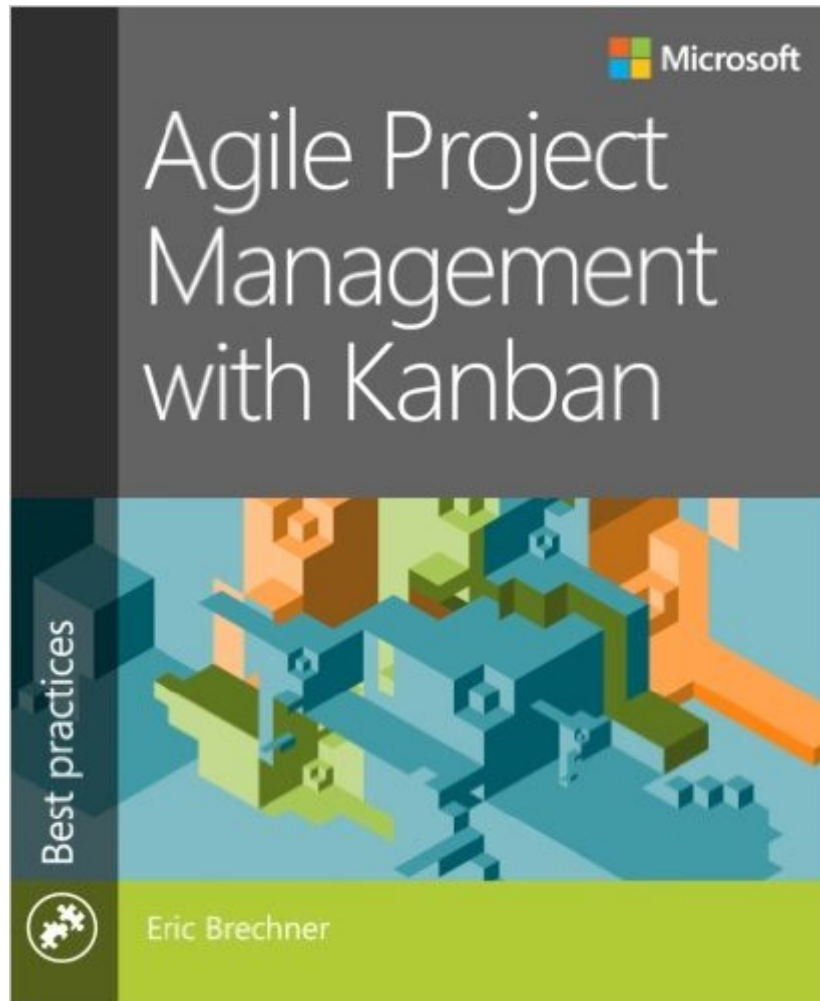# Agile Project Management With Kanban (Developer Best Practices)

Synopsis

Use Kanban to maximize efficiency, predictability, quality, and value With Kanban, every minute you spend on a software project can add value for customers. One book can help you achieve this goal: Agile Project Management with Kanban. Author Eric Brechner pioneered Kanban within the Xbox engineering team at Microsoft. Now he shows you exactly how to make it work for your team. Think of this book as â œKanban in a boxâ •: open it, read the quickstart guide, and youâ ™re up and running fast. As you gain experience, Brechner reveals powerful techniques for right-sizing teams, estimating, meeting deadlines, deploying components and services, adapting or evolving from Scrum or traditional Waterfall, and more. For every step of your journey, youâ ™ll find pragmatic advice, useful checklists, and actionable lessons. This truly is â œKanban in a boxâ •: all you need to deliver breakthrough value and quality. Use Kanban techniques to: Start delivering continuous value with your current team and project Master five quick steps for completing work backlogs Plan and staff new projects more effectively Minimize work in progress and quickly adjust to change Eliminate artificial meetings and prolonged stabilization Improve and enhance customer engagement Visualize workflow and fix revealed bottlenecks Drive quality upstream Integrate Kanban into large projects Optimize sustained engineering (contributed by James Waletzky) Expand Kanban beyond software development

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Agile Project Management with Kanban by Eric Brechner is very different from the last two books about Kanban I have had an opportunity to read recently (Kanban in Action and Kanban from the Inside). It is about good, old and infamous Project Management, something, what many Agile or Lean orthodox people call bad and dead. It briefly presents precise and actionable ways how to apply Kanban as a tool for organizations of different kind and size. Despite being written by a guy who worked for a huge product development organization (Xbox/Microsoft), the book manages to escape insanely popular trend of telling how to scale Kanban, just as consulting business suggests to scale Scrum or Agile. Instead it meets the reality of any software or product development teams, which do not work independently. It comes with an open letter to upper management, which needs to support evolution toward Kanban, as well as with questions and more important answers you may need to convince your peers, working with Waterfall or Scrum in the past.You won't find here too many details about theories behind Lean and Kanban, but just enough to know where to look for it and why things work better this way. The author, moreover, offers ready-to-use Excel sheets, to calculate just a few, but super important numbers and metrics for your team, so you can track some KPIs and improve based on real data, not just your gut feeling. In the end thereâ ™s a big chance your gut feelings will be consistent with data trends, and Kanban will guide you to better predictability, less waste and rework, more evenness and joy of work.

I love this book, and I _love_ using Kanban. I use it at work, and my family uses it at home to track schoolwork, chores, and even some house projects. It made a huge difference for tracking schoolwork. I evangelize Kanban to friends and coworkers, and when I do, I point them to this book as a starting point. Simply put, Kanban works better than anything else I have tried - it strips away the unneeded stuff and focuses you on what you need to be doing with very minimal overhead. It is very flexible so you can adjust it for your needs once you master the basics, even to the point to adapting to the space you have available for you Kanban board.Full disclosure: I work on one of the teams Eric referenced in this book. The picture of our Kanban board in the book was very early on when our team was still learning to use the full power of Kanban. We've improved on that early board a bit by optimizing it for our team over the 4+ years we've been using it, but even in the "early learning stages" Kanban worked better than anything else we'd ever tried. Like anything else, the longer you do use a tool, the better you get at using it, and our team is no exception.

We had a supposed (certified) scrum master where I worked last but being my first experience with it, I was shocked how unproductive our processes were. After learning what scrum was supposed to

be like, I realized how saying you practice scrum and doing scrum are two different things. Our bug tracking software (Fogbugz) included a Kanban board which got me interested in researching the subject which ultimately led to this wonderful book. After reading it, I have to admit I think this is going to be better than scrum. Can't wait to try it out. This book is highly recommended!

If you are a serious project manager this book is a must. CIOs needs to move forward and embrace the Agile Manifestoâ ™s values and principles in order to become more efficient, more productive and builders of winning teams. This book is a good start.

Kanban is the natural progression from waterfall through scrum to truly continuous flow of work. With clarity, practicality and attention to cultural resistance, he outlines the process we need in this post industrial, conversational based rather than thing based project world. Get on board!

Very good book about agile project management: you can feel he has used and has been successful in making kanban work effectively in an organisation. More importantly, he keeps focus on delivery maximum outcome to customers: he is not using kanban because this is "cool".Great good; he has a great video on Youtube; you can download free chapters on the web (legally) including a chapter on how to get started.

As a PM I wanted an intro and this helped. Overall this is meant for a technical lead; like a Scrum Master switching a team to Kanban.

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