

# Agile Karlskrona test

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How agile are you? A test to find out where "on the road" from waterfall to agile your software development team is at the moment. The test result shows where your team stands right now.

Team \_\_\_\_\_

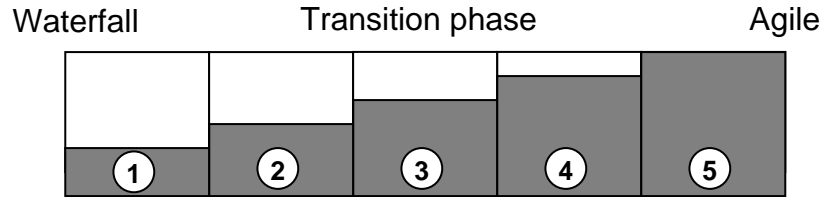
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please select ONE answer per question, use the possibility that fits best.

1. Do you regularly deliver fully working software (documented and tested)?
  - No, we wait until everything is finished
  - We gradually improve software and tests
  - We deliver software and fix issues later
  - We gradually improve and show to customer
2. How long are these delivery iterations?
  - Depending on planned deadlines
  - Every 8 weeks or less
  - Every few months, very variable
  - Every 4 weeks or less, always same length
3. How much is documented before start of implementation?
  - Complete product is specified
  - Basic product features, expected to change
  - Little, someone decides what to do
  - Clearly defined goals, details will be worked out
4. How often do you adjust or improve your way of working?
  - Nearly never, management takes care
  - We hold regular meetings and change things
  - After something important went wrong
  - Every day we indentify issues and take actions
5. Is there a collection of items and features describing the product?
  - One big requirements document
  - List prioritized by customer/business needs
  - Some parts, not always up to date
  - List with user stories and estimated difficulty
6. Do you know someone who is responsible for the product?
  - No, we use documents to communicate
  - One person is responsible and always available
  - Group of people is responsible
  - Direct contact to a customer representative
7. How is the team's work planned?
  - Management decides what's needed
  - Team implements high value items first
  - Developers know what's important
  - Team and customer plan multiple iterations
8. How good is the cooperation across team borders?
  - Team leader or project leader takes care
  - We all know the big picture and plan together
  - Management never listens
  - Teams and customers work actively together
9. How do teams track their work?
  - Write down how many hours spent
  - Estimate weekly the remaining work
  - Write weekly status report
  - Update daily how much work is remaining
10. Do you know if your team efficiency improves over time?
  - I don't know, we don't measure this
  - Team can compare efficiency of past iterations
  - We measure time spent and overtime
  - Team knows velocity and improves it
11. Is the team disrupted from work?
  - Scope of work is regularly changed
  - There are few unexpected changes in iterations
  - Management often assigns new tasks
  - Team can solely focus on planned work

**Survey evaluation:** Each cross on the right column counts one point, the left column counts zero (max one point per question). Calculate the average amount of points for the whole team and look up the final grade below. Discuss the results with the team, repeat the test in a few months.

0-2 points = grade 1  
3-4 points = grade 2  
5-7 points = grade 3  
8-9 points = grade 4  
10-11 points = grade 5



**Grade 1 - Waterfall:** Your team has a hierarchal way of working (central organization decides what to do) or has little rules on how to work together (cowboy coding). If you are interested in agile development your company should start with one team in an agile pilot project.

**Grade 2 - First steps:** Your team follows some ideas of agile development. In many areas there is a lot of potential for improvements. Take a look at the answers on the right column. All of them show good agile practices and will help you in the transition phase.

**Grade 3 - Half way:** Your team is between the old way of working and agile development. You demonstrated good work, make sure that you don't fall back into old command & control habits. Becoming agile means a shift in mentality, get people who support and protect the teams.

**Grade 4 - Nearly reached:** Your team already follows many ideas of agile development. In some areas you have room for improvements, take a look at the items your team crossed on the left column. It shows typical anti patterns, get the whole company on board and focus to remove these.

**Grade 5 - Agile:** Congratulations you passed the test! Your team has established a working agile development and follows good practices. You can now focus on further improvements, e.g. monitor your efficiency to become more productive, try to keep motivation and fun high all the time!

Feedback and suggestions are welcome!  
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