

# Mistakes to Avoid in Agile Project Management

GoSkills online course syllabus

**Skill level**

Beginner

**Lessons**

24

**Accredited by**

Verified by GoSkills

**Pre-requisites**

No prior experience needed

**Video duration**

1h 24m

**Estimated study time**

1h 24m

**Instructor**

Michael de la Maza, PhD

## Introduction

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- 1 Getting started**  
Agile Project Management does not have to be difficult.

## Launching Agile Project Management

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- 2 Misunderstanding agile**  
To implement agile, you must first understand what it is.
- 3 Don't over-promise results**  
When implementing agile, it's important to advocate for its benefits without overpromising to those who are impacted.
- 4 Set the right pace**  
Don't rush change. After this lesson, you will recognize how to set a pace for implementing organizational change with agile.
- 5 Consistent project titles**  
While new names and slogans can provide a temporary lift, true benefits are more than skin deep.

## Mistakes When Gaining Buy-in

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- 6 Not setting the tone**  
Leaders lead from the front, and implement the practices and behaviors that they want the rest of the people in the organization to follow.

- 7 **Too much regulation**  
Leaders catalyze autonomy by trusting teams to manage themselves, and self-organizing is important for agile success.
- 8 **Lack of transparency**  
Successful leaders are open about what they do not know and what mistakes they have made.

## Mistakes When Building Teams

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- 9 **Assigning tasks**  
Agile project managers don't assign work to team members.
- 10 **Overlooking values**  
Agile focuses on values instead of tools and processes.
- 11 **Predicting, not estimating**  
Instead of making hard and fast predictions about when work will be done, agile teams estimate.
- 12 **Managing change incorrectly**  
Agile teams zero in on what they can change and don't spend time complaining about what they can't change.

## Mistakes When Setting Cadence

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- 13 **Not planning**  
Agile teams plan so they can coordinate their efforts, not because they think they can predict the future.
- 14 **Not releasing frequently**  
Agile teams release products frequently to get feedback from customers and deliver value.
- 15 **Avoiding stakeholders**  
Communicating with internal stakeholders about product progress is a responsibility of an agile project manager.
- 16 **Missing feedback**  
Agile teams give each other feedback on how to improve.

## Mistakes When Making Improvements

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**17** **Starting too large**  
When starting to improve, start small.

**18** **Avoiding metrics**  
Avoiding metrics when evaluating performance leaves room for error.

**19** **Sitting still**  
Continuing to identify new ways to improve is important when working in agile.

**20** **Overlooking handoffs**  
The art of a smooth handoff is one that's necessary for new and experienced teams.

## Mistakes When Managing Work

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**21** **Unclear priorities**  
Agile teams work in priority order, so it's important that the ordering of tasks is always clear.

**22** **Finishing vs. Starting**  
Agile teams finish work before they start new work.

**23** **Adding work**  
It's important for you to only assign work for your team that feels comfortable for them to complete.

## Conclusion

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**24** **Set yourself up for long-term success**  
Apply what you have learned in this course every day and you will be a successful agile project manager.

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