Kanban vs Scrum

teamhood

This is a comparison of Kanban vs Scrum. However, it does not mean you have to pick just one of these approaches. Kanban can be used to supplement Scrum if that fits your process.

Use this table to determine which of these elements work best for you.

Kanban		Scrum
Used continuously for different iterations.	Board	Restarts after each Sprint.
Continuous goal/track to outcome.	Goals	Iterative, can be unique for each Sprint.
A team of specialists	Team	Cross-funtional team
No specific roles. The team can choose the roles that work for them.	Roles	• Product Owner • Scrum Master • Developers/The Team
Continuous, not defined by time.	Iterations	Sprints recur on regular basis and defined by specific time constratins (1-4 weeks).
Happen when the team identifies the need. Sugested cadences: • Daily standup • Weekly replenishment • Bi-weekly service delivery review • Monthly risk review • Bi-monthly operations review • Quarterly strategy review.	Meetings	Happen regularly on a predefined schedule. Includes: • Sprint planning • Daily Scrum • Sprint review • Sprint retrospective
Done on demand. Occurs when the team runs low on prioritized work.	Planning	Occurs before each Sprint.
Not preferred. Kanban uses probabilistic forecasting to remove the need of estimations.	Estimation	Task duration/complexity is defined before each Sprint.
Adapts to changes when needed.	Changes	Changes mid-Sprint are possible, but less likely.
If team members are specialists in their areas, they will pull in tasks from the backlog based on priority.	Task Delegation	Tasks are usually assigned during the Sprint planning. This can change during the Sprint.
WIP limits are used to restrict how many tasks can be in progress	Work Limitations	The scope of is defined before each Sprint begins.
• Cycle time • Throughput • WIP • Work Item Age	Metrics	• Burndown chart • Velocity

Kanban Cheat Sheet

Scrum Cheat Sheet

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