

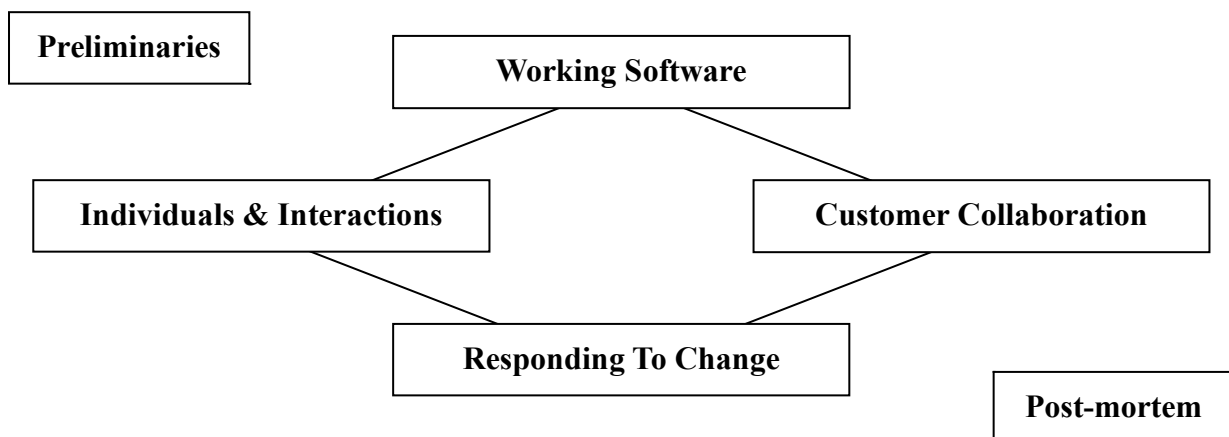
Kickstart Your Team's Use Of Agile Software Development

Close Customer Contact, Focus on People, Simple Design, Light Documentation, Running Software, Continuous Integration, Test-First Strategies, Short Iterations

Overview

By using a small number of important techniques operating in parallel, the agile process is revolutionising high-productivity software development and speeding up delivery of real business value. Clipcode's structured six-stage *Agile Project Kickstart* service offering aims to get your team's use of Agile off to a rapid start. The Agile Coach from Clipcode works on-site alongside your development team mentoring on the first iteration of their agile project.

Six-Stage Strategy



- **Preliminaries** – Confirming that appropriate setup is in place before the agile project begins –e.g. facilities for high-levels of face-to-face communications & occasional pair programming, agile training is completed, customer's expectations and commitment are aligned with an agile approach
- **Individuals and Interactions** – People build software. Most success will be achieved with motivated small teams of highly skilled individuals who are truly collaborating
- **Working Software** – Every few hours we have a virtuous cycle where we discover, test, code, refactor and integrate. We see the codebase growing to satisfy our customer's business needs. We provide succinct yet sufficient documentation. Running code is reality.
- **Customer Collaboration** – On-site customer. Continuous customer feedback. Avoid "big bang" near end of project. No surprises. Joint-decision making. Building trust. Aligning interests.
- **Responding To Change** – Solving today's problem today, and solving tomorrow's problem tomorrow. Agile acknowledges that software needs to respond to the highly dynamic business environment. Hence it focuses on providing the simplest design that suffices to implement the tasks in this iteration. It starts with a breadth-first architectural skeleton which later evolves.
- **Post-mortem** – Writing brief analysis of project iteration upon completion of the engagement, including recommendations for issues to keep under review

Features & Benefits

Preliminaries	Agile is an alternative approach to software development – hence it has specific requirements regarding organisational setup. This stage ensures all this is completed before the project begins, in order not to waste precious development time.
Individuals & Interactions	By getting the right people and getting them to work together in the right way we are well on the way to a successful project that satisfies all stakeholders
Working Software	By having the team use key agile development techniques such as continuous integration, collective ownership and pair programming, we ensure fast delivery of production-quality code. By planning to first work on the use cases that deliver most business value to customers, we ensure quick availability of a useful first release.
Customer Collaboration	The detail of our promises to customers is inversely proportional to the time horizon covered, thus ensuring that when we make precise commitments we have enough information to meet target dates, without compromising on quality. Conditioning of customer expectations is ensured through on-going communication.
Responding to Change	Agile’s test-first strategy treats tests as a first-class artefact that builds confidence in the current codebase. It and other techniques facilitate more adventurous refactoring of the codebase in future iterations. Our just-in-time design allows an architectural skeleton to be first created and later shaped as needed (which happens to be the point at which we have the most knowledge about the surrounding capabilities).
Post-mortem	Agility is an on-going process, rather than a singular event. This post-mortem of the first iteration helps identify potential improvements for future iterations.

Target Market

This service offering is aimed at software development teams who appreciate the improved productivity the agile approach offers and now wish to start their first project using it. They need an experienced agile coach on the team for the initial iteration to assist with a smooth transition to this new development process and ensure that the agile values and concepts are applied correctly.

Agile Coach from Clipcode

The Agile Coach that Clipcode provides will have a minimum of 10 years software development experience, including plenty of experience with agile software development, architecture, design patterns, refactoring, xUnit and similar. Our Agile Coach, in addition to coaching duties, also acts as an additional member of the development team.

Who Should Participate From The Client

The client decides which of its people are members of the development team. Participants should be experienced developers and should have received some agile training beforehand (Clipcode can also provide this). Note that one recommended aspect of agile is that a project customer’s representative is a member of the development team (to facilitate face-to-face communications and just-in-time review).

How to proceed

If you would like to arrange an Agile Project Kickstart on-site in your company’s offices, please contact Clipcode below. We need to discuss arrangements further, agree goals for the engagement and set a tentative schedule.



www.clipcode.net

If your dev team is starting an important project and needs help, please contact us via email at sales@clipcode.com to discuss how we can be of assistance.