SDLC Explained

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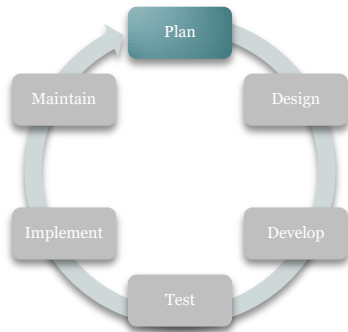
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Systems Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

Plan

Design

Develop

Test

Implement

Maintain
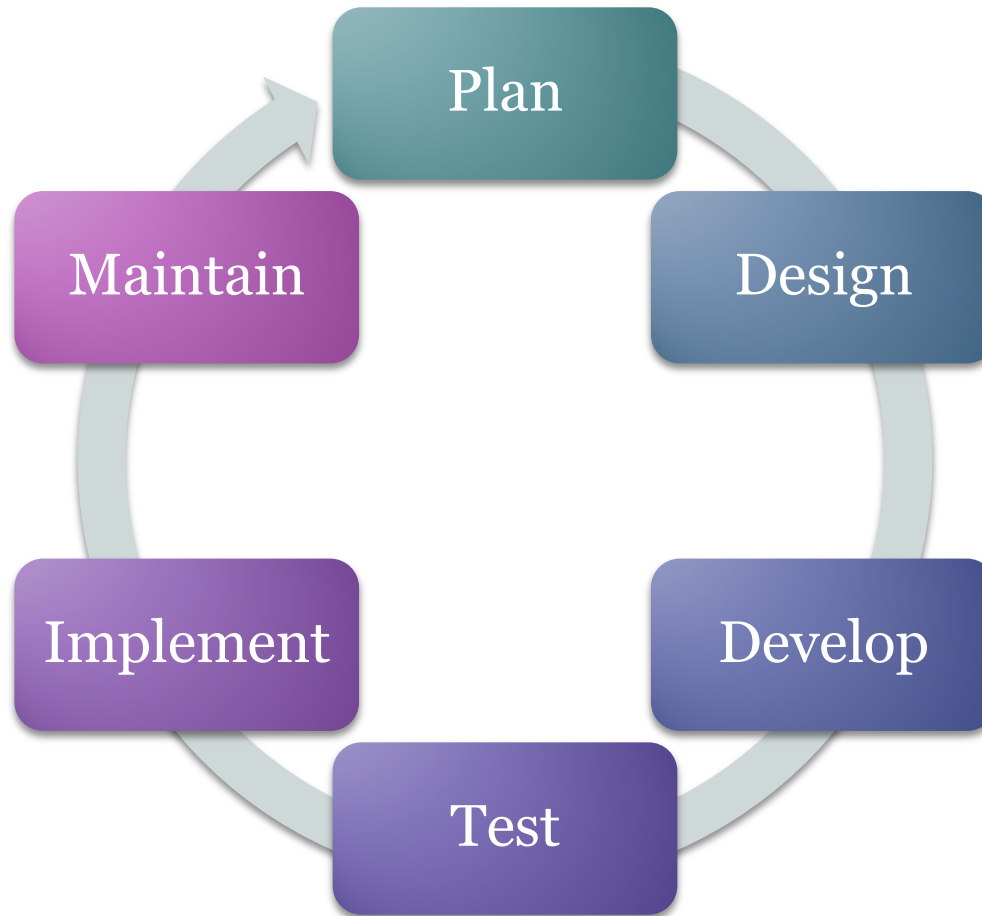
Click on a phase of the SDLC to learn more about it

Plan Phase

- ➢ Also referred to as the Requirements Analysis phase

- ➢ Most important phase in the SDLC

- ➢ Elements of the Plan Phase
  - Determine what concern this application will address
  - Gather and analyze requirements
  - Risk assessment conducted
  - Project Schedule developed
  - Initiation meeting with stakeholders

- ➢ Deliverables: Project schedule, Requirements document, Scope of Work (SOW)

The most important task during this phase is gathering and analyzing requirements.

Design Phase
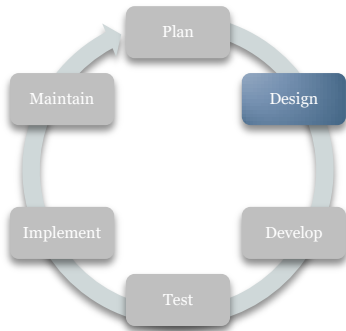
- ➢ The Design Phase is where the application's design is determined and documented

- ➢ Change Management should be implemented in this phase

- ➢ Elements of the Design Phase
  - • Application's architecture is determined
  - • Design document is developed
  - • Integration with existing systems is determined
  - • Processes and procedures are determined
  - • Initial diagrams of the system are developed

- ➢ Deliverables: Design document, processes, diagrams

Customer requirements gathered in the Plan phase are vital to the Design phase.
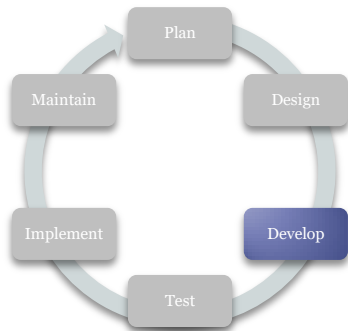
Develop Phase

➤ The Develop phase is where the application is built

➤ Change Management begins during this phase

➤ Elements of the Develop Phase
  - A beta version of the application is developed
  - Processes and procedures for use with the application are written
  - Training materials are developed
  - Test scripts are developed
  - Test resources are determined

➤ Deliverables: Beta version of the application, training materials, test scripts

The Develop Phase is typically the longest phase of the SDLC.

Test Phase

Plan

Maintain

Design

Implement

Develop
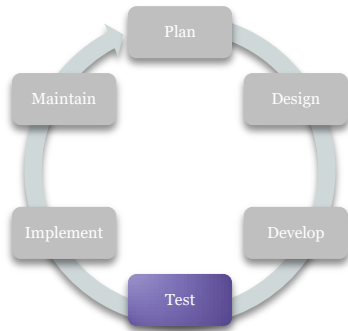
Test

➢ The Test phase is where User Acceptance Testing (UAT) takes place

➢ This phase could be repeated depending on test results

➢ Elements of the Test Phase
  • UAT testing takes place
  • Testing includes server load tests
  • Test results are documented
  • Changes are implemented, documented and tested

➢ Deliverables: Test results, documented changes made to the application

Change Management processes are important during this phase.
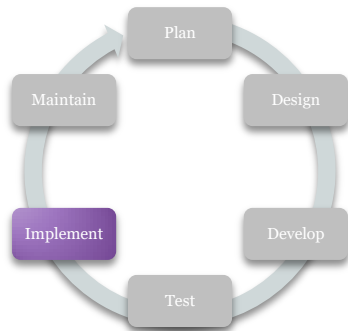
Implement Phase

➢ The Implement Phase is where the application is deployed to end users

➢ End user training is an important part of this phase

➢ Elements of the Implement Phase
- Training approximately one week prior to deployment
- User feedback collected and documented
- Close out meeting takes place
- Customer sign off

➢ Deliverables: Application deployed, training, customer sign-off, lessons learned documented

Communication with the end user community is vital during this phase.
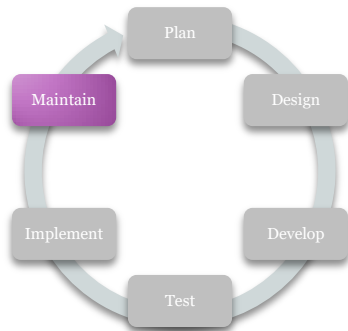
Maintain Phase

➤ The Maintain Phase takes place after successful deployment of the application and customer sign off

➤ The application will either be handed off to the customer or managed by the onsite Program Management Office (PMO)

➤ Customer follow-up is essential during this phase

➤ An annual assessment should take place to determine if any changes need to be made

➤ Deliverables: A satisfied customer that would be happy to do business with you in the future

Maintaining communication with the customer is vital after the project ends.