

45% OF I.T. PROJECTS SUFFER COST OVERRUNS.

THAT'S WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO



CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGE

ASK YOURSELF, IS IT A

SMALL/LOW

RISK PROJECT

Prioritise by:

BUSINESS VALUE & TECHNICAL IMPACT

Here you prioritise your task by assigning a qualitative score (high, medium or low) to the business value & technical impact (complexity).

- Considers technical & business perspectives

FEATURE #1

ACCEPT CASH PAYMENTS

Business Value

Technical Impact High

CONS

- Not suited for big projects
- Repetitive values
- Ambiguous & limited
- Hard to coordinate stakeholders
- Weight of criteria not clear

• • • • • • • • • OR

MosCoW

Here you classify the tasks by **M**ust, Should, Could or Won't be performed.

| UST | SHOULD | COULD | WON'T |
|-----|--------|-------|-------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

PROS

- Simple
- Forced to "throw the garbage away'

CONS

- Division between business value & technical complexity is unclear
- Non-M tasks hardly done
- Weight between "M" tasks unclear

•••• OR

\$100 METHOD

This is where each team member gets a budget of \$100 & decides which features they want to spend it on.

| | EFFORT | COST | INVEST | PRIORITY |
|---------|--------|------|--------|----------|
| FEATURE | 5 SP | 5\$ | 25\$ | 5 |
| FEATURE | 8 SP | 8\$ | 48\$ | 6 |
| FEATURE | 3 SP | 3\$ | 12\$ | 4 |

PROS

- Simple
- Forced to "throw the garbage away'

CONS

- Hard to measure monetary value of intangible assets
- People could negotiate their money & create alliances
- Risk of someone allocating all the money into a specific task

YOUR GUTS

Creates biased results

BIG/HIGH

RISK PROJECT

Prioritise by:

VALUE, COST & RISK

(Wiegers & Betty Method)

Here you prioritise based on the:

- **Relative Business Value**
- that a feature, user story or functional requirement will provide
- Relative Cost or Effort of implementing a specific feature
- Risk of Probability
- of not getting the feature right the first time

Value = (W_B x RelativeBenefit) + (W_P x RelativePenalty)

VALUE FORMULA

Value % =
$$\frac{\text{value}}{\sum_{i=0}^{n} \text{value}_{i}}$$

COST FORMULA

Cost % = -

RISK FORMULA

Risk % =
$$\frac{\text{risk}}{\sum_{i=0}^{n} \text{risk}_{i}}$$

Where n = amount of features -

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Here's how it all comes together:

PRIORITY FORMULA

Value % (W_c x Cost %) + (W_R x Risk %)

— Where W_C = Cost weight, W_R = Risk weight ——

PROS

- Reduces ambiguity & subjectivity
- Provides an accurate priority
- Extensible & can be adapted to our needs & constraints

CONS

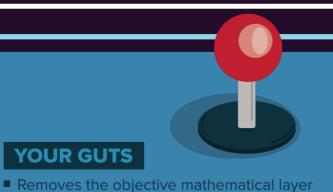
- Simple, but could be an overkill in small projects or quick prioritisation
- In agile environments, it's difficult to bring in all perspectives from business

KEEP IN MIND

Don't prioritise by:

BUSINESS VALUE ONLY

- May block valuable features
- Can create unnecessary technical debt



TIPS & TRICKS

Group by:

- Capabilities & dependencies
- Stakeholders
- Define multiple spreadsheets for different granularity & abstraction levels
- Always review the final results