PROJECT MANAGEMENT

QuickStart Guide

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What Is a Project?

fig. 1

WHAT SEPARATES A PROJECT FROM A PROCESS?



fig. 2

PROJECT/PROCESS CONTINUUM

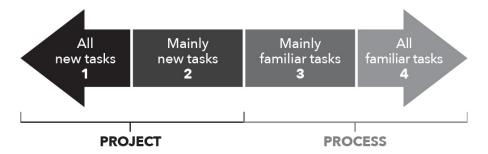
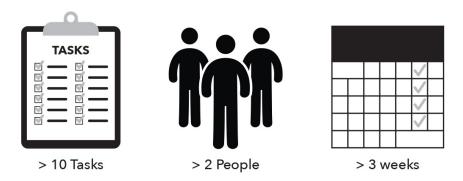


fig. 3

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEST



- Does your project have more than ten tasks?
- Does your project involve more than two people?
- Does your project need more than three weeks to complete?

Project Management Methodologies

fig. 4

MAIN METHODOLOGIES PMI PMBOK, PRINCE2, and Agile			
Some of the tools included in PMBOK	Some of the Agile methodology terms (and there are many more than this!)		
 Gantt charts Critical Path Method (CPM) Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT) Project initiation document (PID) Work breakdown structure (WBS) Product breakdown structure (PBS) Critical tasks Floating tasks and float End-to-start dependencies (also start-to-start, end-to-end, and start-to-end) 	 Acceptance Test-Driven Development (ATDD) Adaptive Project Framework (APF) Anti-pattern Backlog Burndown chart Cadence Definition of Done (DoD) Extreme Programming (XP) Kanban New Product Introduction (NPI) Outcome mapping Package Enabled Reengineering (PER) 		
Methodologies related to Project Management LEAN: Associated more with processes than projects, but very	 Planning Poker Product backlog Product owner Rapid Application Development (RAD) Release train 		
 CRITICAL CHAIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT: A variation of the critical path method, suggested by Eliyahu Goldratt 	 Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) Scrum Scrumban Sprint Story mapping 		
SIX SIGMA: Associated more with quality management than project management	 T-shirt sizing Test-Driven Development (TDD) Timebox User story Velocity Waterfall 		

This table displays the daunting array of approaches.

fig. 5 THE EVOLUTION OF **PROJECT MANAGEMENT** PROJECT MANAGEMENT **KNOWLEDGE** KNOWLEDGE Internet ← Computers + **PMI** started • Gantt Charts **PMBOK** 1910 1930 1950 1970 1990 2010 The Pyramids **TIME**

COMPONENT PARTS OF PRINCE2

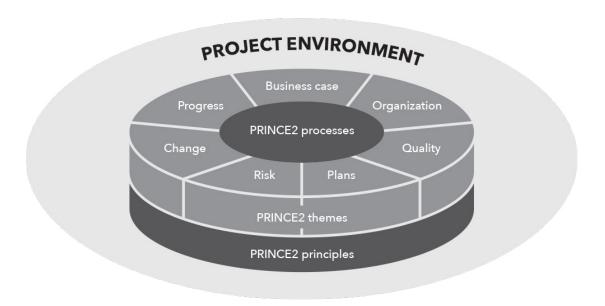


fig. 7

	РМВОК	PRINCE2	AGILE
Define the project and agree to start	Yes	Very thorough	Not done
2. List the tasks	Yes	Yes	Yes
3. Estimate the costs and times	Yes	Not covered	A bit
Dependencies and critical path	Yes	Not covered	No
5. Speed up the plan	Yes	Not covered	All the time
6. Gantt Chart	Yes	Not covered	No
7. Plan resources	Yes	Not covered	All the time but only short-term
8. Plan for risks	Yes	Yes	Might do
9. Monitor progress against plan	Yes	Yes	All the time except there isn't a plan
10. Monitor costs and forecast total	Yes	Not covered	Constantly changing
11. Replan when necessary	Yes	Probably	Doing this all the time
12. Review	Yes	Very thorough	Yes

fig. 8

WHEN TO USE PMBOK LITE	WHEN TO USE AGILE
Fairly or very clear spec at the start	Spec is unclear
Spec can be agreed on at the start with only small changes, or definite separate initial scoping phase or definite second "final adjustments" phase	Customer won't know spec till after one or more phases — iterative design process
Times and costs are estimate-able within a range	Task times and costs cannot be listed or estimated
Fixed budget and/or fixed timescale which must be achieved	Budget and timescale are not strongly defined
Most parts of the project depend on others so things have to be done in the right order	Tasks / deliverables are parallel — minimal dependencies
Plan is going to change only by small amounts in a controlled way (signed for)	Plan is going to change a lot
PM is taking the risk – price is fixed, or increases will have to be negotiated	Customer accepts the risk and is prepared to pay for it
Large projects where cost forecasting is vital	Cost is low — doubling it won't be significant
Projects which have to be done correctly from the start – later changes are much more expensive, e.g. construction	Software projects where fundamental changes can be made at any time
When you don't want a poor prototype to tarnish your reputation	When you need to get a prototype out quickly
When the whole job needs to be delivered in one successful lump, fully working from day 1	When it's OK to deliver the job in parts, starting with the key parts ASAP

Define the Project - Step 1

fig. 9

THE IRON TRIANGLE

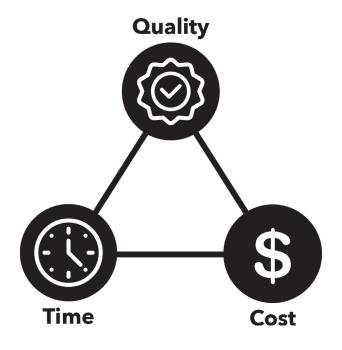
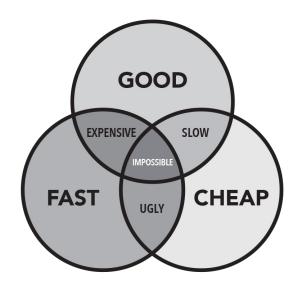


fig. 10

PROJECT TRADE-OFFS



QC. 1

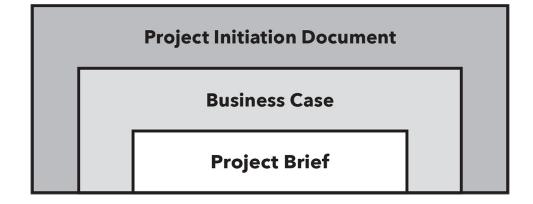


QC. 2



fig. 11

THREE LEVELS OF APPROVAL



List the Tasks - Step 2

fig. 12

DELIVERABLE-BASED WBS FOR BUILDING A HOUSE

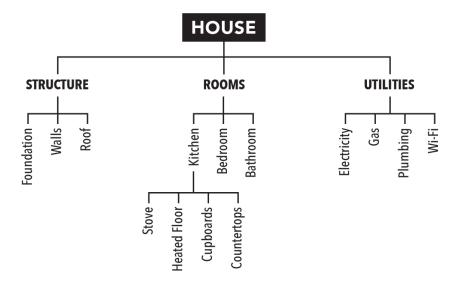
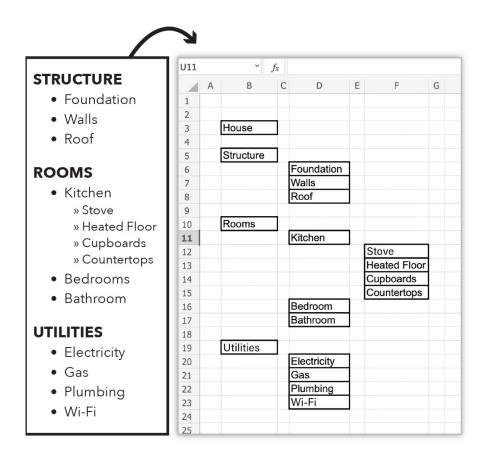


fig. 13



PHASE-BASED WBS FOR BUILDING A HOUSE

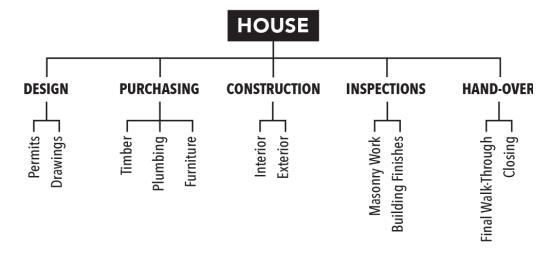


fig. 15

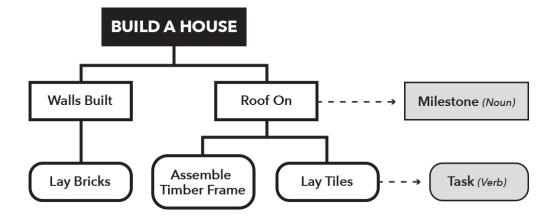
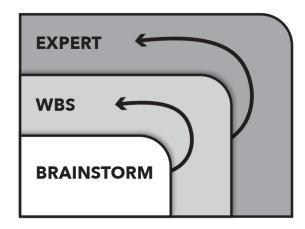


fig. 16

METHODS FOR ENSURING YOUR TASK LIST IS COMPLETE



OPTION 1:

SPLITTING TASKS BY EXTRA GRANULARITY

Painting			
	Fit carpets		
•			
Paint rooms to be carpeted	Paint other rooms		
	Fit carpets		

fig. 18

OPTION 2:

SPLITTING TASKS BY EXTRA GRANULARITY

Pain	nting		
Fit carpets			
•			
Painting			
	Fit underlay	Fit carpets	





Set the Running Order - Step 3

QC. 4



fig. 19 **SETTING THE**

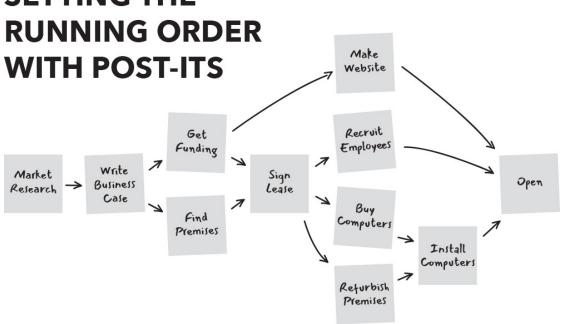


fig. 20 RUNNING ORDER THAT'S TOO LINEAR

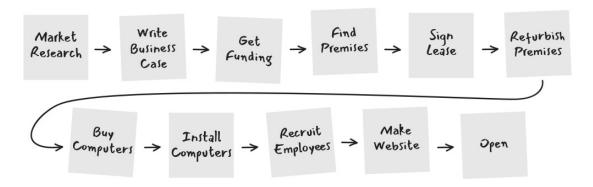


fig. 21 RUNNING ORDER THAT'S TOO PARALLEL

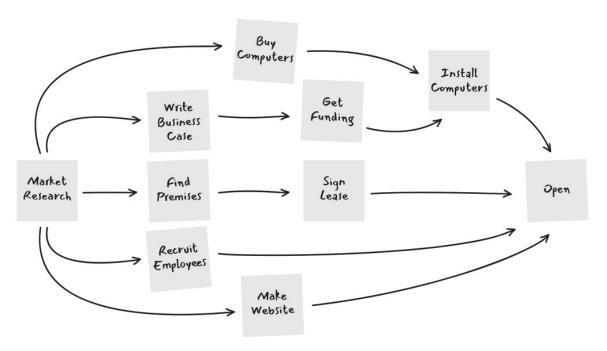


fig. 22 BRANCHING FOR A PUBLISHING PROJECT

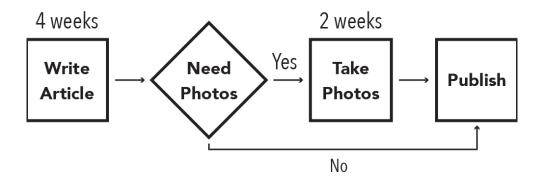


fig. 23

FLOW DIAGRAM INFINITE LOOP

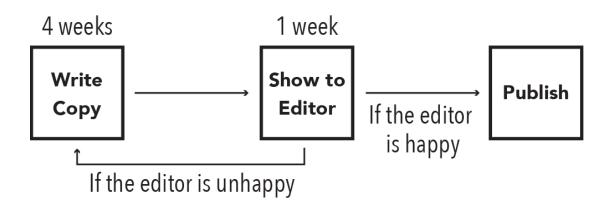
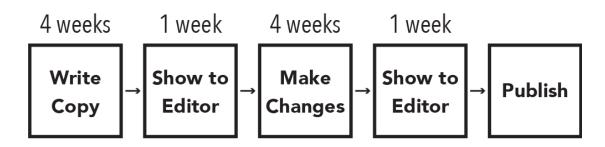


fig. 24

CUTTING THE LOOP



QC. 5

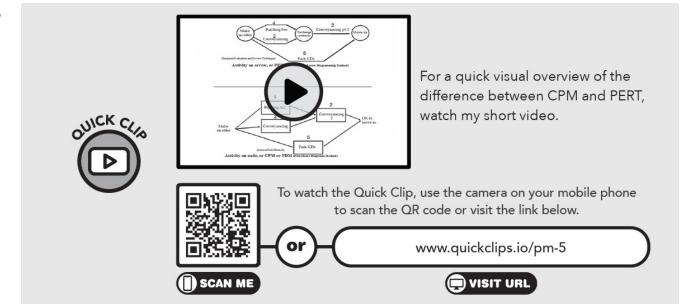


fig. 25

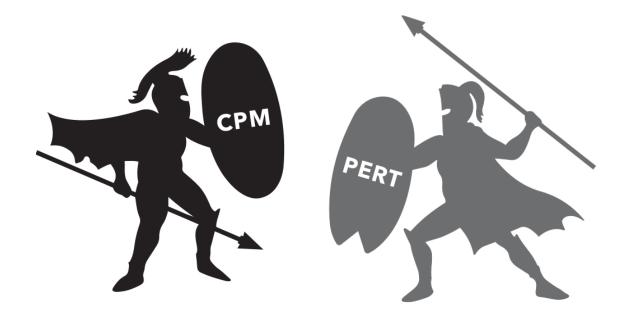
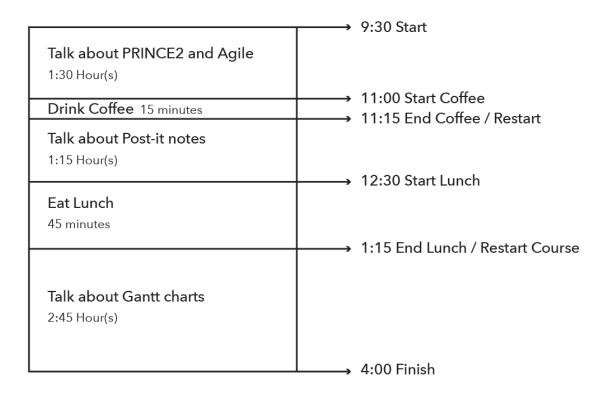


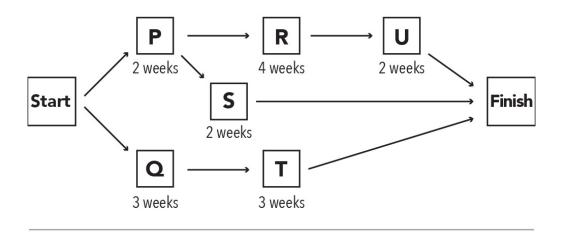
fig. 26

EXAMPLE OF TRAINING DAY AS A MIX OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

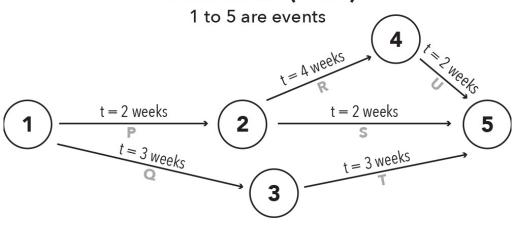


CRITICAL PATH METHOD (CPM)

P to U are activities



PROJECT EVALUATION AND REVIEW TECHNIQUE (PERT)



QC. 6

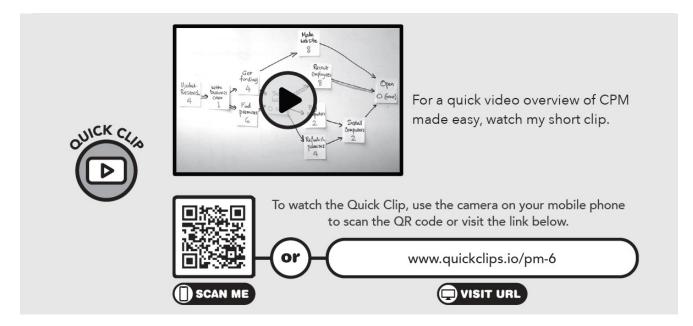


fig. 28 NEW BUSINESS PROJECT USING CPM

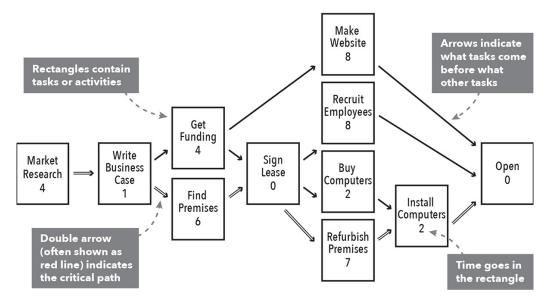


fig. 29 NEW BUSINESS PROJECT USING PERT

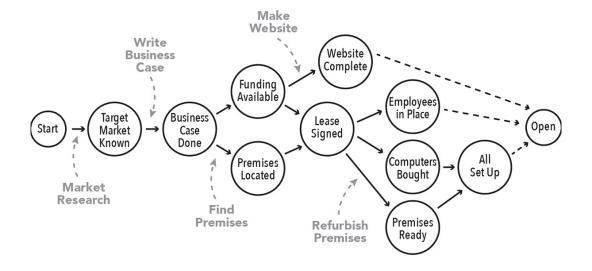


fig. 30 EVENT FOCUS CAN BE ILLOGICAL



fig. 31

PERT USING A START OR FINISH PROTOCOL

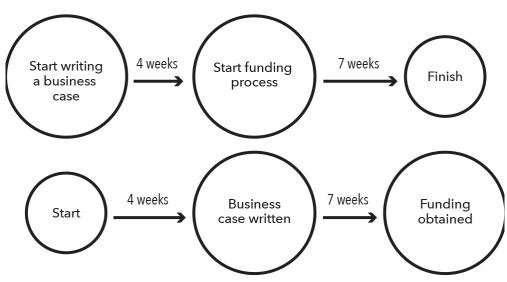


fig. 32 ACTIVITY-FOCUSED CPM IS MORE LOGICAL

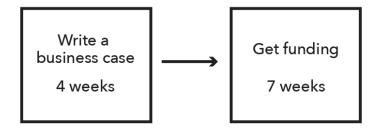


fig. 33

DEPENDENCIES SHOWN IN CPM

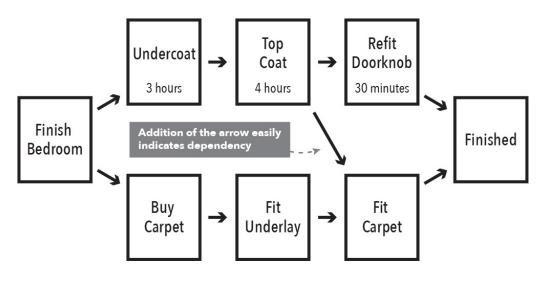


fig. 34 **DEPENDENCIES SHOWN IN PERT**

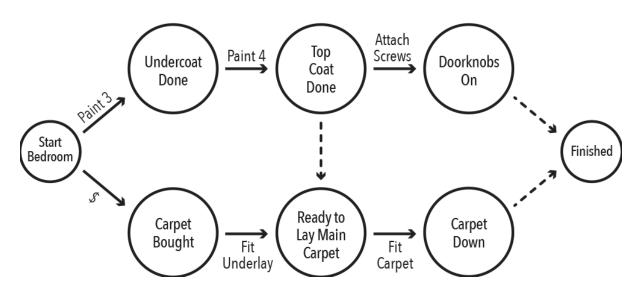


fig. 35

EASY WAY TO ADD AN EVENT TO A CPM DIAGRAM

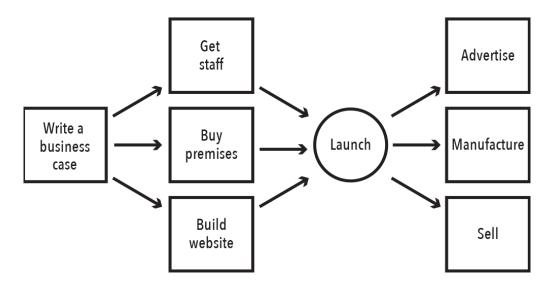


fig. 36

PERT	СРМ	
Circles show events	Rectangles show activities	
Activities are on the arrows	Arrows show what comes before what	
Time goes on the arrows	Time goes in the boxes	

fig. 37 ANARCHY OF MIXED METHODOLOGIES

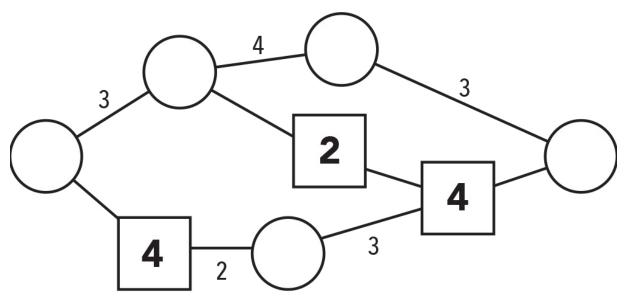
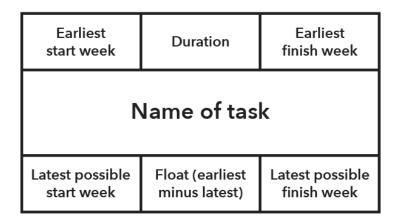


fig. 38 CPM RECTANGLE ACTIVITY BOXES GONE MAD



Put Estimates on the Tasks - Step 4

fig. 39

JOURNEY HOME BELL CURVE

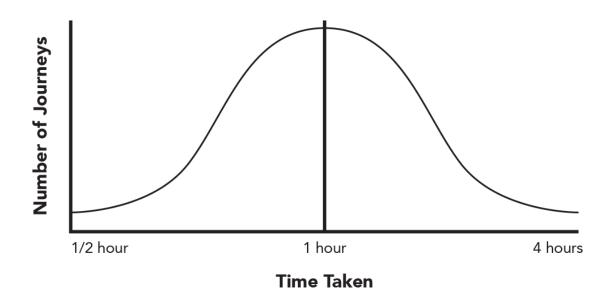


fig. 40

A WORK EXAMPLE

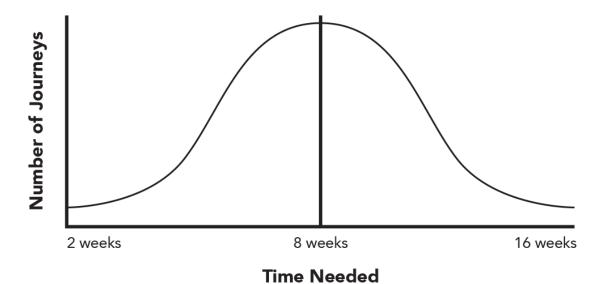


fig. 41 TWO TYPES OF TIME

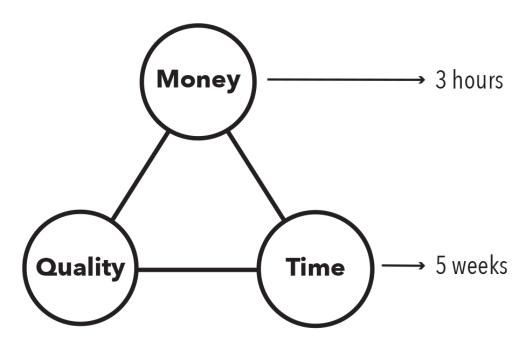
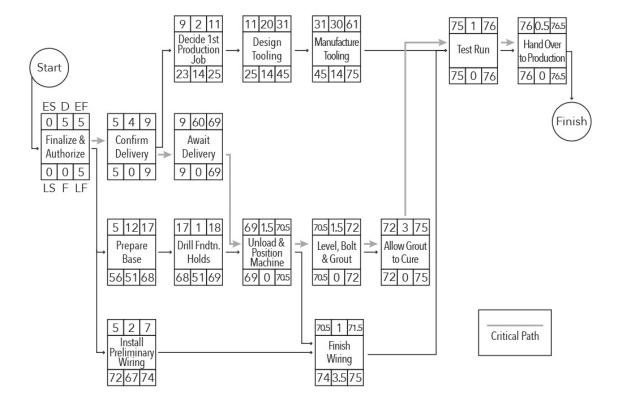


fig. 42 COMPLEX CRITICAL PATH EXAMPLE 1



COMPLEX CRITICAL PATH EXAMPLE 2

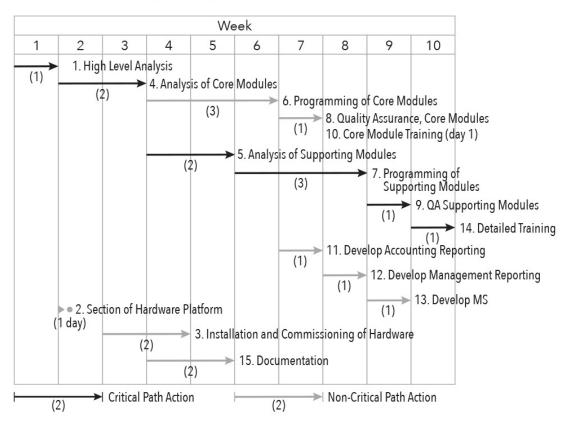
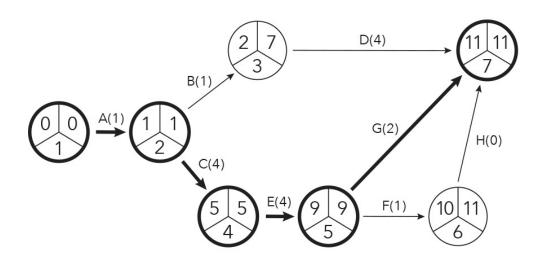


fig. 44 COMPLEX CRITICAL PATH EXAMPLE 3



FIND THE CRITICAL PATH

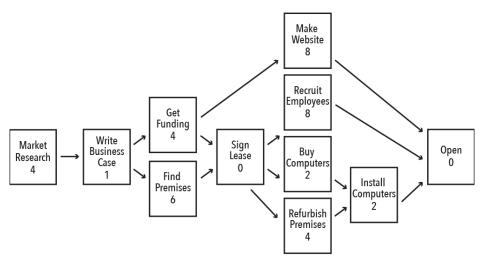


fig. 46

CORRECT CRITICAL PATH

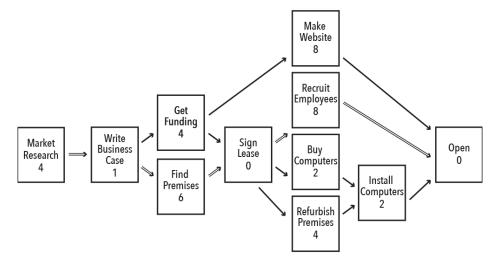


fig. 47

TWO CRITICAL PATHS

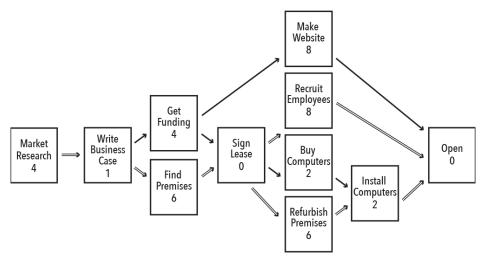


fig. 48

HALF THE DIFFERENCE METHOD

(Ideal Contingency)

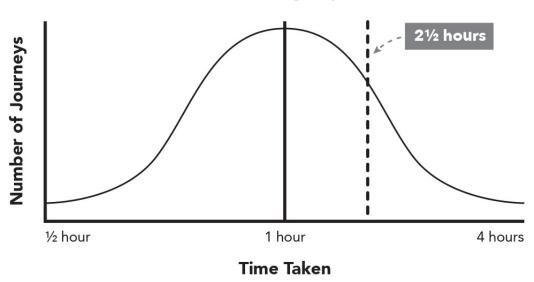
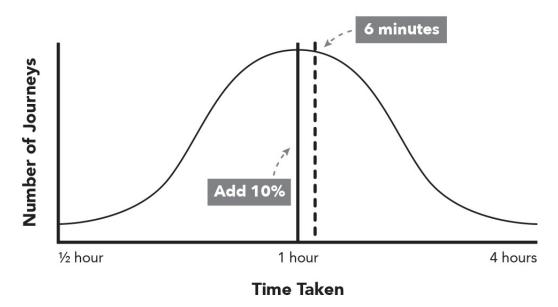


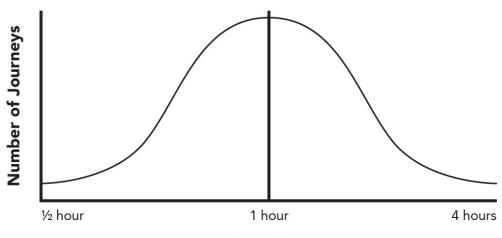
fig. 49

10 PERCENT METHOD





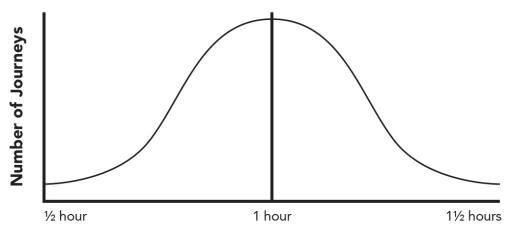
1:4:1 **METHOD**



Predicted Journey Time = 1 hour and 25 minutes

fig. 51

1:4:1 METHOD FOR SYMMETRICAL DISTRIBUTION



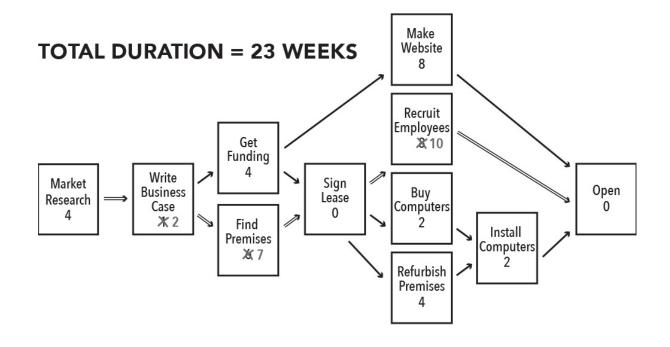
Predicted Journey Time = 1 hour

The calculation has added no contingency!

fig. 52

CALCULATING CONTINGENCY			
TASK	CURRENT	WORST CASE	EXTRA ADDED
MARKET RESEARCH	4	4	0
BUSINESS CASE	1	2	1
FIND PREMISES	6	10	4
SIGN LEASE (event)	0	0	0
RECRUIT EMPLOYEES	8	11	3
TOTAL	19	27	8





Crash the Plan - Step 5

fig. 54

SPREAD CONTINGENCY ALONG THE CRITICAL PATH

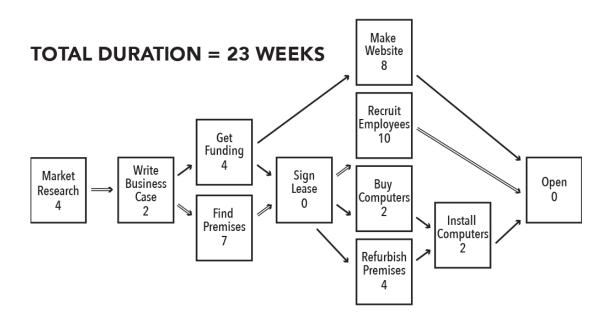


fig. 55

DOES CRASHING YOUR PLAN CREATE A NEW CRITICAL PATH?

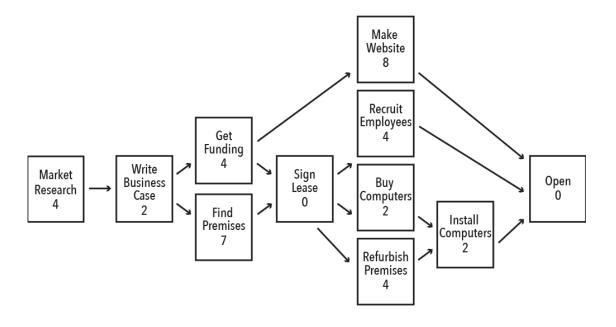
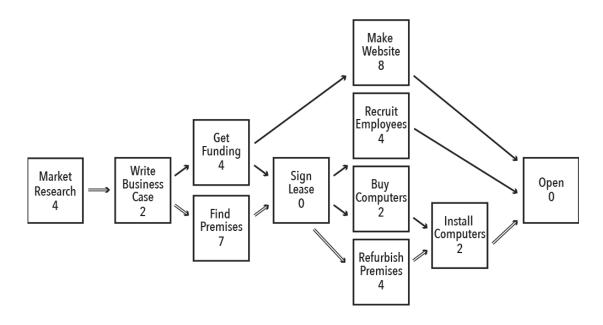


fig. 56

YES, CRASHING THE PLAN CREATES A NEW CRITICAL PATH



Gantt Charts - Step 6

fig. 57

SIMPLE GANTT CHART

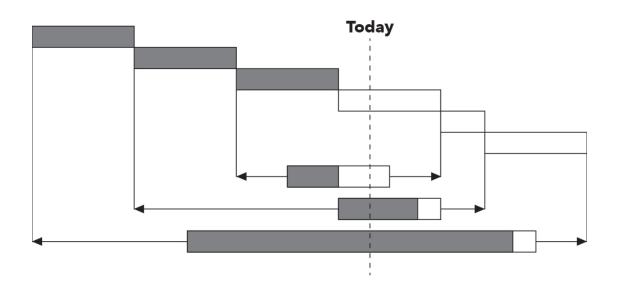
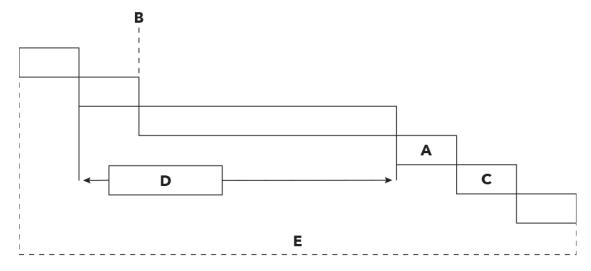


fig. 58 GANTT CHARTS IMPROVE COMMUNICATION



- $\mathbf{A} = Your task$
- ${f B}={\sf Key}$ date when something has been promised, e.g. decision, access, or approval to go ahead
- **C** = "Your task is critical, don't let it run late."
- \mathbf{D} = "There is some float on your task, so you have some choice about when you do it."
- \mathbf{E} = "This is why the project takes this long."

GANTT CHARTS HELP TO BETTER MANAGE RESOURCES

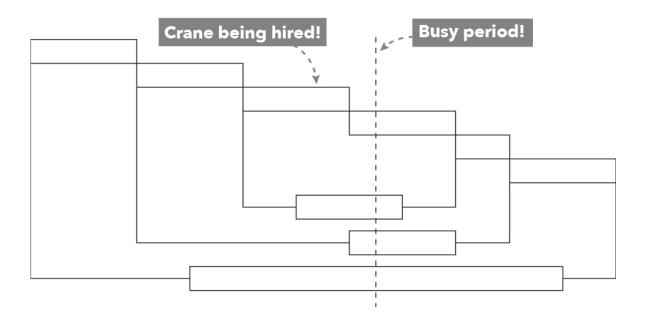
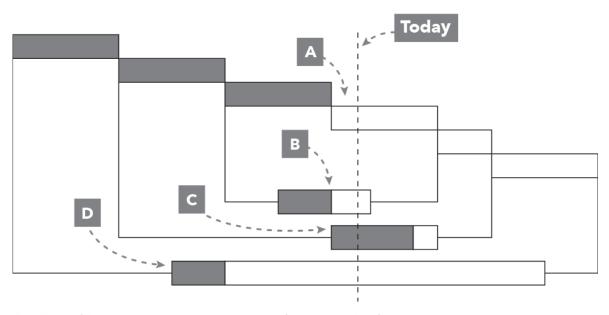


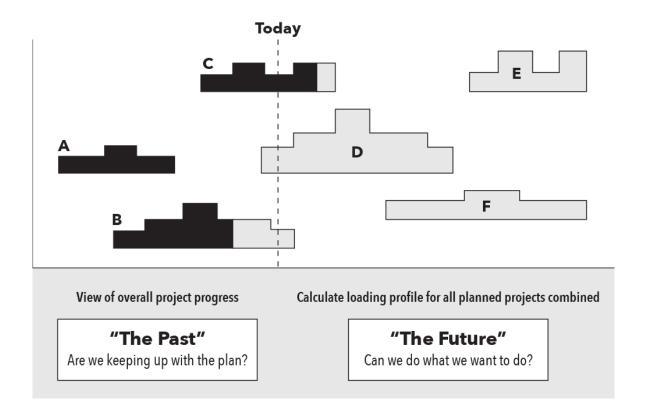
fig. 60

GANTT CHARTS HELP TO MONITOR PROGRESS



- \mathbf{A} = This task is not started yet, so we are running late on the critical path.
- **B** = We're running late on a floating task, but there's just enough time to get it done before the deadline.
- **C** = We are ahead on this task.
- **D** = We're badly behind schedule on this floating task. It could cause the whole project to be delivered late.

GANTT OF GANTTS







RUNNING ORDER FOR SETTING UP NEW BUSINESS PROJECT

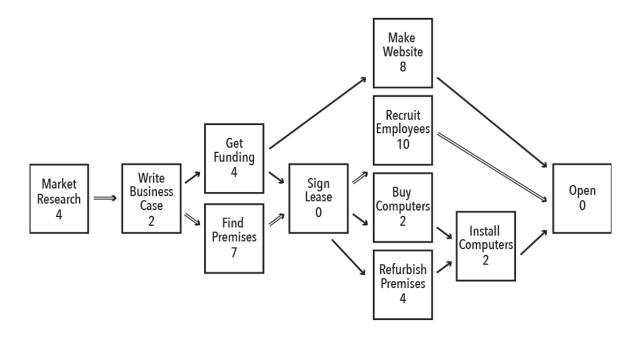


fig. 63

LIST ALL THE TASKS

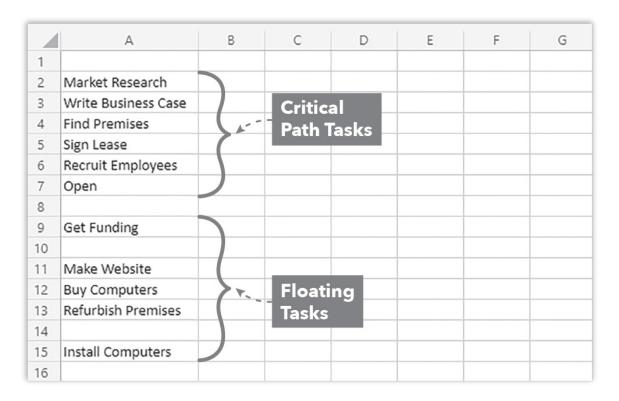


fig. 64 ADD THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT ALONG THE TOP

1	A	В	С	D	E	F	G		X
1		1	2	3	4	5	6		23
2	Market Research								
3	Write Business Case								
4	Find Premises								
5	Sign Lease								
6	Recruit Employees								
7	Open								
8									
9	Get Funding							•••	
10									
11	Make Website								
12	Buy Computers								
13	Refurbish Premises								
14									
15	Install Computers								
16									

fig. 65

CONDITIONAL FORMATTING TO ADD THE COLOR

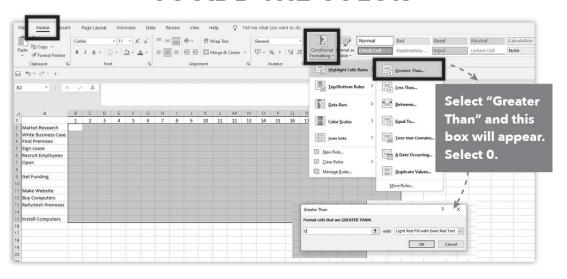
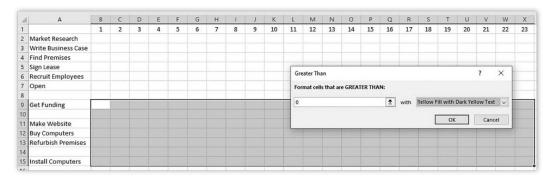


fig. 66

CHANGE COLOR FOR FLOATING TASKS



CRITICAL PATH TASKS COMPLETE

1	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J	K	L	M	N	0	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
2	Market Research	1	1	1	1																			
3	Write Business Case					1	1																	
4	Find Premises							1	1	1	1	1	1	1										
5	Sign Lease																							
6	Recruit Employees														1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	Open																							

fig. 68

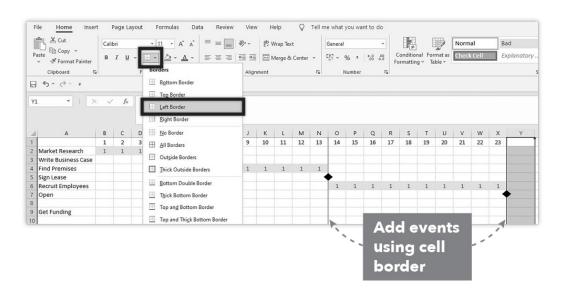
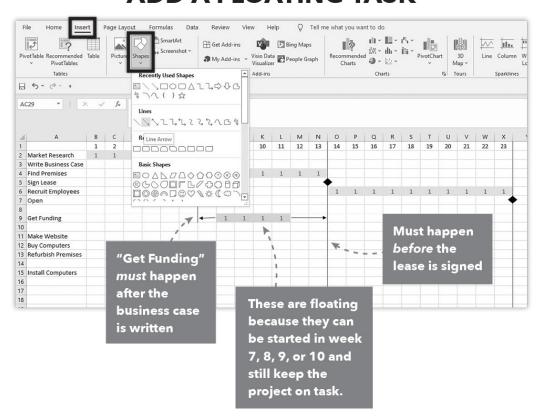


fig. 69

ADD A FLOATING TASK



COMPLETE THE FLOATING TASKS

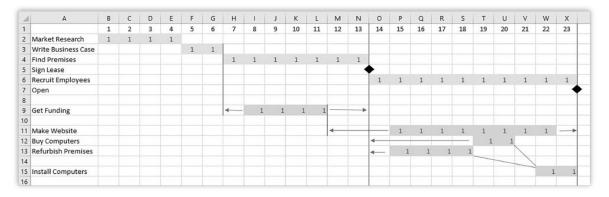


fig. 71

FLOATING TASKS HANGING OFF OTHER FLOATING TASKS

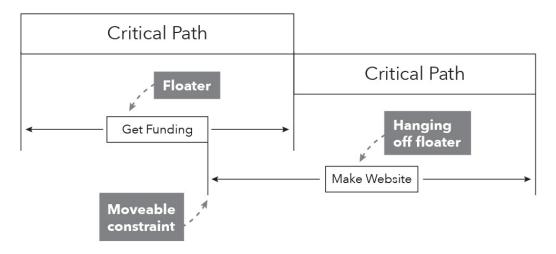
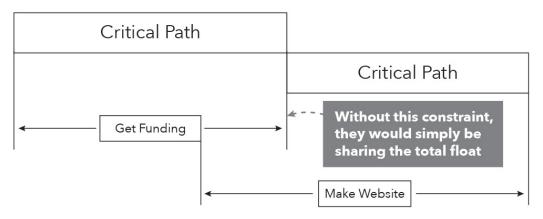


fig. 72

IT'S THE MIDDLE CONSTRAINT THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE



DATE FORMAT AND ALIGNMENT

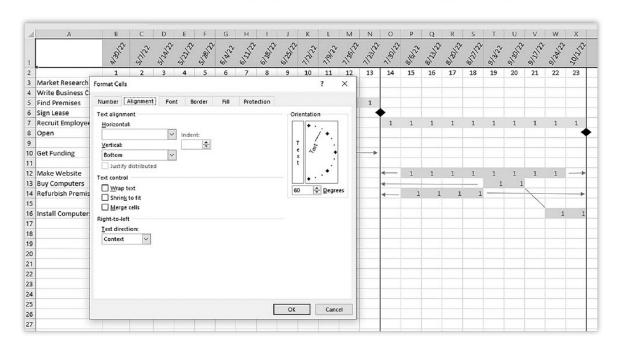
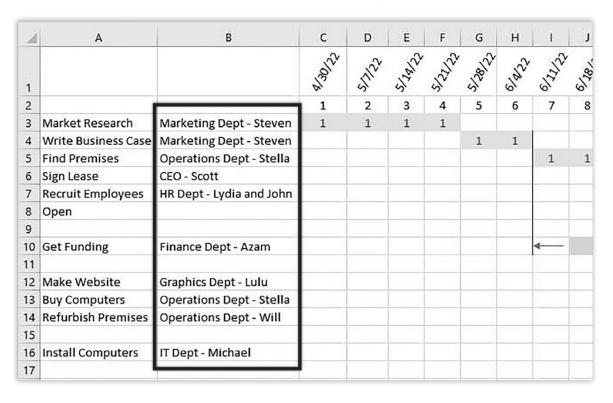


fig. 74 ASSIGN TASKS TO PEOPLE/DEPARTMENTS



CALCULATE BUSY TIMES

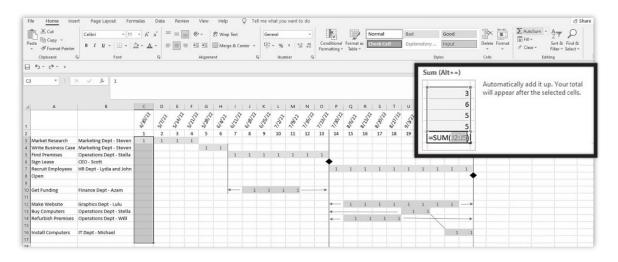


fig. 76

BUSY TIMES ACROSS THE WHOLE PROJECT

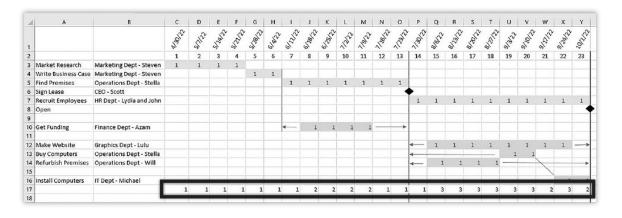
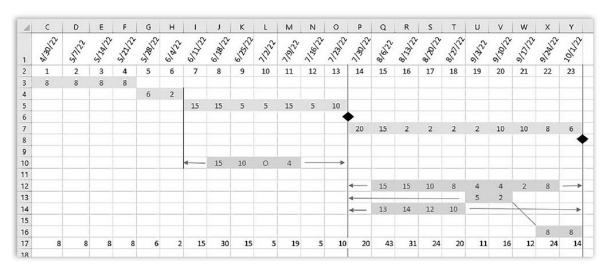


fig. 77

ADD HOURS TO TASKS



CREATE A LOAD GRAPH

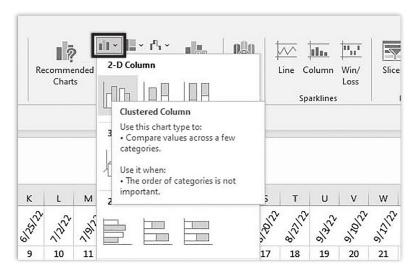


fig. 79

LOAD GRAPH IMMEDIATELY HIGHLIGHTS ISSUES

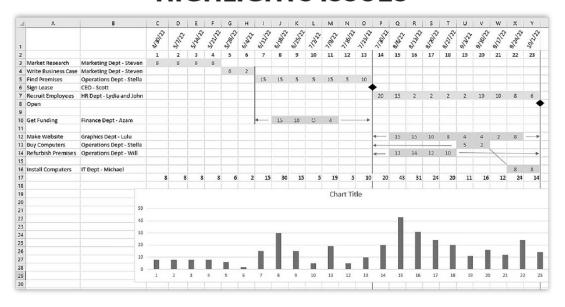
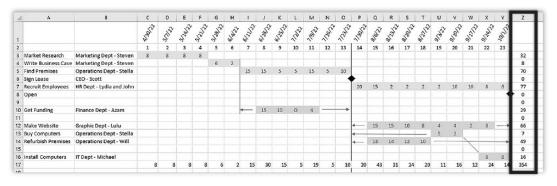
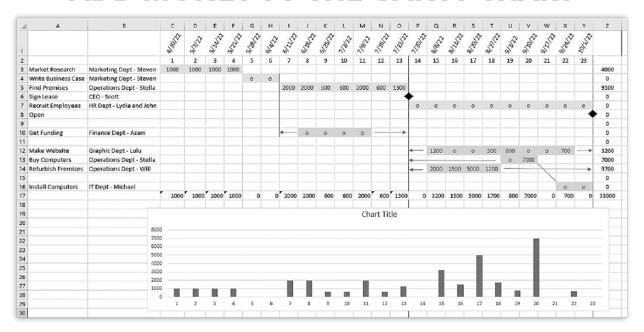


fig. 80

CALCULATE TIME FOR EACH TASK



ADD MONEY TO THE GANTT CHART



QC. 8



fig. 82

GANTT CHART WITH NO CRITICAL PATH

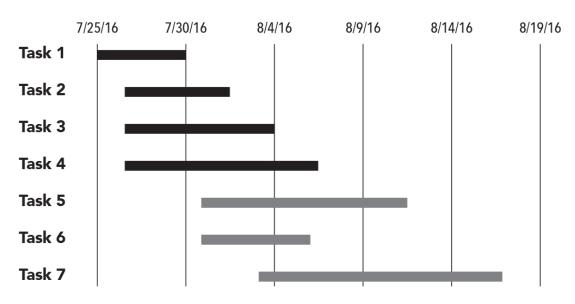


fig. 83



NOT AS NEAT

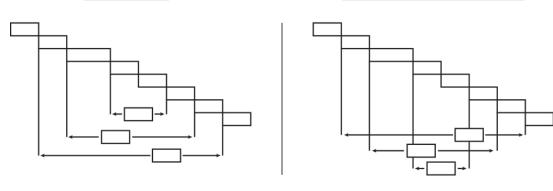


fig. 84

ONE BIG TASK

4	A	В	С	D	Ε	F	G	Н	-1	J	K	L	М	N	0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	V	W	Х
1		No. No.	21/2	Stall	SIN	SIRIC	992	PAN	Paly	SAL	1/2/2	1/8/22	1/2/2	1/3/2	1/8/2	9/9/2	9/3/2	Plans	8/1/2	9/3/2	9/1/2	0/4/2	STATE	PILO
2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3	Task 1	1	1																					
4	Task 2			1																				
5	Task 3				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								
6	Task 4																1							
7	Task 5																	1	1					
8	Task 6																			1	1			
9																								

UNSPECIFIED OVERLAP

4	A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	н	1	J	К	L	М	N	0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U
1		2012	3/12	SIAS	2/2/2	3/8/2	Par	21/2	Pars	2/2/2	1/1/22	1/8/2	1/2/2	113/2	1/8/2	9/9/2	2/3/2	9/8/2	8/2/22	9/3/2	8/2/2
2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
3	Task 1	1	1																		
4	Task 2			1																	
5	Task 3				1	1	1	1													
6	Task 4						1	1	1	1	1	1									
7	Task 5												1	1							
8	Task 6														1	1	1				
9	Task 7																	1			
10	Task 8																		1	1	
11																					

fig. 86

TOO PARALLEL

A	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1
1		The state of the s	2 21/2	Star	2772	47812	Class	S. A.	2/3
2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Task 1	1	1	1	1				
4	Task 2					1	1	1	
5	Task 3	←	1	1	->				
6	Task 4	4-	1	1	1	-			
7	Task 5	4		1	1	1	-		
8	Task 6	4	-	1	1	-			
9	Task 7	4	-	1	1	_		>	
10	Task 8	4		-	1	1	1	1	
11	Task 9	4			1	1	1	>	
12									

Resource Planning - Step 7





fig. 87

IDENTIFY PEAK TIMES

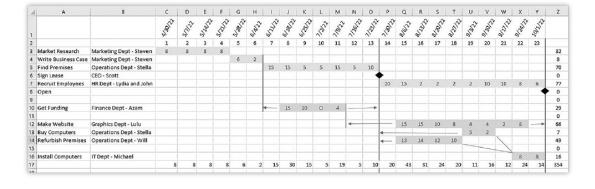
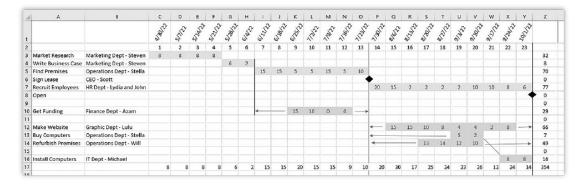


fig. 88

MOVE FLOATING TASKS



LOOK FOR BOTTLENECKS

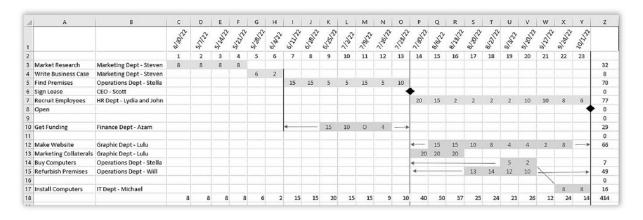


fig. 90 EXTEND THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT

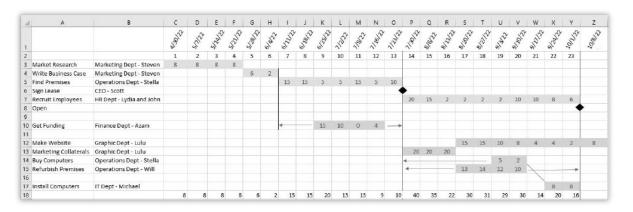
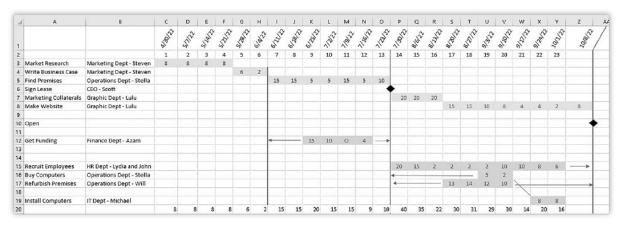


fig. 91 LOOK OUT FOR NEW CRITICAL PATH



SPLIT THE TASKS

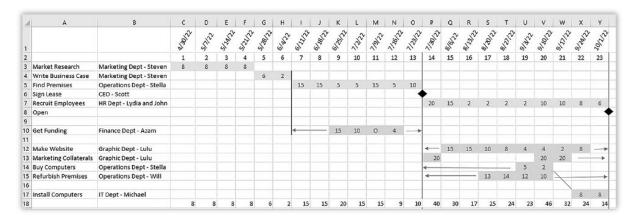


fig. 93

OVERLAP TASKS

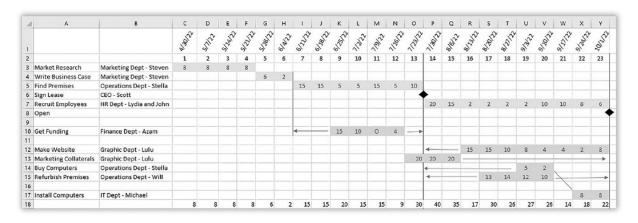
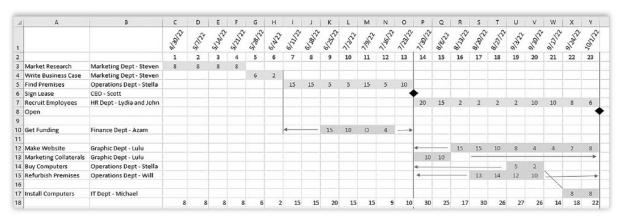


fig. 94

REDUCE QUALITY



THE RESOURCES CUBE

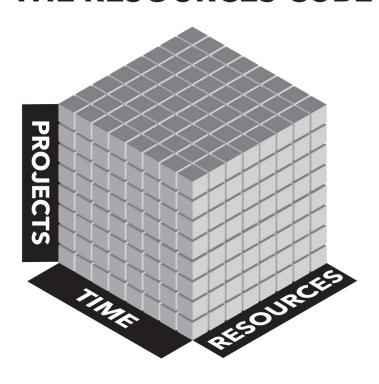


fig. 96

GANTT OF GANTTS

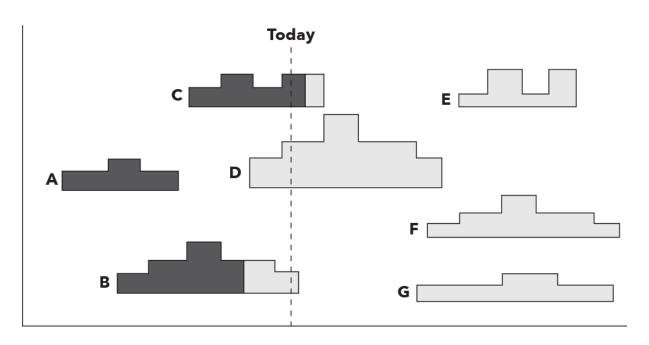
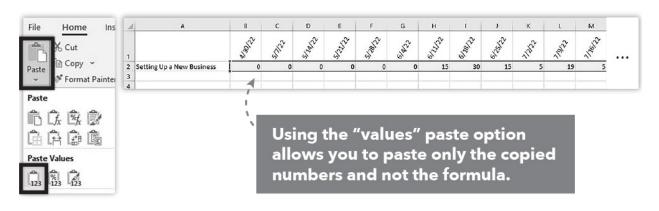






fig. 97

CREATING A GANTT OF GANTTS USING REAL FIGURES



GANTT OF GANTTS EXAMPLE

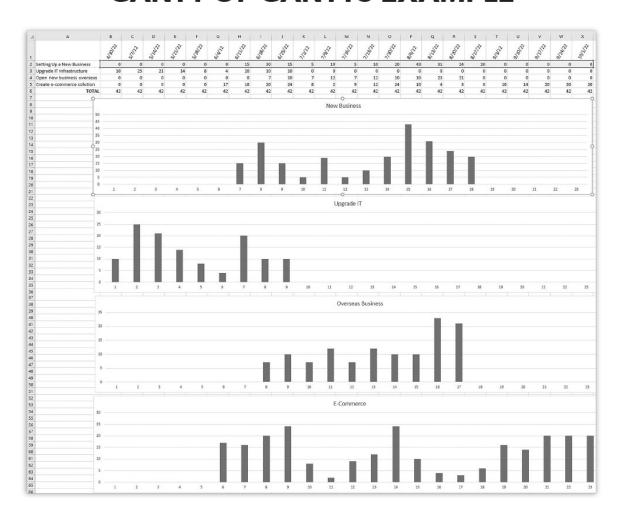
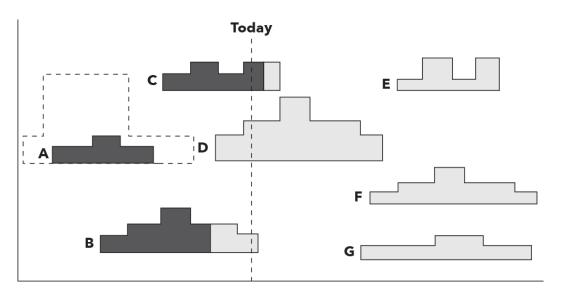


fig. 99 GANTT OF GANTTS FOR SURVEYORS



Risk Planning – Step 8

fig. 100

RISK ASSESSMENT CHART

Description of p	roject:					
	Risk Impact		Weighted	If		
Description of possible problem	factor (how likely) 1-5	factor (how serious) 1-5	factor (risk x impact) 1-25	Preventative action plan (reduce likelihood)	Protective action plan (reduce impact)	Risk x impact = weighted factor after mitigation

fig. 101

RISK PLANNING FOR NEW BUSINESS

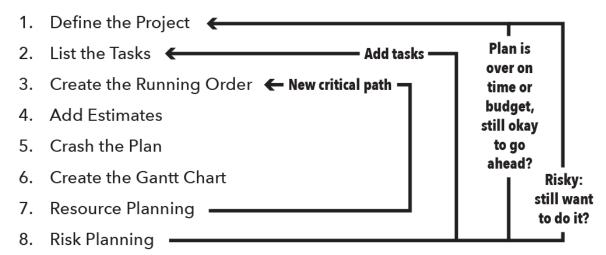
Description of p	roject: Nev	v Business l	Project			
	Risk	Impact	Weighted	If	weighted factor > 5	
Description of possible problem	factor (how likely) 1-5	factor (how serious) 1-5	factor (risk x impact) 1-25	Preventative action plan (reduce likelihood)	Protective action plan (reduce impact)	Risk x impact = weighted factor after mitigation
MR throws up false insight.	2	2	4			
Can't find suitable premises.	4	5	20			
Can't find suitable staff.	3	5	15			

fig. 102

RISK PLANNING FOR NEW BUSINESS

Description of p	roject: Nev	v Business	Project			
	Risk	Impact	Weighted	If	weighted factor > 5	
Description of possible problem	factor (how likely) 1-5	factor (how serious) 1-5	factor (risk x impact) 1-25	Preventative action plan (reduce likelihood)	Protective action plan (reduce impact)	Risk x impact = weighted factor after mitigation
MR throws up false insight.	2	2	4			N/A
Can't find suitable premises.	4	5	20		Ensure home working capability.	4 x 1 = 4
Can't find suitable staff.	3	5	15	Engage recruitment consultant to pre-select.		1 x 5 = 5

LOOPS IN THE PLANNING STAGE



- 9. Monitor Progress
- 10. Monitor Costs
- 11. Modify the Plan
- 12. Review

fig. 104 LOOPS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION STAGE

- Define the Project
- 2. List the Tasks
- 3. Create the Running Order
- 4. Add Estimates
- 5. Crash the Plan
 6. Create the Gantt Chart
 7. Resource Planning
 8. Risk Planning
 9. Monitor Progress
 10. Monitor Costs

 Running late or over budget = replan
- 12. Review

11. Modify the Plan

Monitor Progress - Step 9

fig. 105

ADD "NOW" OR "TODAY" COLUMN

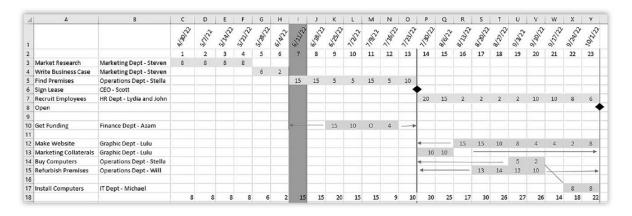
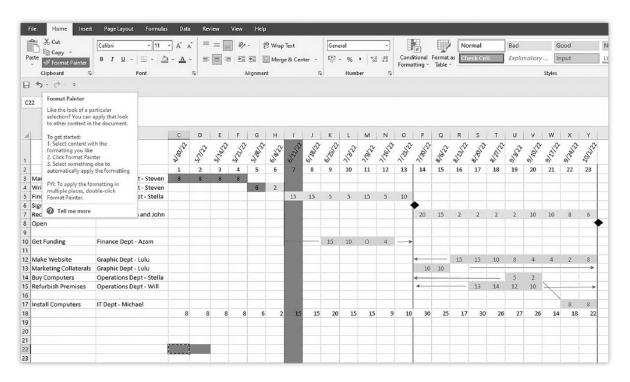


fig. 106

COLOR IN GANTT CHART TO INDICATE PROGRESS



Monitor Costs - Step 10

fig. 107

Plan	Actual	Accountants	Gantt
to date	to date	are saying	
\$500K	\$720K	"Disaster!"	

Real situation

Slightly ahead but very overspent. Looks bad, but may not be quite as bad as it looks if the overspend is due to being ahead of schedule. May be OK if time is the key driver.

fig. 108

Plan to date	Actual to date	Accountants are saying	Gantt
\$500K	\$650K	"Over budget!"	
		Rea	l situation

The overspend may be because the project is nearly finished. May come in ahead of time and under budget, although this is very rare. This scenario should make you wonder if the quality is OK and if your estimates were correct.

Plan to date	Actual to date	Accountants are saying	Gantt
\$500K	\$550K	"Slightly over budget"	
		Pas	Leituation

Real situation

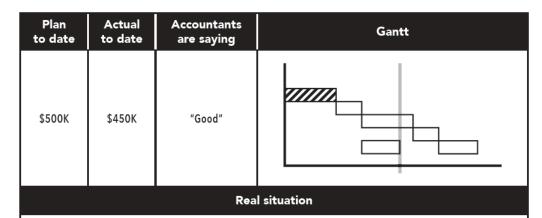
Indicates "project creep," which is common. Worse than it looks because the overspend is partly hidden by lateness. The project is only a little bit late, and only a little bit overspent, but these combine and multiply!

fig. 110

Plan to date	Actual to date	Accountants are saying	Gantt
\$500K	\$500K	"Spot on"	
		Pea	distriction

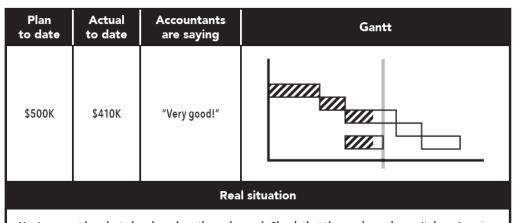
Spent to plan but done less than planned, so the project is both late and over budget. This looks better than it really is and is hard to spot. Nobody will know there's a problem until the end.

fig. 111



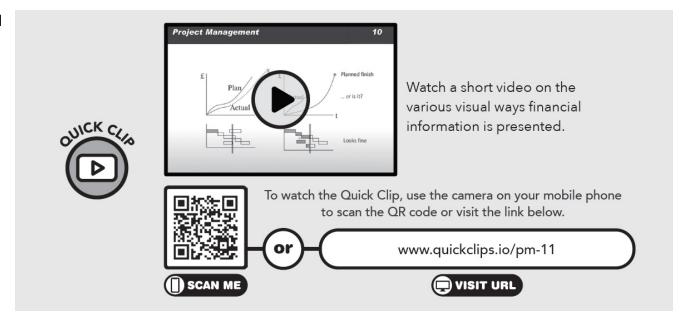
Time to dust off your CV! Although you've underspent, the project is significantly behind schedule, which means that it will be significantly overspent by the end. This is a total disaster although it's invisible to the accountants.

fig. 112

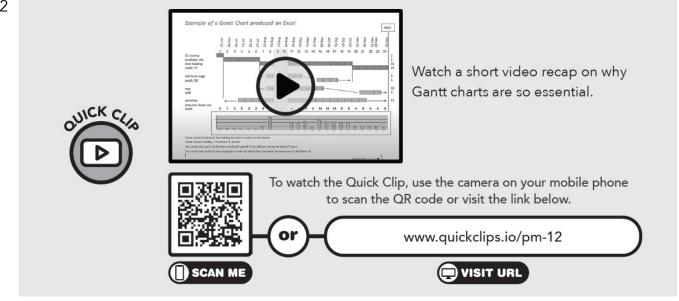


You've spent less but also done less than planned. Check that the work you haven't done is not something expensive. And you probably have the option to use some of the spare money to crash some tasks and make up some of the time, if you want.

QC. 11



QC. 12



PLAN RECOVERY

	GET BACK TO PLAN	REPEAT THE FIRST PERFORMANCE
PROJECT <i>BAD</i> SO FAR	•	(3)
PROJECT GOOD SO FAR		8

fig. 114

SPI FOR LINEAR PROJECT

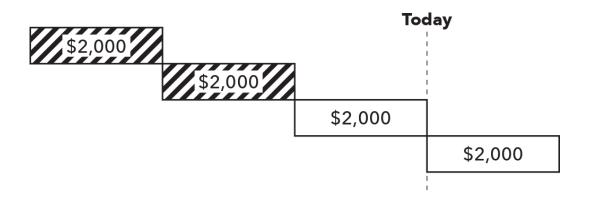
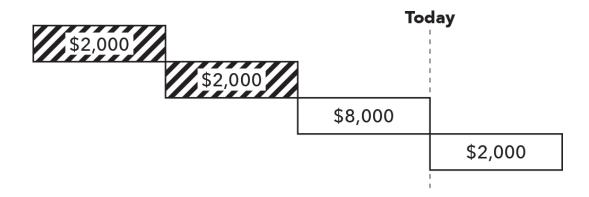


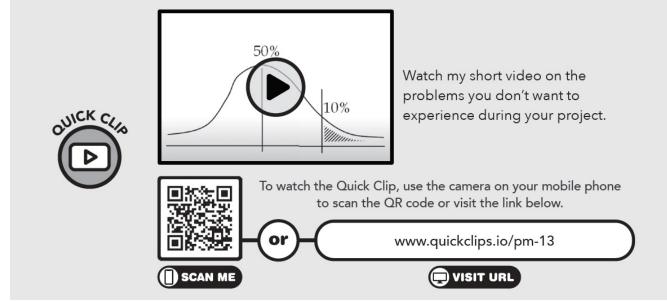
fig. 115

SPI FOR NONLINEAR PROJECT



Top Ten Mistakes You'll Now Avoid

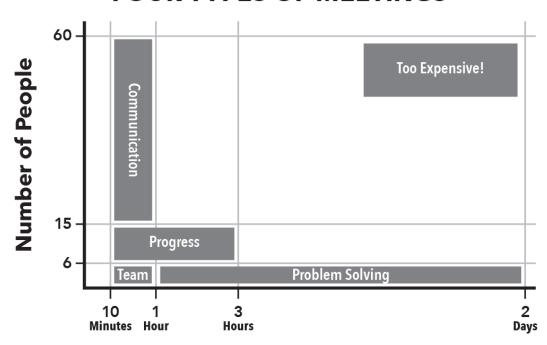




Remember the People Side of Project Management

fig. 116

FOUR TYPES OF MEETINGS





QC. 15

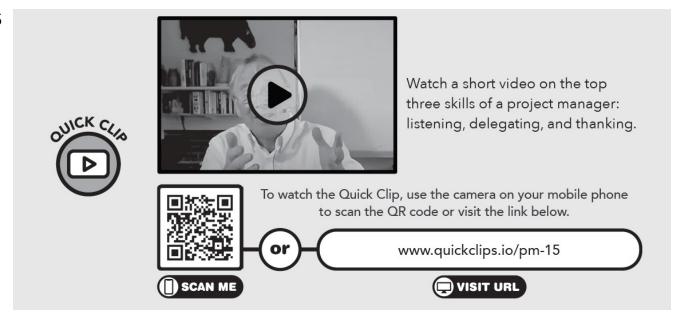


fig. 117

DELEGATION OPTIONS

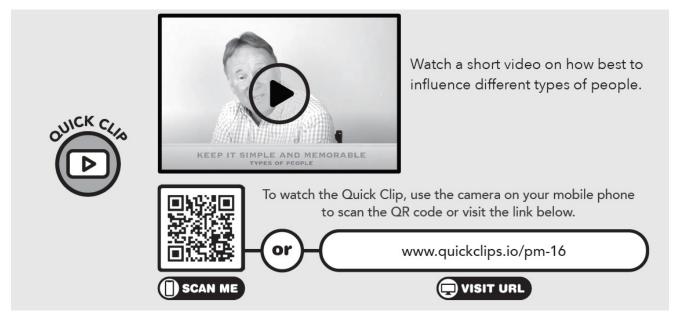
		HOW MUCH FREEDOM IN THE IMPLEMENTATION?			
		"Check before" Your team has to check with you before they do anything	"Report after" Your team keeps you informed every time they do something, or with a weekly summary	"Free to act" Your team just gets on with it	
HOW MUCH INVOLVEMENT IN THE PLANNING?	"Consult" You do the planning, but you show it to your team	OPTION 1 Not Recommended	OPTION 2	OPTION 3 Not Recommended	
	"Share" You plan the project together	OPTION 4 Not Recommended	OPTION 5	OPTION 6	
	" Delegate" You let the team do the planning	OPTION 7	OPTION 8	OPTION 9 Not Recommended	

fig. 118 FREEDOM

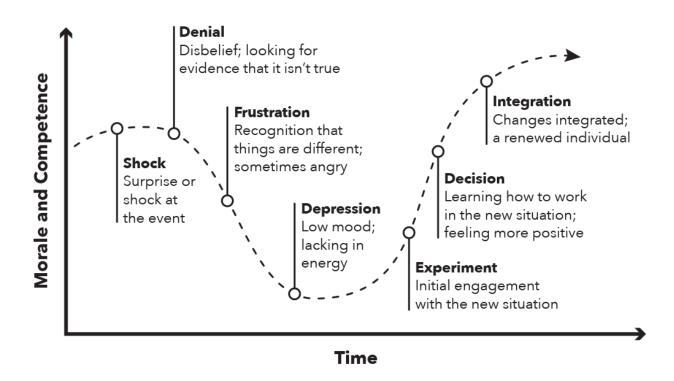


- No reporting or measuring.
- No reporting, but there's a budget you can monitor.
- Report to me if you fall behind or come across a problem.
- Report to me at the end of the current part of the project.
 (Could be several months)
- Report to me once a week. (If the person is fairly new but the project is easy, or if the work is difficult but the person is experienced)
- Report to me every day. (This would be for short or risky projects, perhaps if the person was relatively new and the work was difficult.)
- Show me your daily task "to-do list" to make sure that I'm happy with what you're working on.



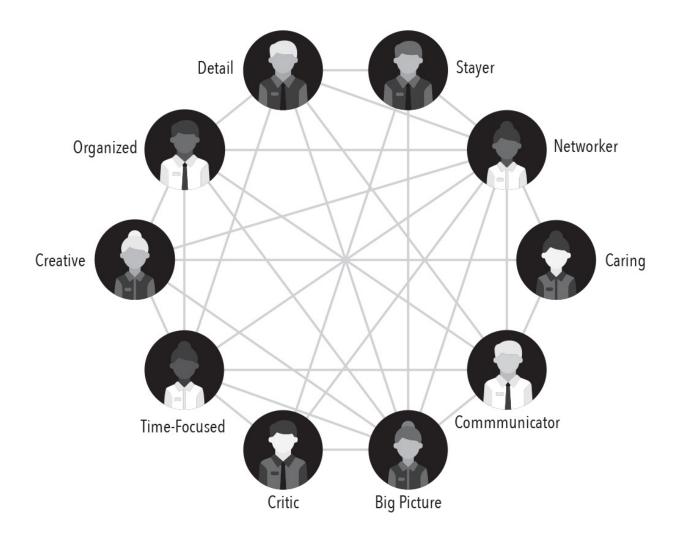


THE KÜBLER-ROSS CHANGE CURVE



THE FIVE WHYS Why did that mistake happen? Answer (Don't reprimand the Because the data on the system was incorrect person who made it!) Why was the Answer data incorrect? Because it wasn't checked when it came in (Don't just put the from the supplier data right) Why wasn't it checked? Answer (Don't just put someone in Because it's nobody's job to check it charge of checking from now on) Why wasn't Answer someone Incoming data wasn't regarded as part of assigned to it? the system (Don't just assign someone) Answer Why not? We didn't really think about assigning roles to (Don't just add it to checking data, it wasn't on our list of tasks at the the system) start – but it will be for all projects from now on!

IDEAL TEAM MIX



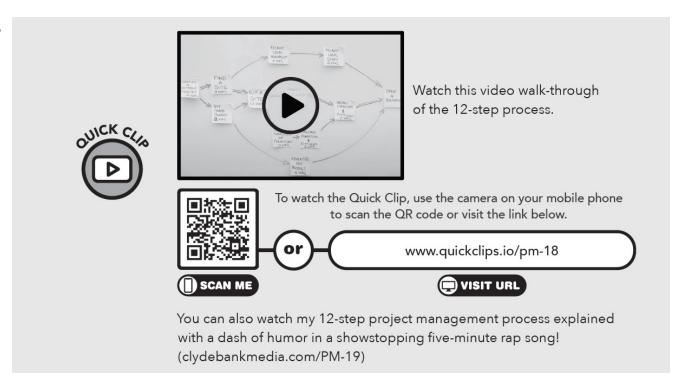
Careers in Project Management





CONCLUSION

QC. 18



GLOSSARY

Accrual Accounting

A system of accounting that includes not only money that has been received and spent, but also what is due to come in and scheduled to go out. It offers a more accurate picture of the likely longer-term financial situation than does cash accounting, which does not include scheduled payments and receipts. (See also Cash Accounting.)

Agile

A collection of principles used in project management, focusing on small, workable, incremental delivery. The requirements, plans, and results are evaluated and reevaluated continuously. This helps the Agile team to respond quickly to changes either inside or outside the project.

Agile Manifesto

A set of principles and values embodying the Agile process, created in 2001 by a group of software developers.

Arrow Diagramming Method (ADM)

A schedule network diagramming technique where scheduled activities in a project are represented by the use of arrows. ADM is essentially another name for project evaluation and review technique (PERT).

Association for Project Management (APM)

The UK equivalent of the US-based Project Management Institute. It is the only chartered body for the project profession, with over 35,000 individual members and more than 500 organizations participating in its Corporate Partnership Program.

Basecamp

An online project management platform that allows for sharing of updates and progress with team members.

Business Case

The justification for a proposed project or undertaking on the basis of its expected commercial benefit.

Cash Accounting

A system of accounting that includes money that has been received or spent, giving a definite picture of an organization's finances at any given moment—but not including scheduled or committed spend, or monies due to be received at a later date. (See also Accrual Accounting.)

Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)

A project management qualification, one step down from Project Management Professional (PMP). Both are issued by the Project Management Institute (PMI) but achievement of CAPM does not require proven project management experience.

Change Request Form

A piece of paperwork that officially indicates a change being made to the parameters of a project. Whenever a stakeholder makes this kind of change, the project manager should insist on a signed-off change request form so that everyone knows and understands the ramifications of the change (more cost or time) before they occur.

Communications Plan

A plan that clarifies how and when stakeholders are to be kept updated on the progress or problems of a project. It is always wise to agree on a communications plan at the start of each project or once a project has been approved.

Contingency

Extra time or money that is deliberately added to tasks, especially those on the critical path, to allow for a margin of error in the estimates and therefore to help keep the project on track.

Cost Performance Index (CPI)

A method that allows one to forecast changes to cost based on the actual costs incurred in an earlier part of the project.
CPI is calculated by dividing the actual cost by the planned cost.

Crash the Plan

The process of reducing time or cost in a plan to better meet stakeholder aspirations.

Critical Path Analysis (CPA)

See Critical Path Method.

Critical Path Method (CPM)

Also known as critical path analysis (CPA). A project management methodology that allows one to identify the amount of time necessary to finish each task and therefore identify the critical path through the project. The critical path is the shortest time or most realistic time in which the project can be completed.

Dependency Chart

A visual illustration of the chain of dependencies that must occur for a project to be delivered—essentially another name for a network diagram.

Dynamic Systems Development Method (DSDM)

A technique using eight principles to direct a team and create a mindset of delivering on time and within budget. Principles include focusing on the business need, delivering on time by timeboxing work, and emphasizing collaboration with end users, team members, business representatives, and other stakeholders.

Earned Value Analysis (EVA)

A calculation that reveals whether a project is within budget and on schedule at a given moment. It takes into consideration the work that has been accomplished and the costs incurred so far with respect to the original budget and schedule.

Endowment Effect

A concept from behavioral economics referring to the emotional bias that causes individuals to value an object they own more highly than its market value. Human beings like and are more engaged with things they had a hand in coming up with or creating.

Excel

An easy-to-use spreadsheet program that can make fabulous Gantt charts too. Part of the Microsoft Office suite of products.

Extreme Programming (XP)

A software development methodology whose goal is to deliver software as needed, when it is needed. It has short development cycles, focusing on the needs of today rather than those of the future, sometimes called the "You aren't gonna need it!" or YAGNI approach.

Feature-Driven Development (FDD)

An Agile methodology consisting of five activities: the development of an overall model, the building of a feature list, the planning by feature, the designing by feature, and the building by feature. FDD is scalable even to large teams due to the concept of "just enough design initially" (JEDI).

First Kick-Off Meeting

The initial meeting between the stakeholders and the project manager in which the stakeholders outline the desired outcome of the project. The project manager must then determine whether it's possible to deliver the project within the parameters that the stakeholders have asked for.

Flow Diagram

A specific type of activity diagram (also known as a flowchart) that communicates a sequence of actions or movements within a complex system. Similar to a network diagram, but network diagrams can't have branches or loops.

Gantt Chart

A horizontal bar chart showing the start, finish, and duration of each task in a project; can also show the dependencies between tasks. Popularized by American engineer Henry Gantt in 1910. Gantt charts take project visualization up a notch from the network diagram.

Gantt of Gantts

A Gantt chart that shows, on one page, the resource profile of all the projects a business or department is undertaking. It allows the boss to see at a glance where each project is against expectations.

Granularity

Fine detail. In projects, it relates to how far each task needs to be broken down in the planning process. Each identified task should be able to be broken down enough so that either one person or one team can be responsible for that task.

Iron Triangle

The combination of the three major constraints on any project: time, money, and quality. It is impossible to deliver a project quickly, well, and cheaply; there is always a trade-off. Two of the three are possible, but something has to give.

Kanban

A workflow management method for defining, managing, and improving services that deliver knowledge work. It aims to help one visualize their work, maximize efficiency, and minimize work in progress and therefore throughput times.

Key Driver

The factor in a project's iron triangle of money, time, and quality that outweighs or is considered more important than the others by the project owner. It is the criterion which, if not met, will cause the project owner to consider the project a failure.

Lean

A way of thinking about a project that is focused on creating added value with fewer resources and less waste. Also, a practice consisting of continuous experimentation to achieve perfect value with zero waste.

Managing Successful Programs (MSP)

A best-practice program management framework. When an organization undertakes a large, complex transformational change program, it uses MSP to break down the overall change into smaller, more manageable interrelated projects.

Microsoft Project

Project management software that must be purchased in addition to the usual Microsoft Office suite of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Minimum Viable Product (MVP)

The minimum workable offering of a new product or service that can be tested in the market and fine-tuned. If customers buy and like the MVP, then the business knows it's onto a winner.

Monday.com

A cloud-based work operating system where teams create workflow apps to run and share their processes, projects, and everyday work.

Monthly Monitoring Form

A management tool in the form of a onepage summary of all the projects going on in a business at any one time. Outlines the name of each project, the progress, and the spend to date.

Network Diagram

The visual representation of a project showing what needs to be done in what order by when. The term originates in computing, where a network diagram would visualize a computer network, but its use has extended to other areas, including project management.

PMBOK

An acronym for Project Management Body of Knowledge, also sometimes called the PMI recommended process. First published by the Project Management Institute (PMI) in 1987. PMBOK is the collective accumulation of proven knowledge about project management over the last 100 years.

PMBOK Lite

The author's slimmed-down version of PMBOK. It is the 12-step process outlined in this book, all one really needs to know about project management to deliver any project.

Post-Project Review

A review that takes place a couple of years after the delivery of a project to assess whether or not the project delivered its expected or promised benefits. Doesn't usually involve the project manager but rather senior management and the project owner.

Precedence Diagram

An illustration where activities or tasks in a project are displayed graphically as boxes (which can also be referred to as nodes). The activities are then linked together via a line or arrow that represents the logical relationships between tasks.

PRINCE2

A highly structured project management methodology originating in IT projects in 1989. Designed to cover all types of projects, although it still has a distinct IT flavor.

PRINCE2 Foundation

An organization that assesses whether a candidate can recall and understand the PRINCE2 project management method.

PRINCE2 Practitioner

A certification that confirms one's ability to apply understanding of the PRINCE2 project management method in context.

Product Breakdown Structure (PBS)

A hierarchy like a work breakdown structure (WBS), only instead of activities it shows outcomes or deliverables. The final product is at the top, with all that's needed to make that product outlined underneath.

Project Brief

An outline of the purpose of a project; it communicates that purpose and the agreed-upon approach so that everyone on the project team is on the same page.

Project Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT)

Another way to create a network diagram, only instead of focusing on tasks and activities as CPM does, it focuses on events and deliverables. Also known as "activity on arrow" and occasionally as arrow diagramming method (ADM).

Project Initiation Document (PID)

A detailed plan for how a project will be executed. The PID outlines what, why, how, who, when, and how much, but in much greater detail than a project brief or business case.

Project Management Process

A term for project management that defines what to do when in a project. It outlines all the activities from initiation through closure of a project, in sequential order.

Project Management Professional (PMP)

The gold standard in project management qualifications, issued by the Project Management Institute (PMI). The PMI is seen as the global governing body of project management, and PMP is globally recognized.

Risk Exposure

The assessment of potential loss or damage that may be caused by a project or to a project. All efforts need to be made to identify risks in a project and to mitigate those risks, if possible.

Running Order

The assessment of all the tasks that need to be done, what must happen first and what order the rest of the tasks should be completed in, to determine how long the whole project will take.

Schedule Performance Index (SPI)

A method of forecasting any changes to the expected finish date of an entire project, based on the actual time taken to complete an earlier part of the project.

Scrum

A process framework used to manage product development and other knowledge projects. It provides a way for teams to establish a hypothesis of how they think something works, try it out, reflect on the experience, and make the appropriate adjustments.

Scrumban

A versatile approach to workflow management that combines the structure of the Scrum technique with the flexibility and visualization of the Kanban technique. Both Scrum and Kanban live under the Agile banner.

Second Kick-Off Meeting

A meeting at which the project manager comes back to the stakeholder group and explains whether what they want can be done within the parameters set out in the first kick-off meeting.

Sprint

A term used in Scrum that relates to a short period of time, often two weeks, in which the team must finish a specific task, milestone, or deliverable.

Stakeholder

Anyone who has a stake in a project, whether doing it or affected by it. This includes team members, the project manager, the project owner, the sponsor, and the end customer.

Standard Deviation

A statistical term that relates to the amount of variation or dispersion across a data set.

TeamGantt

A project management platform that gives users the ability to execute tasks without losing sight of the big picture.

Trello

A visual collaboration tool that creates a shared perspective for a team on any project in a fun, flexible, and rewarding way, using drag-and-drop within and between columns.

Wrike

A comprehensive collaboration and project management tool that helps users manage projects from start to finish, providing full visibility and control over tasks.

Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)

A systematic way to show all the work that will be needed in a project. Essentially a tree diagram that lists all the tasks and shows the relationship between those tasks, like a company organizational chart or a family tree.

XP (Extreme Programming)

A software development methodology whose goal is to deliver software as needed, when it is needed. It has short development cycles, focusing on the needs of today rather than those of the future, sometimes called the "You aren't gonna need it!" or YAGNI approach.