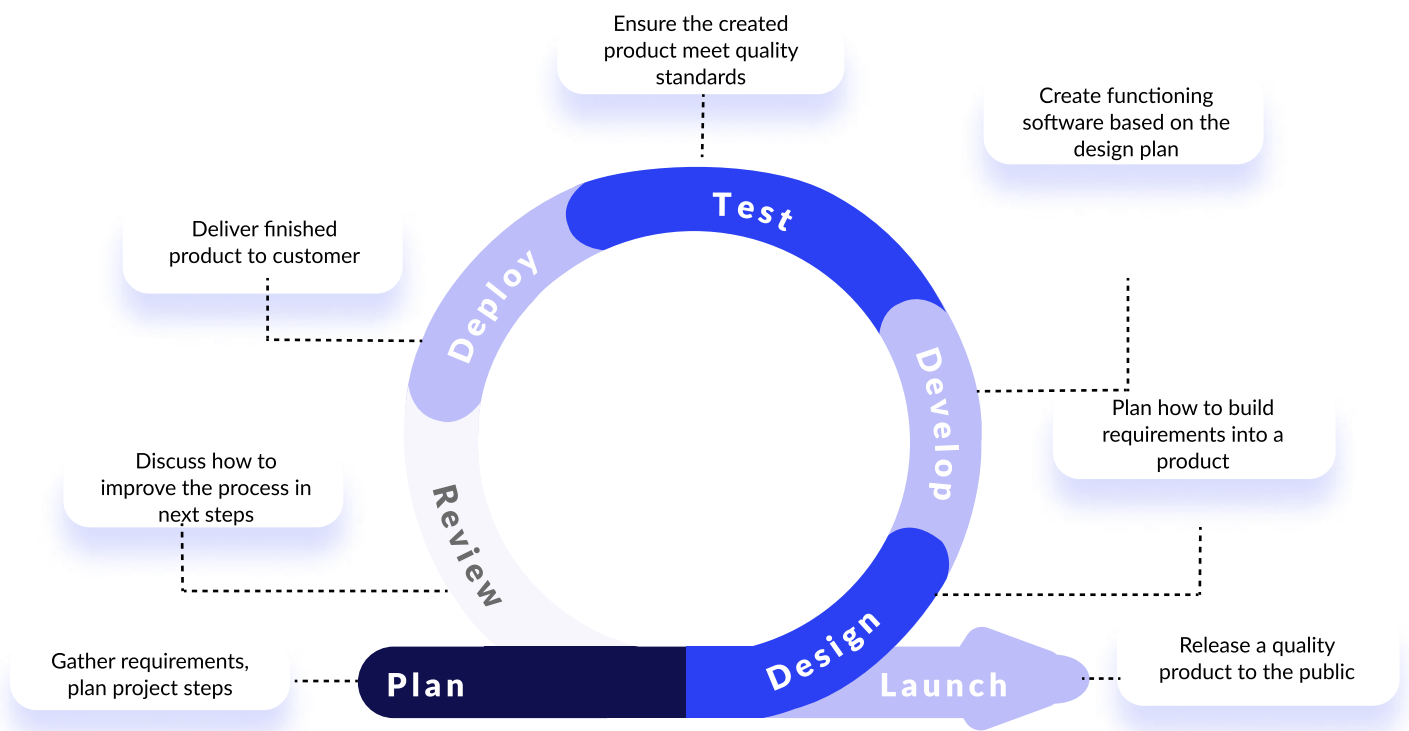Gather requirements, plan project steps

Fig. 2: Agile Methodology Workflow

Agile Transformation

Agile Transformation is an undertaking. Implementing Agile techniques necessitates a commitment to change, which most individuals find difficult. Unlike waterfall methodologies, Agile fosters continuous development and testing throughout the project's software development lifecycle. Continuous planning, learning, improvement, team cooperation, and early delivery are all characteristics of a real agile approach that encourages adaptability to change.

01

Build the Foundation

While a full agile transformation won't happen overnight, adopting it in small increments will allow a smooth transition into better products and more productive teams. No transition goes without its roadblocks, but if you trust and stay true to agile methodology, you will learn how to combat these roadblocks and eventually have a fully functioning agile environment!

Understand the Roadmap

Agile roadmaps do not share many similarities with traditional roadmaps. While a traditional roadmap is a step-by-step blueprint, an agile roadmap plans strategy. While this may seem unpredictable or uncertain to a traditional linear process, planning strategy over planning work allows adaptability in the face of uncertainties.

02

03

Adjust Your Planning Cycle

One of our favorite quotes here at PSG is "if you want to give the fates a good laugh, tell them your plans." Agile planning is not about building products, but about building efficiency and flexibility. Revisit your planning regularly, and your agile process will adjust itself around the work.

Reduce Dependency

It's no secret that empowering employees leads to happier and more productive teams! Agile puts emphasis on empowerment by allowing your team members the trust and resources to build better products together. After all, they are the experts in development! When respected as experts, your team will give you expert results.

04

05

Maintain A High-Level View

As we tend to worry about putting out fires, sometimes we do so at the expense of the grand scheme. In this sense, don't let the inevitable roadblocks deter you away from your agile transition. Stay focused and trust the process, and it will reward you with happy, productive, and flexible teams who produce consistent quality.

Fig. 3: Waterfall To Agile Transformation

Agile Project Management

On a typical project, the project manager may be actively involved in directing work and informing their team of what has to be done - a command and control style. Agile project management, on the other hand, takes a different approach. The project manager provides a high-level plan and picture of the solution to be generated in the early stages of the agile methodology. From then onwards, the final project is built iteratively and progressively, with each increment building on the previous increments' output. Each project step is generated by the team members themselves, rather than by the project manager, as is the case with a waterfall approach. This increases team trust and empowers members by giving their thoughts and judgments weight when determining the next steps in the development process.
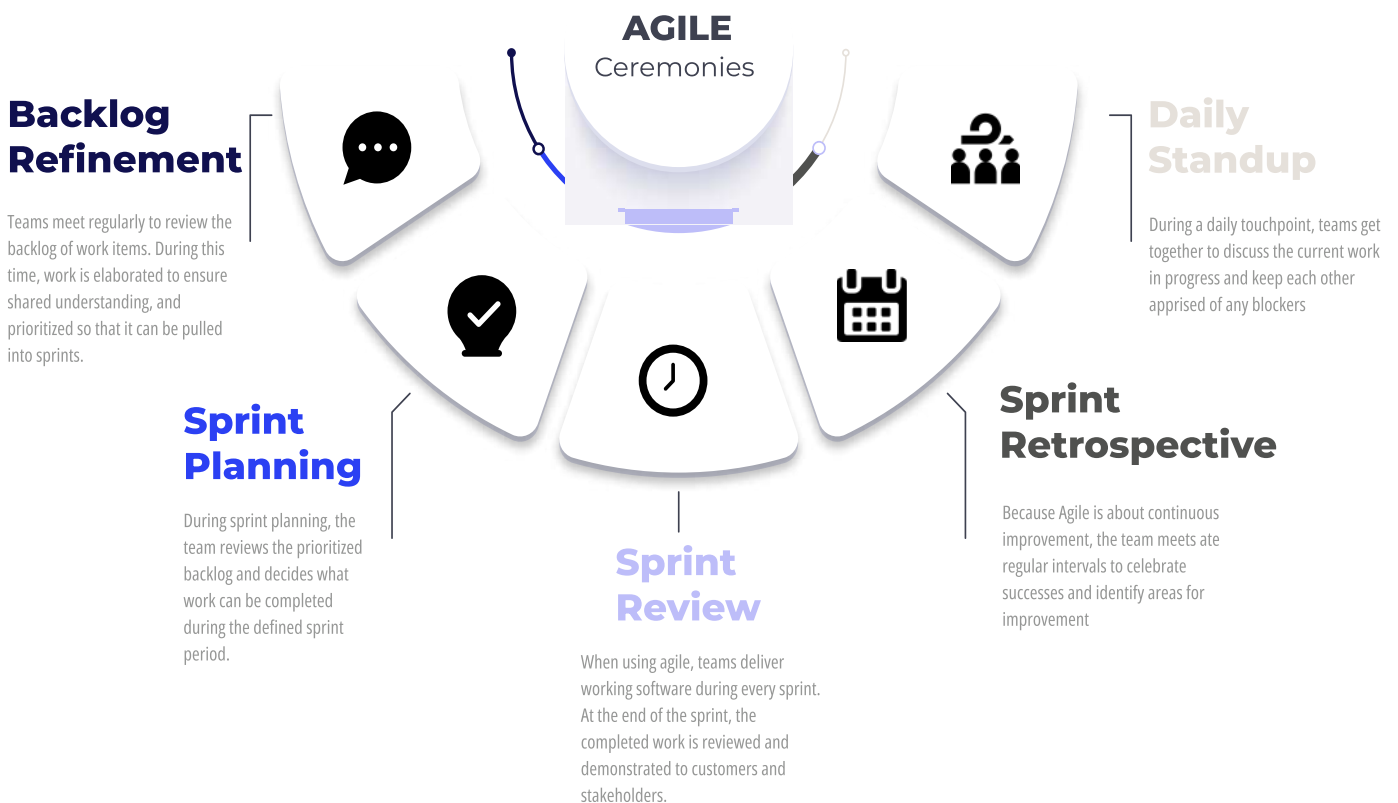

AGILE
Ceremonies

Backlog Refinement

Teams meet regularly to review the backlog of work items. During this time, work is elaborated to ensure shared understanding, and prioritized so that it can be pulled into sprints.

Daily Standup

During a daily touchpoint, teams get together to discuss the current work in progress and keep each other apprised of any blockers

Sprint Planning

During sprint planning, the team reviews the prioritized backlog and decides what work can be completed during the defined sprint period.

Sprint Review

When using agile, teams deliver working software during every sprint. At the end of the sprint, the completed work is reviewed and demonstrated to customers and stakeholders.

Sprint Retrospective

Because Agile is about continuous improvement, the team meets ate regular intervals to celebrate successes and identify areas for improvement

Fig. 4: Using Agile Ceremonies for Effective Results

Characteristics Of Agile Development Success

Agile Project Management is made up of well-established and well-proven components that work together to give a holistic approach to project management and governance. It has an overarching concept and guiding principles, as well as a lifecycle (or process) and a set of deliverables that must be produced and maintained as the project advances from start to finish in a controlled manner.

Fixed Length Sprints

Always Deliver Working Software

Value Driven Development

Valued and Empowered Developers

Right Thing At The Right Time

Characteristics Of Agile Development Success

Embrace Change

Progressive Elaboration

Customer centered collaboration

Continuous Improvement

Small, Cross-Functional Teams

Fig. 5: Characteristics Of Agile Development Success

FAILED
29%
9%

CHALLENGED
57%
49%

SUCCESSFUL
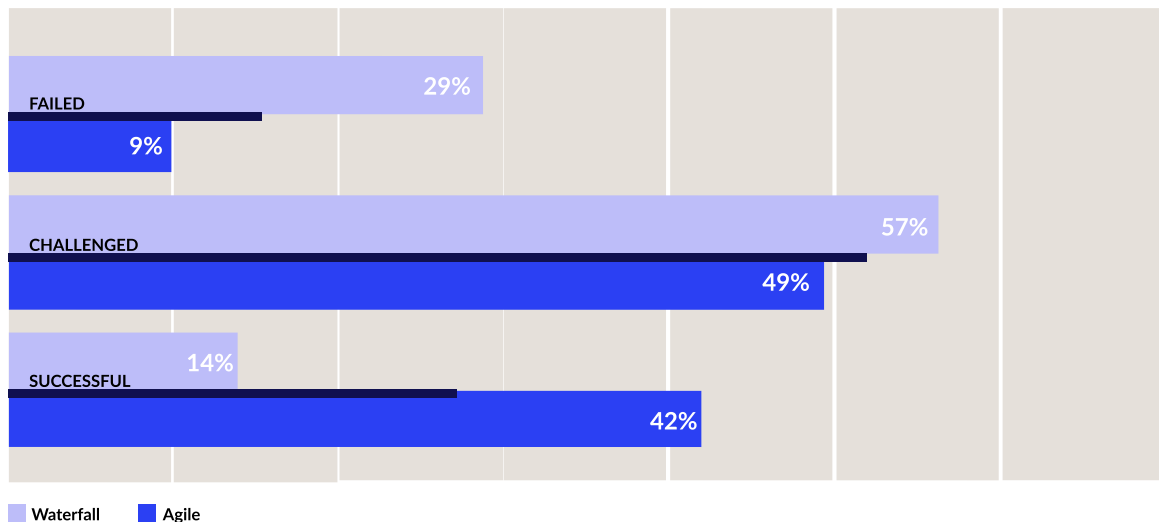14%
42%

Waterfall   Agile

Fig. 6: Waterfall vs Agile Success Rate

PSG Solutions

PSG can assist your team in making the necessary changes to successfully shift your project development paradigm to one that is more agile. We not only help teams transition to an agile development methodology, but we also conduct analyses of your current processes. This allows us to identify gaps and develop a strategy for the ultimate transformation that will propel your company ahead. PSG immerses itself in your teams and interacts with them to guarantee that the agile approach is fully understood and implemented.

The agile approach, in contrast to the traditional waterfall technique, is flexible and evolutionary in nature, which has made it increasingly popular in recent years. Agile transformation can not only help your company become more efficient and nimbler, but it can also provide your team the ability to be more spontaneous in dealing with problems and making important management decisions.