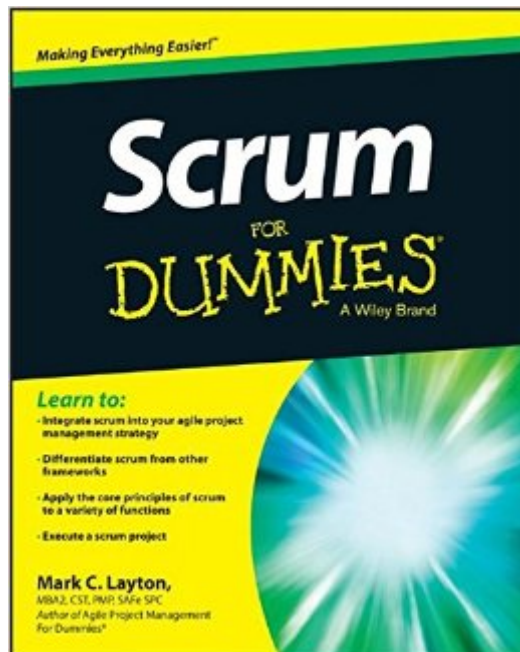


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# Scrum For Dummies



## Synopsis

Practice an agile form of management to stop wasting time and money Scrum For Dummies is an easy to use guide to managing the tricky transition from a traditional project management methodology to the new and most popular agile framework. As the most efficient, successful methodology for team project management, Scrum relies on transparency, flexibility, and fluidity to deliver a final product that fulfills the needs of all stakeholders. Written in easy-to-read Dummies style, this book walks you through the core principles of Scrum and provides a roadmap for tangible implementation. The vast majority of projects go over budget, and billions of dollars are wasted every year on overruns. Put a stop to this wasteful leakage by switching to a management style that keeps all participants informed, up-to-date, and accountable. Authored by a Certified Scrum Trainer, Mark Layton, Scrum For Dummies covers the key ideas and processes behind Scrum methodologies, and presents the inner workings of the plan in an engaging and accessible format. Topics include: The Scrum values, roles, artifacts, and activities that make up the principle of this methodology When and how best to use Scrum The differences between Scrum and other agile methodologies Using Scrum for IT, finance, construction, health care, and more The book also delves into the everyday use of Scrum, and how it can help you achieve your own personal goals outside of work. There's a reason why scrum is quickly becoming the standard approach to project management "it works! If you want to stop wasting time and start producing more effectively, Scrum For Dummies is the guide that will get you there.

## Book Information

Series: For Dummies

Paperback: 408 pages

Publisher: For Dummies; 1 edition (April 20, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 111890575X

ISBN-13: 978-1118905753

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #61,283 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in Books > Computers & Technology > Business Technology > Software > Project Management Software #79 in Books > Business & Money > Management & Leadership > Project Management > Business #444

## Customer Reviews

Most Dummies books are good but this one refers to templates that can be downloaded from their web site. Apparently the only way you get access is if you buy it from THEIR web site at a higher price. Also, once you hit the web site you can never un-register and you get a barrage of email ads. The product line has fallen significantly from their earlier glory.

I recently got hold of this book and very much impressed with the way the book is organized. Not only I found detailed explanation of Scrum basics but tons of tips to practice those basics. Author has covered application of Scrum in various industries rather than keeping it limited to just one industry. The Part of Tens is my favorite chapter in the book where author explained common pitfalls, specific steps for Scrum transition, benefits of Scrum, and author's favorite resource for Scrum. This book illustrates many applications of Scrum which shows Author's thorough research and command over the topic. I believe, this book is a Must Read for anyone who claims that he/she is practicing Scrum!

Although the Dummies series can be overlooked for its seemingly jovial approach to a topic, some of the very top titles really represent best-in-class introductions to topics and Mark Layton's book can be considered one of these. Scrum is a beguilingly simple subject that's hard to write about effectively and communicate the pros and cons of the approach, and it's also even tougher to find practitioners who can talk about applications beyond IT and software. The author clearly has had considerable experience in the field and I was most impressed with his ability to talk about non-tech implementations, where increasingly I think the biggest impact can be seen. The book is concise and well-written, while also being crammed with useful examples, further resources and summaries. I'd highly recommend it for learning about Scrum or as a training tool if you want to bring Scrum or other agile techniques into a team - it's one of the best books I've read on the subject.

Before opening this book, my knowledge of Scrum and Agile Project Management was pretty much limited to knowing the words and little more. Neither Scrum nor Agile Project Management are necessarily simple. At its barest, scrum is an empirical exposure model, which means knowledge is gained from real-life experience, and decisions are made based on that experience. Got that? Don't worry if you don't. for the author spends the next

361 pages explaining in considerable detail what Scrum is and how the methodology can be applied to various business and personal roles. Scrum is an approach to getting things done, including *Dating and Family Life* and *Life Goals*, which came as quite a surprise to me. I would strongly urge the newcomer to Scrum to read *Agile Project Management For Dummies*, by the same author, first. Having struggled with *Scrum For Dummies*, I can see that I need the underpinning first in understanding Agile. This is not a criticism of *Scrum For Dummies* or Mark C. Layton, the author of both books. Rather it is my recognition that Scrum is not an easy concept to grasp in significant depth straight out the gate. There is a great deal of depth in *Scrum For Dummies*, far more than I would have expected in a *Dummies* book. Sometimes it takes on sort of a mystical tone: Scrum is a focusing tool. One of the biggest reasons that scrum is so successful is that it edits out the noise of trying to do everything all at once. Instead of doing all projects poorly, scrum focuses to do one project at a time, with a higher level of quality than if thrashing around. Since I am often guilty of the former, I want to consistently do the latter. Adopting Scrum can definitely help, but you have to first comprehend what Scrum is. This book does that, but I think familiarizing yourself with Agile will be helpful. At least that's what I'm going to do. Jerry

**QUICK SUMMARY:** If you're familiar with 'Dummies' books, then you'll know what to expect -- and you'll get it. I've read quite a few books on agile / Scrum over the last few years. I like this book. It's exhaustive in what Scrum is, and it introduces some concepts and terms that aren't covered in other books. It goes over things you'd expect (like, Planning Poker, T-shirt size estimation) and things you don't expect (how to use Scrum for everyday living). It treats some topics in a fairly rudimentary, elementary way. Example: estimating a schedule and cost just by dividing story points remaining by team velocity creates a single, deterministic forecast. In truth, this uncertainty is better estimated using probabilities and confidence intervals -- topics more sophisticated than a book like this. In fact, there are a lot of chapters on Scrum outside the software development world. In fact, about one-half the book is describing how Scrum can be applied in other industries, as well as in your home! If you're an IT worker and you know nothing about Scrum, this is a good read. If you're already familiar with Scrum, you can probably pass on this book, though. If you are a software developer, there are other books devoted to Scrum for software development teams that are better suited and more targeted to your needs. I like this book, though, because of the way it's organized and because of the content it delivers. There's a great chapter on Scrum metrics, and another on implementing Scrum. This

shouldn't be your only book on Scrum, but it's a fine addition to your library on Scrum. It's also a great book for those interested in applying Scrum outside the software development world.

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