

# USER STORY LIFE CYCLE

Optional Level  
Required Level

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ScrumCrazy.com

Scrum Coaching & Training

[www.scrumcrazy.com/lifecycle](http://www.scrumcrazy.com/lifecycle)

**MIGHT BE:**

- Big & abstract
- A lot of unknowns
- Major open issues
- Vague in size, details, or logic

**REQUEST**  
When Submitted

**ROADMAP & VISION**  
Yearly

**RELEASE PLANNING**  
Quarterly

**GROOMING**  
Weekly

2-3X

**SHOULD BE:**

- More firm & concrete
- Small with few unknowns
- Only small open issues
- Clear in size, details, logic & Story Tests

**READY**  
*Before* it  
Becomes Work  
in Progress

**WORK IN PROGRESS**  
Automation of Code  
or Story Tests  
has Begun

**DONE!**  
Product Owner  
Accepts, Automated  
Story Tests Pass  
& Meets Definition  
of Done

**DEATH & LEGACY**  
Automated Regression  
Tests Pass

These system-wide, automated Story Tests form an "Executable Specification" of correct system behavior.



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User stories are not a part of Scrum, though they are a proven and popular complementary practice for implementing Product Backlog Items in Scrum.

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