

Team Task Board Quiz

Tick the items that are TRUE for you?

1 Is it difficult to see or find your board? ☐

2 Do you only see your own work when you look at your board? ☐

3 Has your board layout been the same for a few months? ☐

4 Are there more items in progress than members on the team? ☐

5 Does work ever move backwards on your board? ☐

6 Is work assigned to you before you finish your current task? ☐

7 Is it difficult to predict when a piece of work will be done? ☐

8 Does it take a lot of effort to estimate work? ☐

9 Do you have a column for blocked work? ☐

10 Do some items get stuck on the board for weeks? ☐

Add up your ticks, how did you score?

0 Kanban ROCKSTARS! 1-3 Not bad, need some tweaks
4-6 Loads of room to improve 7+ Don't despair, Kanban can help

See an explanation of each item on the next page.

Our Kanban course will help you understand each of these principles and show you what you can do to improve.

1

For work to be visible, you should be able to see your board at all times, either as a physical board, or an electronic tool that is a single click away.

2

If you only look at your own work, it's difficult to see if there is a bottleneck in your team's workload. Kanban aims to optimise the whole system, not just individual work.

3

Kanban aims for continuous improvement. If the layout has stagnated there is a good chance your process has stagnated as well.

4

The less work in progress, the faster items will move through your board, and the less context switching occurs. Work in progress (WIP) limits help ensure this.

5

If work moves backwards, it interrupts tasks and confuses priorities. It is better to fix issues at the workflow stage where they are found.

6

The goal of Kanban is for work to be pulled through the system, only when you are finished with the previous task.

7

Cycle time is a metric you can use in Kanban to easily predict when an item of work will be completed based on when work starts on that item.

8

In Kanban you don't need to estimate to get an accurate prediction of how long things will take. Imagine never having to estimate again.

9

A blocked column signals it's okay for work to be blocked, and items often stay there for days if not weeks. Blockages are impediments to progress and should be resolved regularly.

10

To maximise your throughput it's important for work to flow smoothly through the system. One item getting stuck indicates a problem in the system.

