

Why *NOT* Scrum?



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Scrum? No thanks.



*We tried it—it didn't work for us.
It's fine for small software projects.*

That's an IT thing.

I didn't like all the meetings.

It's not possible to release every two weeks.

We can't work on one thing at a time.

There's no accountability.

No one was in charge.

I could never get a forecast.

It was too rigid.

We didn't see any increase in quality or productivity.

Our costs and time to market did not go down.

Leadership didn't buy in.

Et cetera...

“Well, you
implemented
it wrong.”



But, is Scrum really about
“doing it right?”

It's a *means*, not an *end*.

Maybe, we just
misunderstand it.



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And by “we” I mean *you & me*
(those who claim to understand it).

How do you talk about Scrum?

"Scrum is a method where you just follow a set of steps like a checklist—first you do the sprint planning, then the sprint, then the review, and finally the retrospective, and then you start over. It's that simple."

"Scrum is a framework that ensures predictability in project delivery by breaking work into fixed-length sprints. This way, teams can always deliver exactly what was planned by the end of each sprint."

"Scrum is designed to help teams complete projects on a fixed timeline by organizing work into sprints, ensuring that each sprint brings the team closer to delivering the final product on schedule."

"Scrum is a framework that empowers the team to work autonomously without much need for external input, allowing them to self-manage and deliver the project with minimal oversight."

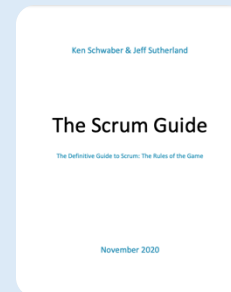
"Scrum is all about speeding up your team's work by dividing the project into sprints, so you can accomplish more in less time and deliver faster results."

"Scrum is a process where you focus on completing tasks quickly in short sprints. The goal is to get as many features delivered as possible within each sprint, ensuring that you always have something new to show by the end."

"Scrum is a framework where each sprint is like a mini project. You do all the planning upfront, then execute everything in sequence within the sprint, so by the end, you have a finished product ready to deliver."

What *IS* Scrum?

“Scrum is a lightweight framework that helps people, teams and organizations generate value through adaptive solutions for complex problems.”



What IS Scrum?

“Scrum is a lightweight yet incredibly powerful framework. Scrum relies on cross-functional and self-managing teams to deliver products and services in short cycles, enabling:

- Fast feedback
- Quicker innovation
- Continuous improvement
- Rapid adaptation to change
- Delighted customers
- Reduced time from idea to delivery...”



What IS Scrum?

“Scrum is a way to get work done as a team in small pieces at a time, with continuous experimentation and feedback loops along the way to learn and improve as you go. Scrum helps people and teams deliver value incrementally in a collaborative way.... Scrum provides just enough structure for people and teams to integrate into how they work, while adding the right practices to optimize for their specific needs.”



What if it isn't about Scrum?

Stop
copying me.



You're not
even doing
it right.

...or doing it *right*, or getting the *right* implementation?

Scrum

3 ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Product Owner
- Developers
- Scrum Master

3 ARTIFACTS

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Increment

5 EVENTS

- Sprint
- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum
- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

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“What is it about _____ that you don’t want?”

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Scrum+

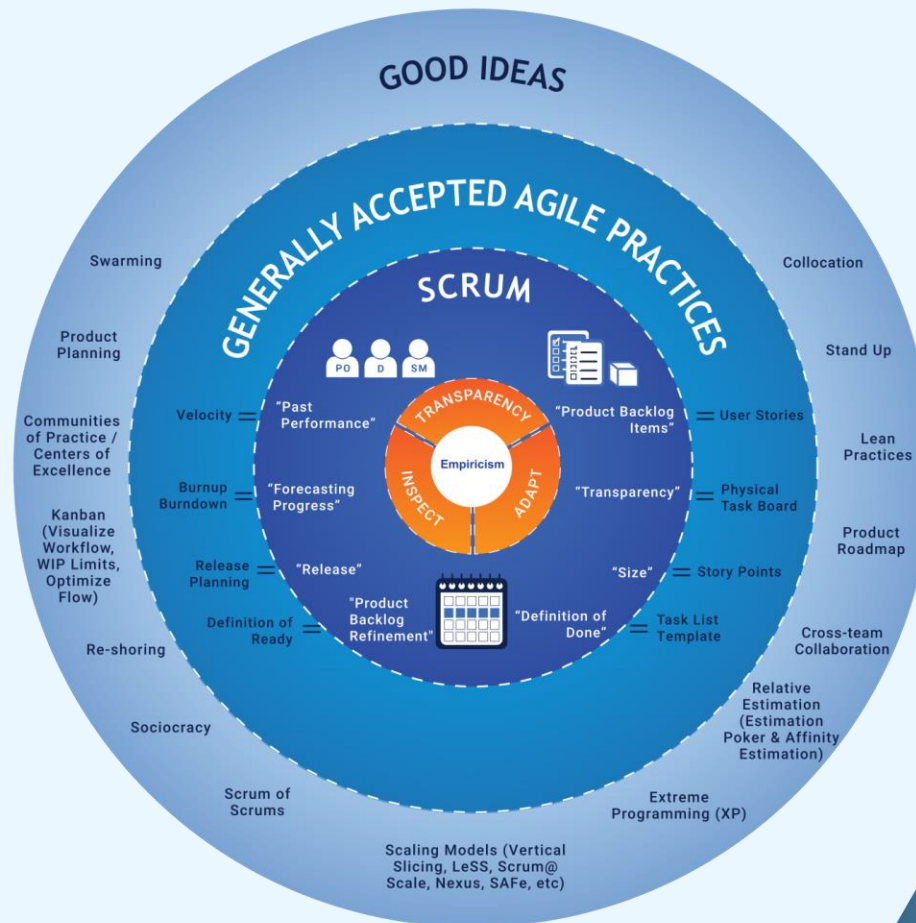


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Scrum isn't really new...



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To manage complexity...

- PDCA (plan, do, check, act)
- OODA (observe, orient, decide, act)
- DMAIC (define>measure>analyze>improve>control)
- Imagine>Create>Reflect>Repeat

Do we really care
if Scrum is done
perfectly?



Photo credit: Tara Winstead via Pexels

No.

But we do care if it's helping us
achieve our desired outcomes.

Why not Scrum for _____?

- Replacing an existing system
- R&D in nuclear energy
- Writing a book
- Applying to nine colleges

*I hope to hear more about yours in the
hallways and Open Space.*

Slow down the Scrum-speak

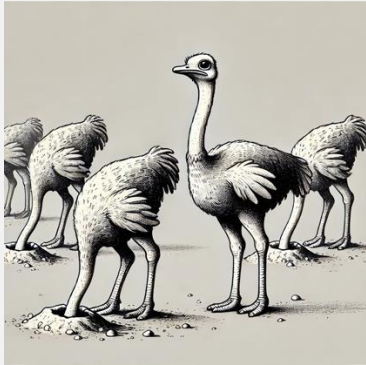


I love Scrum,
but we don't get paid to do scrum.
We get paid to ***solve problems.***

Although Scrum does ***not solve*** problems, it enables transparency, inspection and adaptation for ***exposing*** them, so that we can solve complex problems adaptively.

Ask & speak more about ***solving problems.***

Bottom line



If you want early empirical feedback in what you're doing, and you can break your work down,

...and you are open to unlearning old habits,

...then ***why not*** Scrum?

I'm Steve Ostermiller



COO of Platinum Edge,



Executive Director of Utah Agile.

I also wrote a few books,



And I teach Scrum.

Utah



Connect with me here & on



*At the Coaches Clinic,
hallways, Open Space*

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