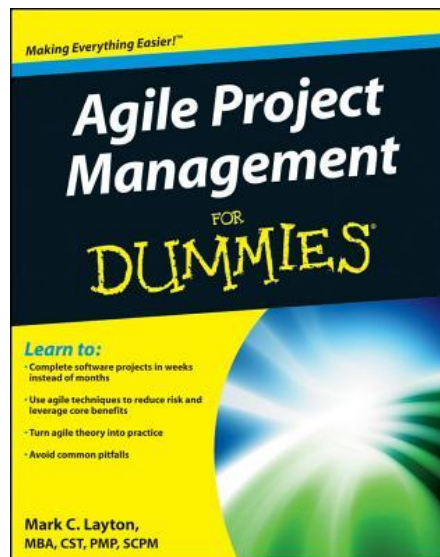




Agile Project Management for Dummies

Mark C. Layton

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Be flexible and faster with Agile project management As mobile and web technologies continue to evolve rapidly, there is added pressure to develop and implement software projects in weeks instead of months. *Agile Project Management For Dummies* can make that happen. This is the first book to provide a simple, step-by-step guide to Agile Project Management approaches, tools, and techniques. With the fast pace of mobile and web technology development, software project development must keep pace; Agile Project Management enables developers to complete and implement projects more quickly and this book shows you how.

Offers a practical context for understanding and applying Agile techniques, moving from theory into actual practice Explains when to use Agile and how to avoid common pitfalls Written by experts who know how to apply the principles in real-world situations *Agile Project Management For Dummies* enables you to understand and apply Agile principles for faster, more accurate development.

Agile Project Management for Dummies Details

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From Reader Review Agile Project Management for Dummies for online ebook

Jen says

Ugh, this book was hard to get through. I admit that I was fully aware of many of the Agile concepts prior to cracking open this book. It was given to me at a project management event and opened it when I wanted to brush up on some terminology for an interview.

The criminal sin of this book was how repetitive it was. He probably could have cut 100 pages if he said the information just once. And, while I know that this book was to teach about Agile, I felt like he was too much of a cheerleader. There are some situations for which Agile doesn't work. Layton went with a "don't do this things" instead of "this is a situation where Agile might not be the best methodology". In my perspective, Agile is a tool in your toolbox, like anything else and should be used appropriately but it is not meant to be the end all, be all, do all.

Some good information but mostly just a frustrating read.

Artem Pyaykh says

Too many words for such an amount of information. This book is suffering of verbosity and countless repetitions. Ask yourself If you are dummy, and if your answer is 'Yes' - go ahead, otherwise don't buy this book.

Enlightened says

In het bedrijf waar ik werk probeer ik sinds enkele maanden de agile aanpak ingang te doen vinden. Ik heb me al uitgebreid geïnformeerd via het internet en dit boek is het eerste "papieren" boek dat ik over agile lees.

Waar de officiële Scrum Guide beperkt is tot een luttel 16 A4'tjes, heb je aan dit boek een hele kluit: 335 bladzijden en een redelijk klein lettertype. Het is duidelijk gestructureerd en is erg uitgebreid. Vooral de laatste hoofdstukken, over hoe agile introduceren, mensen mee krijgen met verandering en de 10 grote voordelen van agile vind ik interessant. Vanwege de omvang is het zeer volledig.

Toch heb ik enkele bedenkingen bij het boek. Om te beginnen mis ik een stuk van wat men op de backcover "De Dummies manier" noemt. "Een vleugje humor"? Op 2 grapjes na niet gevonden. "Een handige spiekbrieft"? Twee bladzijden vol tekst inclusief een figuur die onontcijferbaar is noem ik geen spiekbrieft - en het Agile Manifest en de agile principes mogen dan misschien wel inspireren, maar zijn geen praktische tips over hoe een projectmethodologie toe te passen... maar ze nemen wel de helft van de "spiekbrieft" in. Er wordt verder zodanig veel gebruik gemaakt van de Dummies-pictogrammen (Tip, Belangrijk, Pas Op, enz.) dat die er ook niet meer uit springen.

De illustraties en figuren vind ik niet van een zeer hoog niveau (op het internet is veel meer en mooier beeldmateriaal over agile te vinden) en ik stoorde me soms aan de spelfoutjes, vooral in het begin van het

boek.

Ik mis praktische voorbeelden. De auteur geeft massa's richtlijnen en tips, maar het was nuttig geweest moesten die voorzien zijn van voorbeelden uit de praktijk. Dat gebeurt omzeggens niet en maakt de toepasbaarheid van één en ander op de werkvloer minder gemakkelijk, het blijft te vaag / theoretisch.

De auteur blaast wel heel erg de loftrompet over agile, in die mate dat ik het soms ongeloofwaardig vind. Vergelijkingen tussen waterval methoden en agile draaien stevast uit op een catastrofe voor waterval. Ik heb genoeg projecten volgens waterval gedaan om te weten dat de methode zeker zijn waarde heeft en dat het niet zo zwart-wit is als men hier wil voorstellen. Dat agile altijd en overal de beste oplossing is, is niet waar, en uitblijvend succes wijten aan een onvoldoende toepassing van agile vind ik bij de haren gesleurd.

Besluit: het boek heeft zeker zijn waarde als een algemene handleiding over agile. Het is zeer volledig en raakt alle aspecten van de agile methode. Maar het leest niet 100% vlot en het kon overzichtelijker. Ik persoonlijk ben op zoek naar een referentiewerk over agile (een boek dat je vast kan nemen als je met een probleem zit en waar je snel en vlot je antwoorden kan vinden); ik heb niet het gevoel dat ik het met dit boek gevonden heb.

Holly says

This book was really repetitive. The concepts were were well presented. A little humor mixed in with material that can be dry helped keep reading fairly light. Real world example helped put the concepts in perspective.

Ben Rand says

We've just implemented Agile Scrum on a project at work, and even within the first sprint, it has been terrific. I thought I'd augment my knowledge with this book and felt it was very good. My only real complaint is that by the end of the book, it felt like it was saying the same things over and over again. The "road map to success" diagram was used at least 3 or 4 different times in the book...I got it after the first time. So it could have been a little more concise by cutting out the repetition, and I would have gotten just as much out of it.

Eddie says

I've purchased many "...for Dummies" books in the past but this is the first one I've actually read cover-to-cover. If you are familiar with the "...for Dummies" series, you know what you're going to get: a nuts and bolts, start with the basics, type of book. Having knowledge of and experience in the traditional waterfall project methodology for software development and delivery, I wanted to learn more about Agile Project Methodology but I wanted to make sure I started with a solid foundation. If your plan is the same as mine, this book fits the bill. It begins with background information (Ch. 1), then the Agile Manifesto and the 12 Agile Principles (Ch. 2) and builds on that each chapter thereafter. Besides the key terms, definitions, project team roles, Agile in practice, etc.... this book delves into topics such as procurement, working with vendors, and project cost and budget considerations specific to Agile projects. If you read from cover-to-cover, you

will notice some repetition in the book; intended for those who use the book as a reference - read a section here, chapter there, skip ahead. I didn't mind it. In fact, I used it to my learning advantage. I feel confident in what I have learned here, so much so, I feel I am ready to move on and tackle heavier Agile-specific topics

Andrew says

Read for a class on Agile Management from Ryerson University in Toronto, Ontario. This book was a good intro to Agile Management and the differences between it and Waterfall/Traditional Project Management. This type of management is excellent for software projects and developing software related plug-ins.

The author talks in depth about Agile and its uses, and tries to sell the reader on using Agile in traditional settings, which I personally disagree with in many ways. However, it is an interesting point, and would do some good in various sectors, including, in my opinion, government ministries at certain levels. A projectized environment that puts stakeholders first and constantly deals with chaotic change benefits from Agile, and this book gives you the nitty-gritty details at a basic level, a la the for Dummies series. A good basic introduction, but with nothing overly special or noteworthy to comment on. Great for a class or for a basic introduction to the subject.

???? ????? says

Note: I read the IBM edition, not this edition. IBM edition is shorter and older!

Not for true dummies, needs some experience in agile, but gives very good review of the topic.

Well structured

I found many topics new to me

Short but enough as a review

Shamelessly, contains too much ads for IBM products, but it is IBM-edition! But on the other side neglects mentioning other strong tools like TFS (but this understandable also, it's a Microsoft product :)

Ana says

It was repetitive and I did not read it cover to cover. It was available from a digital library so it was a convenient way to learn about agile. It had a few good tips I'm not sure I would have learned from a web search, so it was useful.

Aleksei Petrov says

Perfect introduction into agile project management. This book is not so detailed and a little bit repetitive, but it's totally ok.

Jay Waghray says

Does what is says on the box

Alexander Filatov says

For someone already knowledgeable in Scrum and Agile in general, this book does not provide much value other than repetition of the already known. In certain places the book feels like a chase for word count, by re-iterating what's already been said and that makes you want to skip ahead. The book is all about "the perfect scenario", but doesn't dig into the grit of things.

For the complete beginner in Agile, this book is a bit too broad-stroked and might provide some insight into how Agile projects work if you are open-minded enough and have an ability to absorb and understand new concepts by reading a few paragraphs. The book does tell you about concepts that have already been covered or will be covered, but for a beginner reader that would require reading the book twice. Once to just get an idea and twice to jump back and forward among the cross-references within the chapters.

It's a decent read, but I was looking for something more detailed and nitty-gritty.

Lex Redding says

A great introduction to agile project management methodologies.

Steve Walker says

A quick read to grab the concepts of Agile management. The author used some real world examples and had an entertaining writing style which made what could have been a dull book more interesting.

Henk-Jan van der Klis says

Mark C. Layton, known globally as Mr. Agile, is an organizational strategist and PMI certification instructor with over 20 years in the project/program management field. He is the Los Angeles chair for the Agile Leadership Network and is the founder of Platinum Edge, an organizational improvement company that supports businesses making the Waterfall-to-Agile transition. When he isn't overseeing client engagements, Mark is a frequent speaker on extreme programming (XP), lean, scrum, and other agile solutions. In Agile Project Management for Dummies (published in June 2012) Layton defines agile project management approaches and teaches you the steps to execute agile techniques on a project. The material here goes beyond theory and is meant to be a field manual.

Full review will be published later on my blog. I now read the e-book version online at books24x7.com, but I ordered the paperback version due to the high quality of its content!

