

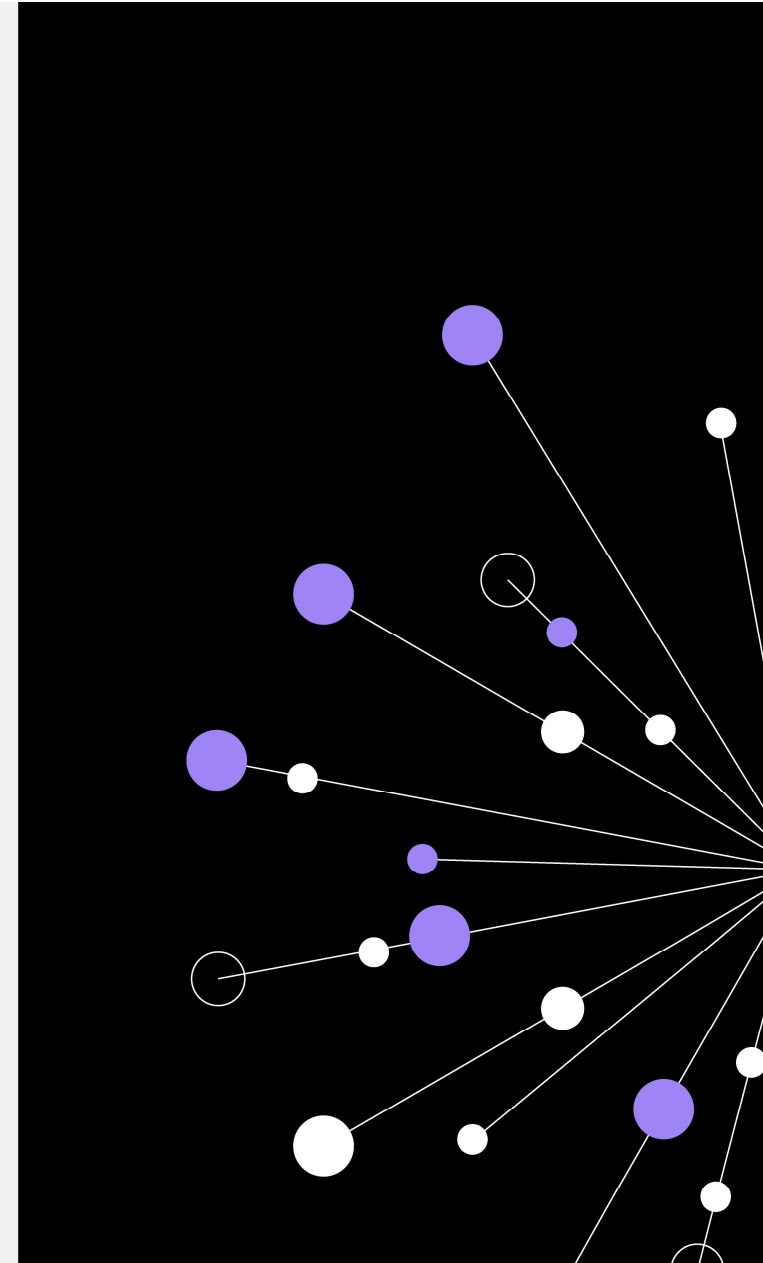
Kanban for continuous delivery

Tony Cotgrave



FAQ's

- Will the session be recorded? – Yes! You will be sent an email to relevant links
- Can we have a copy of the presentation? – Yes! A pdf will be made available www.qa.com/resources/events :-



Learning objectives

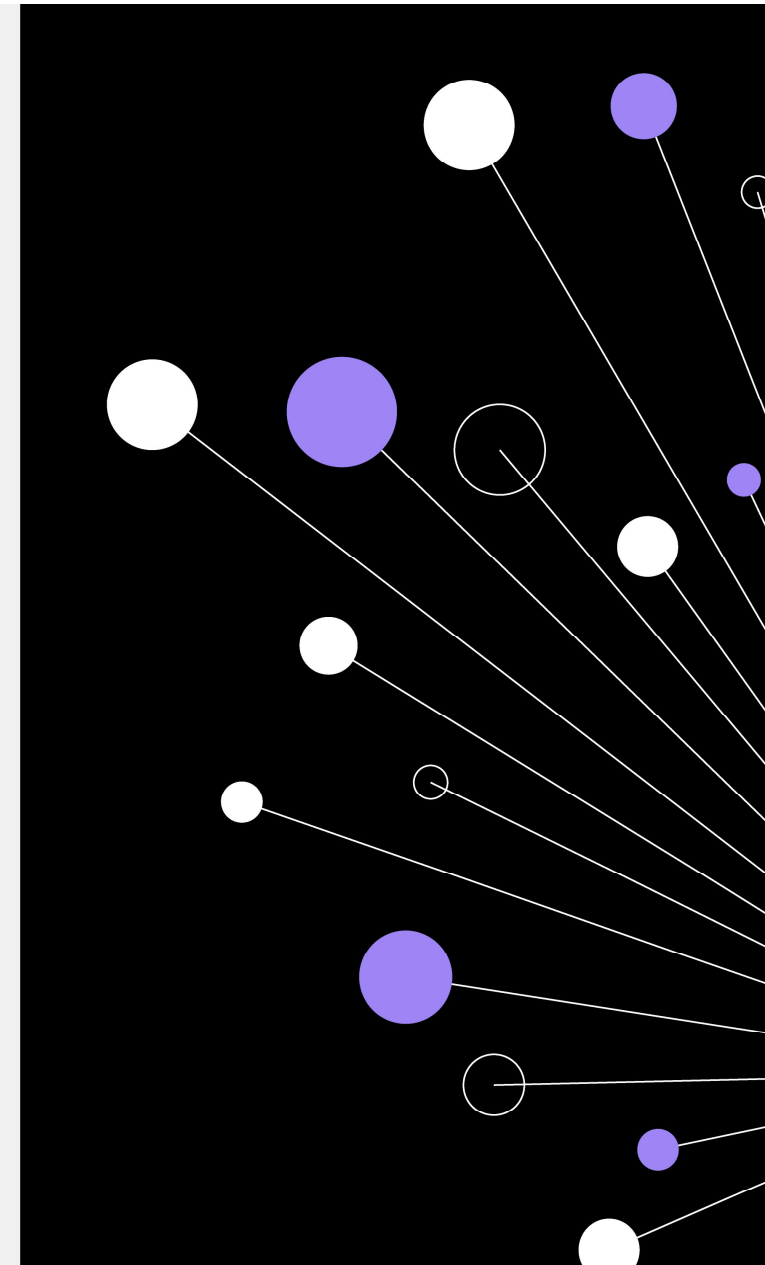
Understand the Core Principles of Kanban – Learn how Kanban supports a smooth, efficient, and predictable flow of work.

Apply the Six Kanban Practices – Explore the key practices that help teams manage work effectively.

Recognise the Benefits of Kanban – Discover how Kanban improves visibility, efficiency, and responsiveness to change.

Compare Kanban and Scrum – Understand the key differences between these two Agile methods and when to use each.

Explore Practical Applications of Kanban – Learn how teams use Kanban across various industries to streamline workflows and enhance delivery.



Kanban Method

The Kanban method is a visual workflow management method rooted in the following values:

- Understanding
- Agreement
- Respect
- Leadership
- Flow
- Customer focus
- Transparency
- Balance
- Collaboration

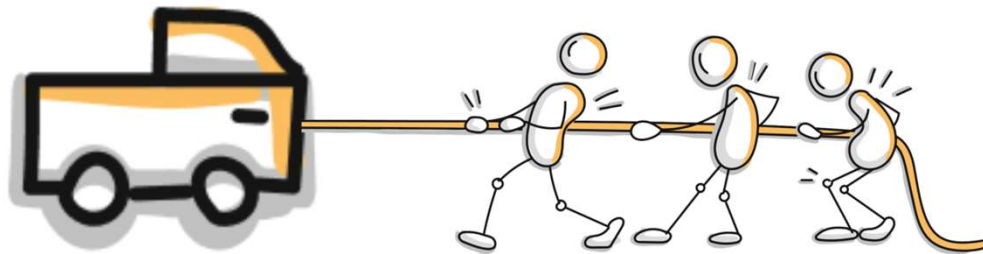


The origin of Kanban



Toyota

"All we are doing is looking at the time line, from the moment the customer gives us an order to the point when we collect the cash. And we are reducing the time line by reducing the non-value adding wastes."
- Taiichi Ohno

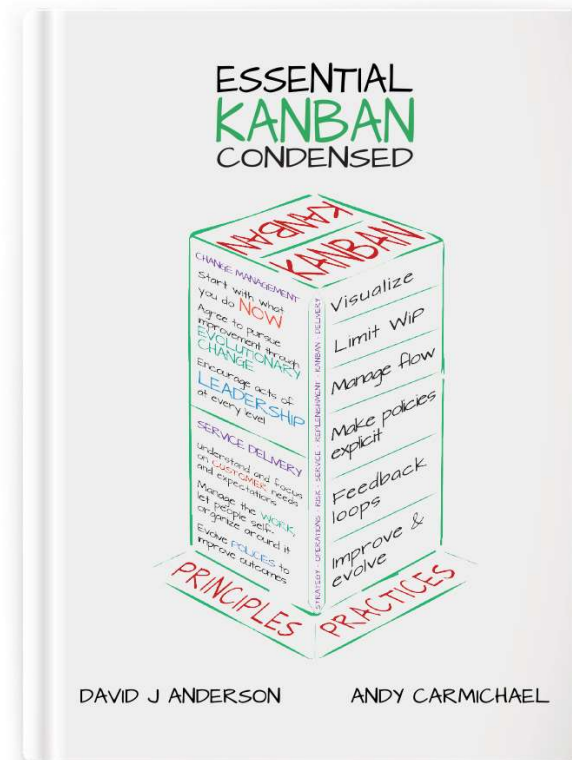
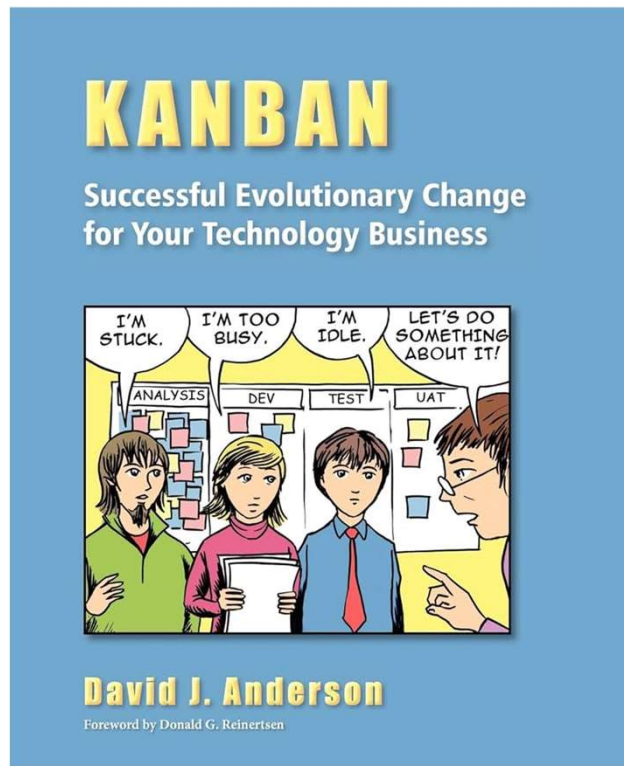


Toyota

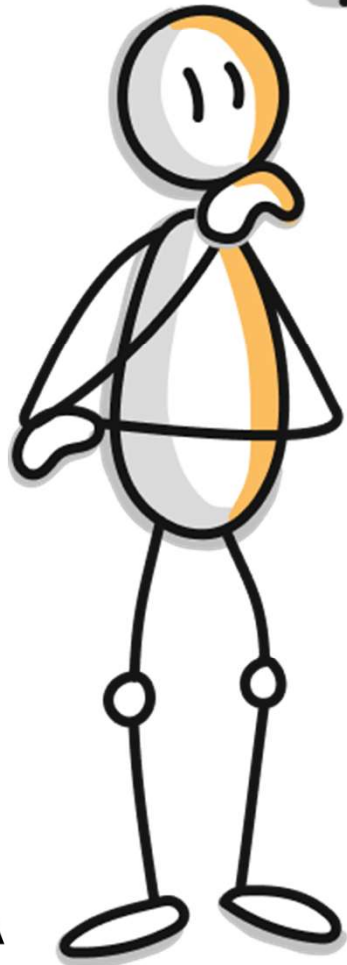


*First we build people,
then we build cars.
- Fujio Cho.*

David J. Anderson



Principles



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Start with what you do now

Agree to pursue improvement through evolutionary change

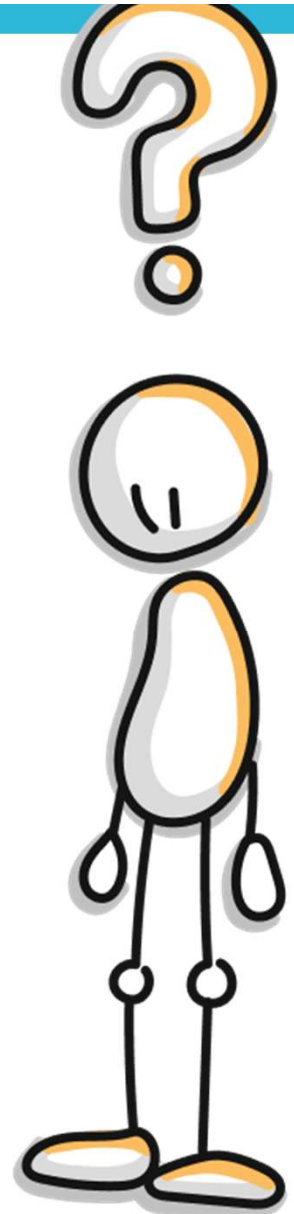
Encourage acts of leadership at every level



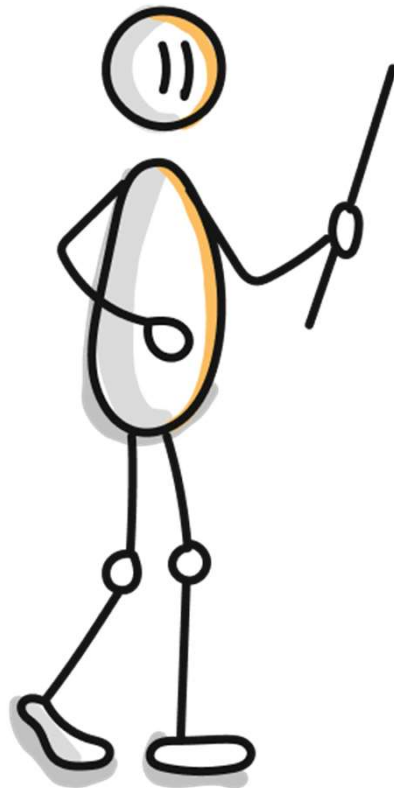
Understand & focus on customer needs and expectations

Manage the work, let people self-organise around it

Policies control service delivery

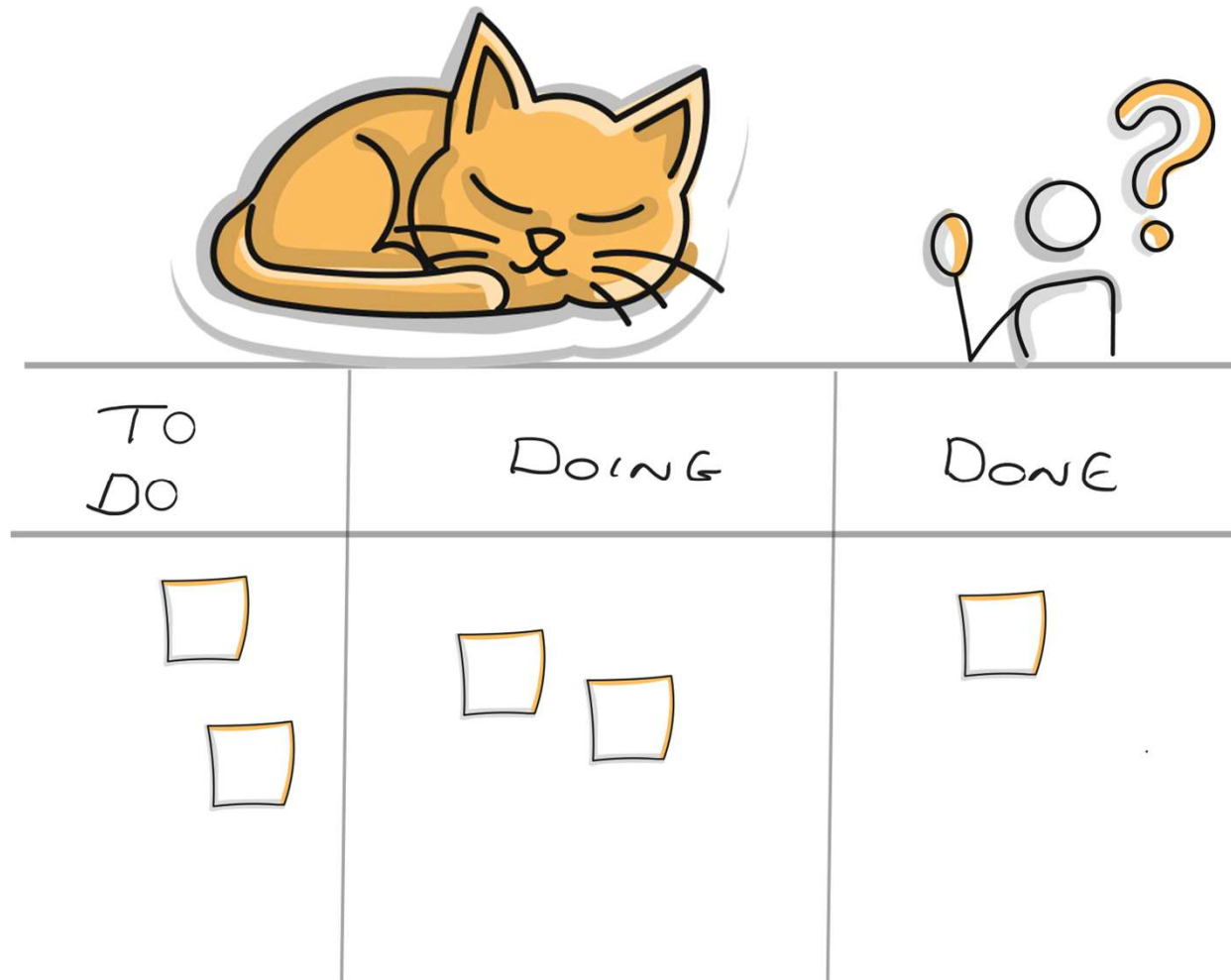


Practices

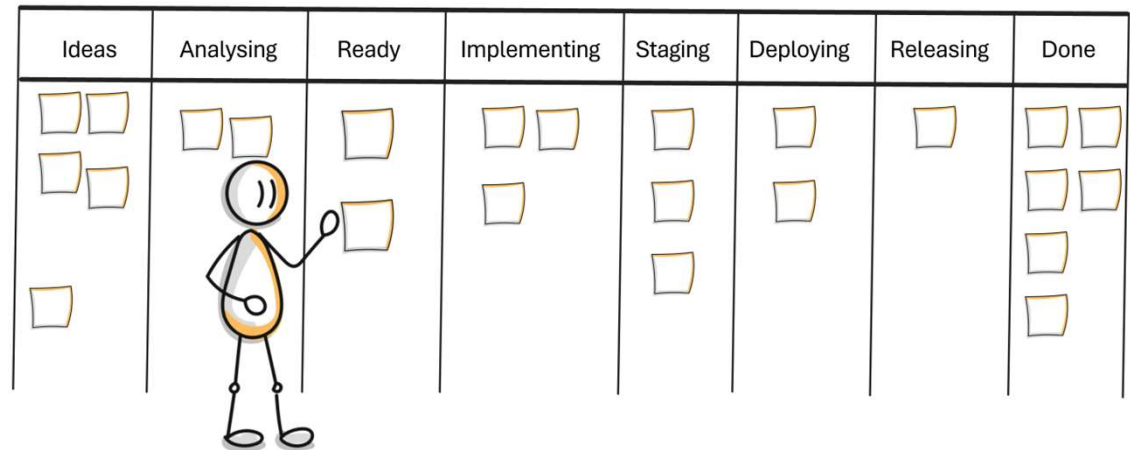
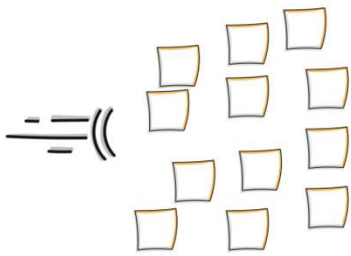


- **Visualize**
- **Limit WIP**
- **Manage flow**
- **Make policies explicit**
- **Feedback loops**
- **Improve & evolve**

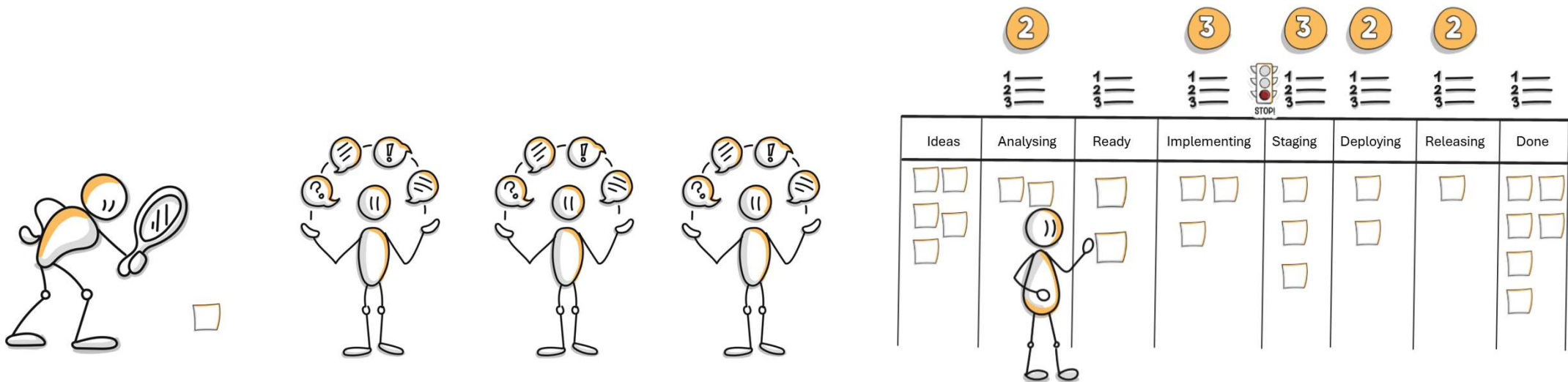
Visualize – a bit boring and does it reflect your workflow?



Visualise



Limit WIP



Manage Flow

The diagram illustrates the relationship between wait time (W), queue size (L), and processing rate (λ).

On the left, the variable W is labeled "Wait time" with a blue arrow pointing up to it. Above W , the text "To decrease" is written in red with a red arrow pointing down towards W .

In the center is an equals sign ($=$).

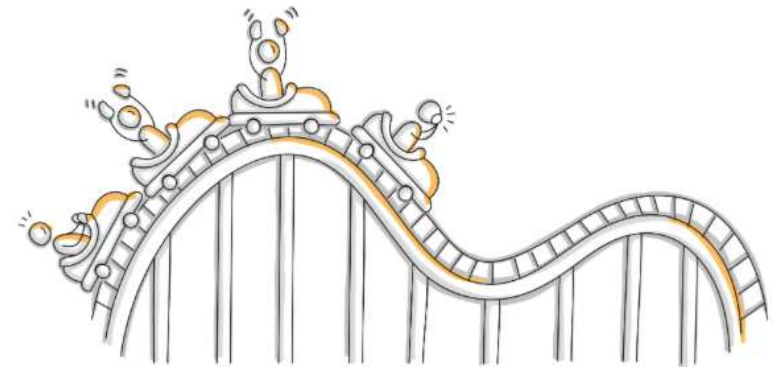
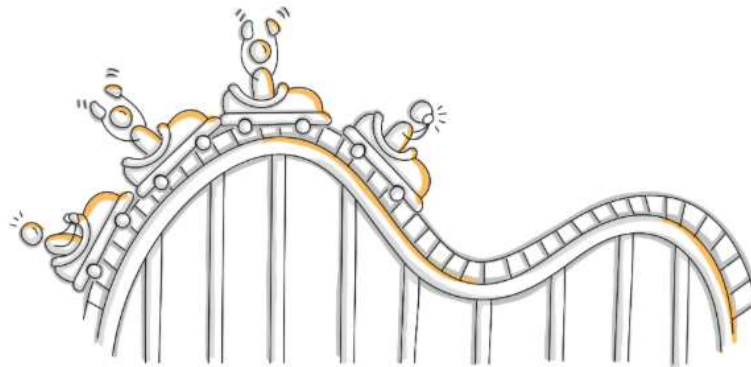
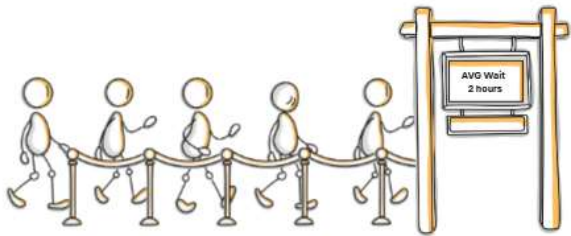
On the right, the formula $\frac{L}{\lambda}$ is shown. Above the numerator L , the text "Queue size" is written in blue with a blue arrow pointing down to L . To the right of L , the text "reduce" is written in red with a red arrow pointing left towards L . Below the denominator λ , the text "Processing rate" is written in blue with a blue arrow pointing up to λ . To the right of λ , the text "AND/OR increase" is written in red with a red arrow pointing left towards λ .

Manage Flow

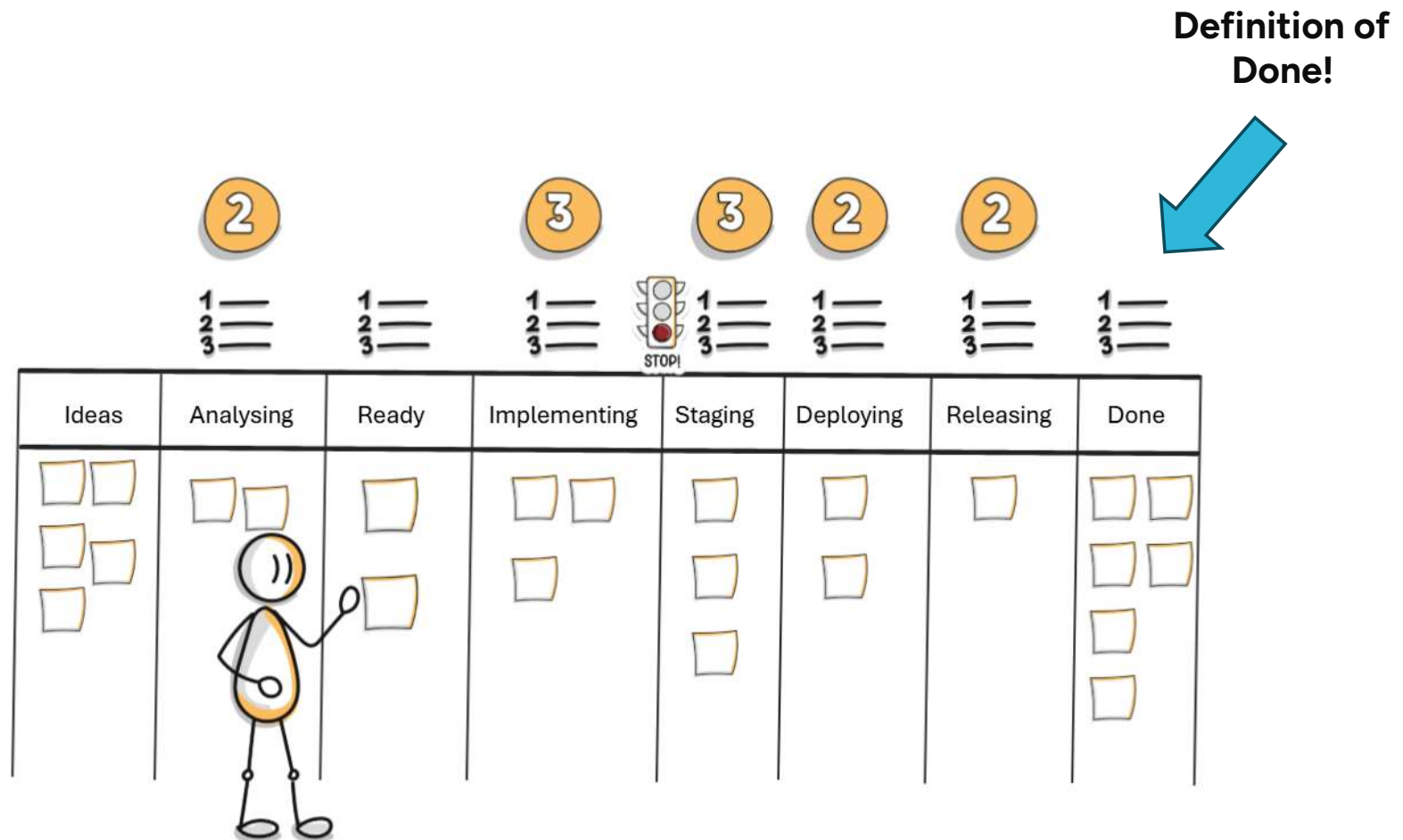


Shorten the queue and/or add another ride

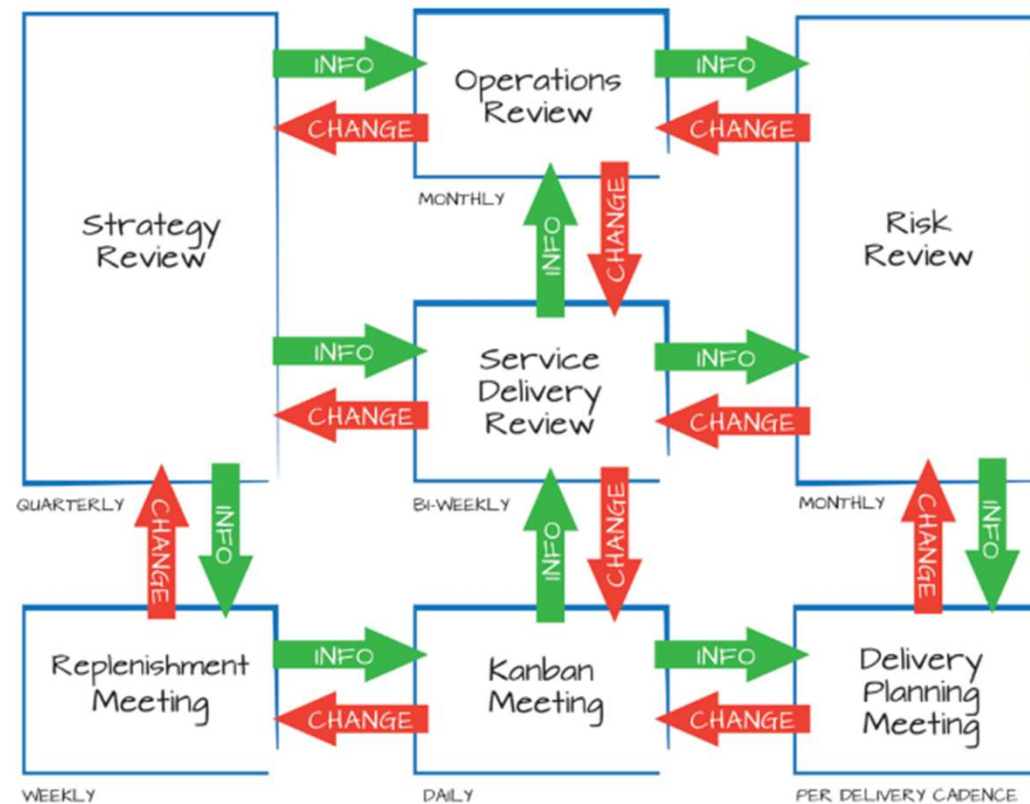
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{To decrease} \\ \downarrow \\ W \\ \uparrow \\ \text{Wait time} \end{array} = \frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{Queue size} \\ L \\ \leftarrow \text{reduce} \end{array}}{\begin{array}{c} \lambda \\ \leftarrow \text{AND/OR increase} \\ \uparrow \\ \text{Processing rate} \end{array}}$$



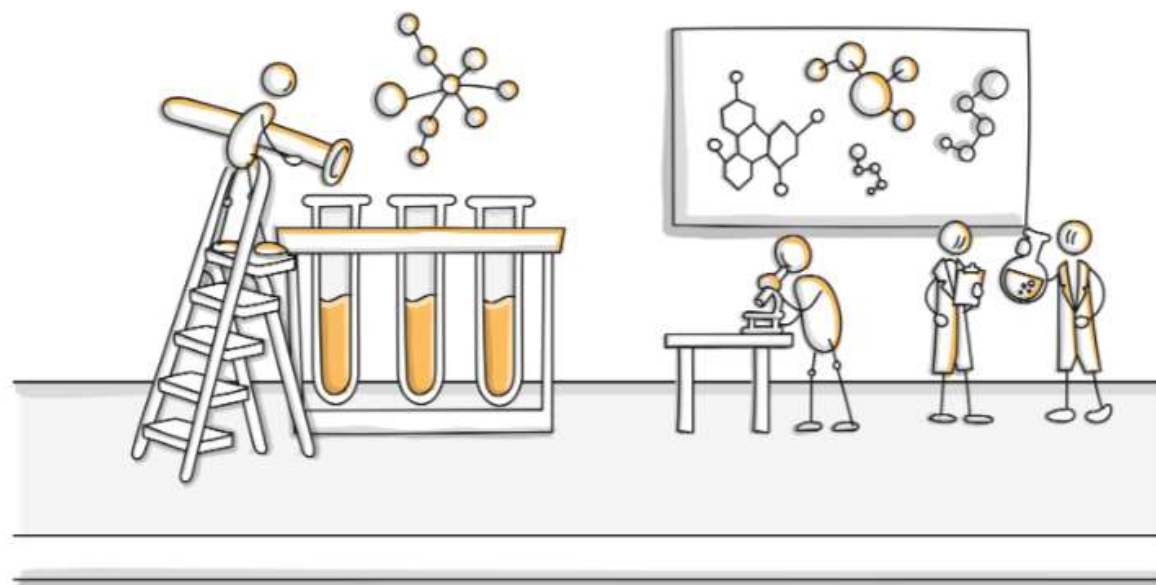
Make policies explicit – entry and exit criteria



Implement feedback loops



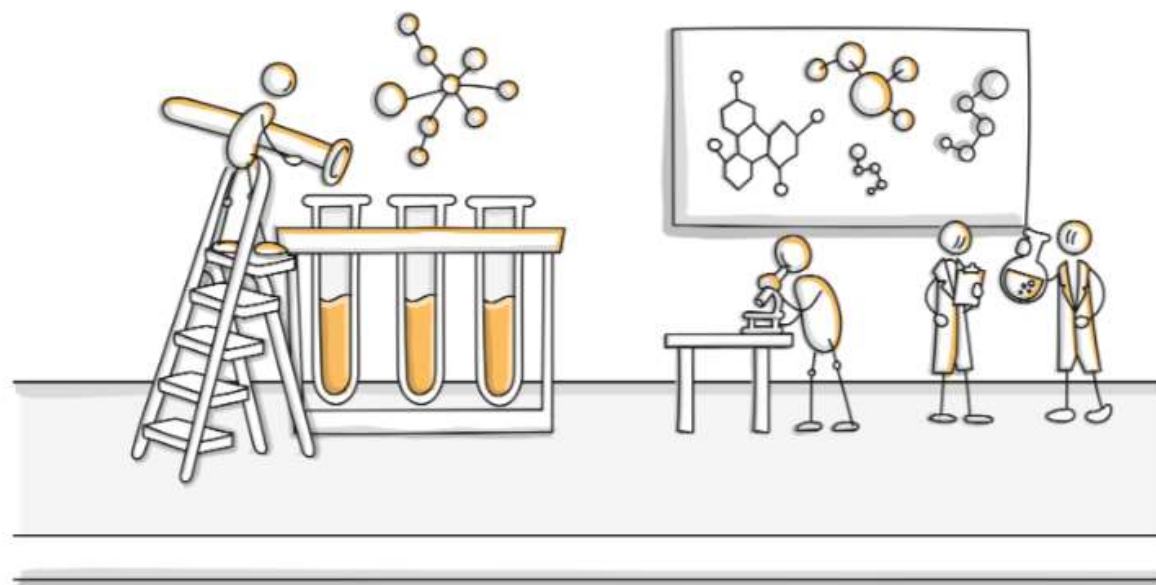
Improve and evolve



Scrum and Kanban

Aspect	Scrum	Kanban
Framework Type	Iterative, with fixed-length sprints	Queue-driven, with continuous flow
Work Limitation	Time-boxed sprints limit work within cycles	WIP (Work-in-Progress) limits per workflow stage
Focus on Delivery	Deliver a usable increment by the end of each sprint	Continuous delivery without defined intervals
Roles	Product Owner, Scrum Master, Developers	Flexible; does not specify roles
Structure	Organised around sprints and events	Continuous workflow with no set phases
Best For	Complex projects requiring regular adaptation	Teams managing a steady flow of work
Applicability	Projects with evolving requirements needing frequent feedback	Service-oriented or operational workflows

Improve and evolve





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Training courses you may be interested in

Practicing The Art of Kanban (QAPAKB)

Professional Scrum with Kanban (QAPSK)

Practicing Kanban Using Azure Boards (QAPKAB)



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**23rd July 2025 | 11:00am - 12:00pm
GMT | 6am - 7am EST**