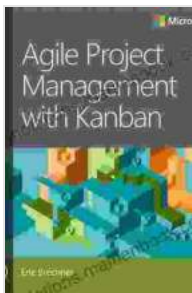# Agile Project Management with Kanban: Best Practices for Developers

Kanban is a popular agile project management methodology that can help developers improve their productivity and efficiency. Kanban is based on the idea of visualizing work in progress and limiting work in progress (WIP). This helps to reduce waste and improve flow.

Kanban is a simple and flexible methodology that can be easily adapted to different teams and projects. It is a great choice for teams that are looking to improve their agility and productivity.

Agile Project Management with Kanban (Developer Best Practices) by Eric Brechner

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 4473 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Print length	: 162 pages

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Key Principles of Kanban

- **Visualize work in progress.** Kanban uses a visual board to track work in progress. This helps to make work visible and transparent, so that everyone can see what is being worked on and where it is in the process.

- **Limit work in progress.** Kanban limits the amount of work that can be in progress at any one time. This helps to reduce waste and improve flow. When WIP is limited, teams are forced to focus on completing the work that is already in progress before starting new work.

- **Manage flow.** Kanban focuses on managing the flow of work through the system. The goal is to keep work moving smoothly from one stage to the next, without any bottlenecks. Kanban uses a variety of techniques to manage flow, such as pull systems, kanban boards, and swim lanes.
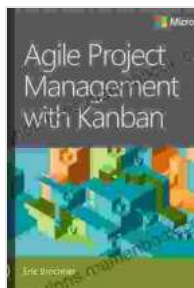
Benefits of Using Kanban

- **Improved productivity.** Kanban can help teams to improve their productivity by reducing waste and improving flow. When teams are able to see what work is in progress and where it is in the process, they can better prioritize their work and avoid bottlenecks.

- **Increased efficiency.** Kanban can help teams to increase their efficiency by limiting work in progress. When WIP is limited, teams are forced to focus on completing the work that is already in progress before starting new work. This helps to reduce multitasking and context switching, which can lead to increased efficiency.

- **Improved quality.** Kanban can help teams to improve the quality of their work by making work visible and transparent. When everyone can see what is being worked on and where it is in the process, it is easier to identify and address problems early on. This can help to prevent defects and improve the overall quality of the work.

Best Practices for Developers

- **Use a visual board.** A visual board is a great way to track work in progress and manage flow. Kanban boards can be physical or digital. There are many different types of kanban boards available, so you can choose one that best suits your team's needs.

- **Limit work in progress.** Limiting work in progress is essential for improving productivity and efficiency. The number of WIP limits that you set will depend on the size and maturity of your team. A good starting point is to limit WIP to 2-3 items per team member.

- **Manage flow.** Managing flow is key to keeping work moving smoothly through the system. Kanban uses a variety of techniques to manage flow, such as pull systems, kanban boards, and swim lanes. Pull systems help to ensure that work is pulled into the system as needed, rather than being pushed into the system. Kanban boards help to visualize work in progress and identify bottlenecks. Swim lanes can be used to separate different types of work or to track work at different stages in the process.

- **Use metrics to track progress.** Metrics can be used to track progress and identify areas for improvement. Some common Kanban metrics include cycle time, lead time, and throughput. Cycle time is the amount of time it takes to complete a work item. Lead time is the amount of time it takes from when a work item is started to when it is completed. Throughput is the number of work items that are completed in a given period of time.

Kanban is a powerful agile project management methodology that can help developers improve their productivity and efficiency. By following the key

principles and best practices of Kanban, teams can create a more efficient and effective workflow.

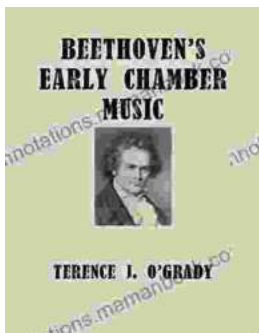### Agile Project Management with Kanban (Developer Best Practices) by Eric Brechner

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