Managing a Project
The Drupal Way

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Avoiding project managers is iterative. It’s something we developers get better at every time.

Adam Culp
@adamculp
Workflow
Workflow

Infrastructure
Workflow

Infrastructure

Prototype
Workflow

Infrastructure

Component

Design

Prototype
Workflow

Infra-structure | Component Design | Custom Development

Prototype | Component Build
Workflow

Infra-structure

Prototype

Component Design

Component Build

Custom Development

Content Migration
Workflow

Infrastructure

Prototype

Component Design

Component Build

Custom Development

Content Migration

Front End Design

Deployment
Features

Content
Features

Component

Content
Features

Functionality

Component

Content
Features

Layout

Functionality

Component

Content
Content: nouns

- Data model
- **Entities** (types of content) built from **Fields**
- Migration of content into the system
Component: adjectives

- Extending the content type
- Filtered lists -> views
- Display formatters
Functionality: verbs

- Contributed modules
- Custom modules
Layout

• Components into Layouts

• Display
Features
Features

Layout
Features

Layout

Functionality

Component

Content
Teams are immutable. Every time someone leaves, or joins, you have a new team, not a changed team.

Richard Dalton
@richardadalton
Job Titles

- UX
- Designer
- Content strategist
- Site Builder
- Backend Developer
- Front end Developer
- Content Manager
- Quality Assurance Testing
- Project Manager
Team Skills

• Peer review
• Knowledge sharing
• Collaborative research (LMGTFY)
• Brainstorming
• Rubber ducking
• Morale boosting
• Accountability
Nothing is less productive than to make more efficient what should not be done at all.

Peter Drucker
Writing Useful Tickets

• **Standardised your format.** The 3Cs from Agile work well. Except when they don’t.

• **Groom the backlog frequently.** No matter what tickets you write, you will miss some things, and duplicate others.

• **Push conversations into tickets.** Diagrams, testing notes, conclusions from discussions.
Card:
Define testable outcomes.

• As a ___ I want to ___ so that I ___.

• For example: As a user, I want to filter the search results so that I can more easily find people with the verified role assignment.
Conversation: Provide context

- As a project manager, or analyst, be descriptive; not prescriptive.

- Provide annotated screen shots; and screen casts of the problem.

- Allow for alternate interpretations of the conversation so long as it accomplishes the user story.

- Track everything. Get the conversation out of email.
Confirmation:
Provide testing notes.

• Give the step-by-step testing instructions in support of the user story.

• Require testing notes and screen shots from the developers.
Estimation

• Developers know best. But multiply it by 2 (and by 2 again) regardless.

• On-boarding takes a week longer than you think it should.

• Half way through your project; local environments will mysteriously break (automated upgrades).

• The “last mile” takes three weeks longer than it should because of regressions and Features.
You can get a great deal done from almost any position in an organisation if you focus on small wins and don’t mind others getting the credit.

Roger Saillant
Moods are infectious.
Tracking a trend requires empirical data.
Language matters.
Closure is important.
Sort for yourself; format for others.
Adrenaline is finite.
Minor choice makes a major difference.
Acknowledgement
kindles effort.
Moderate what you change; including your moderation.
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