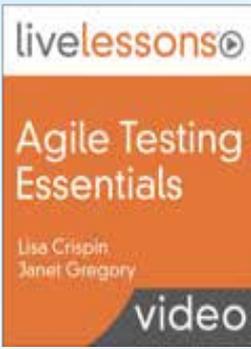


Principles to Guide Testing: Modern and Agile

Lisa Crispin

With content from Janet Gregory,
Alan Page and Brent Jensen

A little about me



With Janet Gregory



“Agile Testing for the Whole Team” now available as a remote course



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What I'll talk about:

- 10 Principles for Agile Testers
- Modern Testing Principles
- How they relate
- How they can help you and your team



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Principles for Agile Testers

- Provide continuous feedback
- Deliver value to the customer
- Enable face-to-face communication
- Have courage
- Keep it simple
- Practice continuous improvement
- Respond to change
- Self-organize
- Focus on people
- Enjoy



Modern Testing
Principles, from Alan
Page's TestBash
Home talk

Principles In Brief

1

Business First

2

Bottlenecks Out

3

Always Learn and Improve

4

Lead a Quality Culture

5

The Customer is King

6

Data trumps intuition

7

Everyone can test

Modern Testing (MT) principles (part 1)

From Alan Page and Brent Jensen

1. Our priority is improving the business.
2. We accelerate the team and use models like Lean Thinking and the Theory of Constraints to help identify, prioritize and mitigate bottlenecks from the system.
3. We are a force for continuous improvement, helping the team adapt and optimize in order to succeed, rather than providing a safety net to catch failures.



MT principles (part 2)

4. We care deeply about the quality culture of our team, and we coach, lead, and nurture the team towards a more mature quality culture.
5. We believe that the customer is the only one capable to judge and evaluate the quality of our product
6. We use data extensively to deeply understand customer usage and then close the gaps between product hypotheses and business impact.
7. We expand testing abilities and knowhow across the team; understanding that this may reduce (or eliminate) the need for a dedicated testing specialist.



How do the agile testing (AT) and Modern Testing (MT) of principles relate?

Or do they?



The AT principles support the MT principles

Let's explore them one by one...

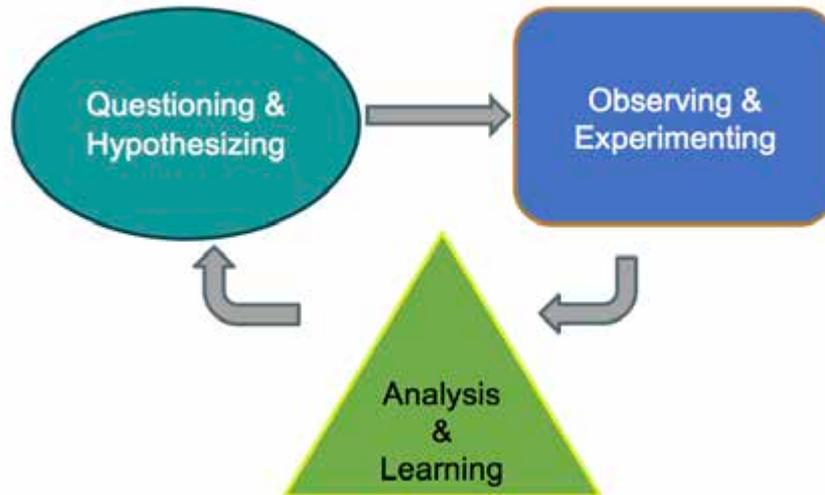
Photo by [Daniel Gonzalez](#) on [Unsplash](#)

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AT #1: Provide continuous feedback – MT #1 & #3

- Continuous feedback -> continuous improvement
- Vital for continuous delivery / deployment
- Pairing and mobbing – shortest feedback loops



AT #2: Deliver value to the customer – MT #5 & #6

- Learn quickly from production use
- Think about all the customers
- Let learning drive new changes
- Build shared understanding around this



AT #3: Face to face communication – MT #2, 3, 4

- Virtually face to face is effective too!
- Help accelerate & continuously improve
- Teams that own quality together perform better



AT #4: Have courage – MT #7

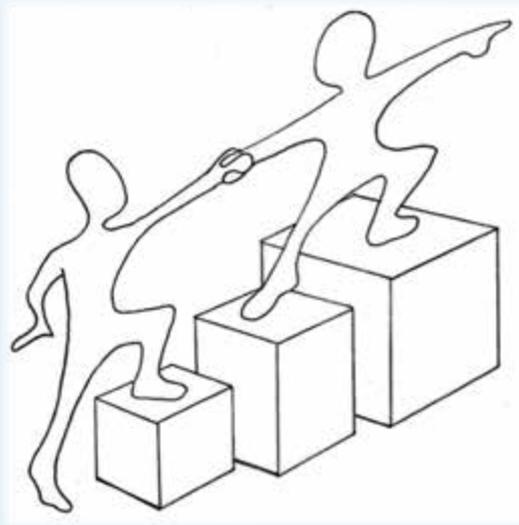
- Courage to stop being a safety net!
- Teams that own quality together perform better



I can
test my
code!

AT #5: Keep it simple

- No obvious correlation with a single MT principle
- The MT principles can seem overwhelming
- Start simple, take one small step at a time



AT #6: Continuous improvement – MT #3

- Shared by both lists
- Core practice for any team embracing agile and DevOps culture
- Responding to change



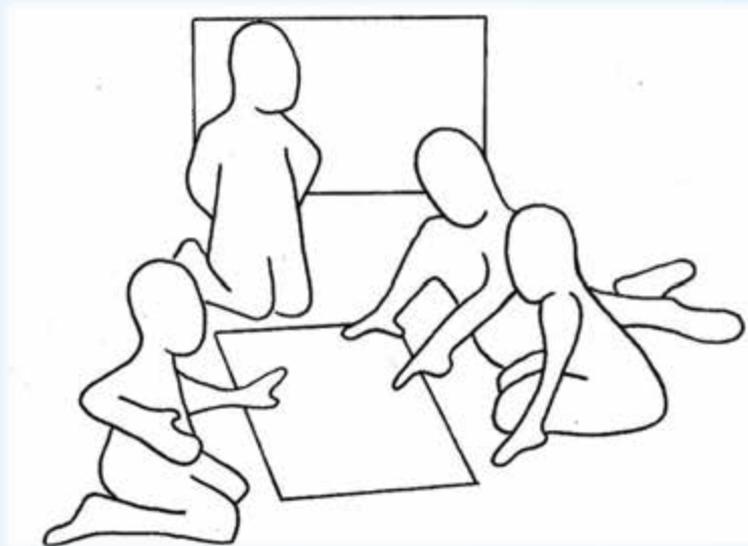
AT #7: Responding to Change – MT #3 & #6

- Based on production data – what's the biggest problem?
- Find ways to make it visible
- Design small experiments to help solve the problems
- Measure progress with data



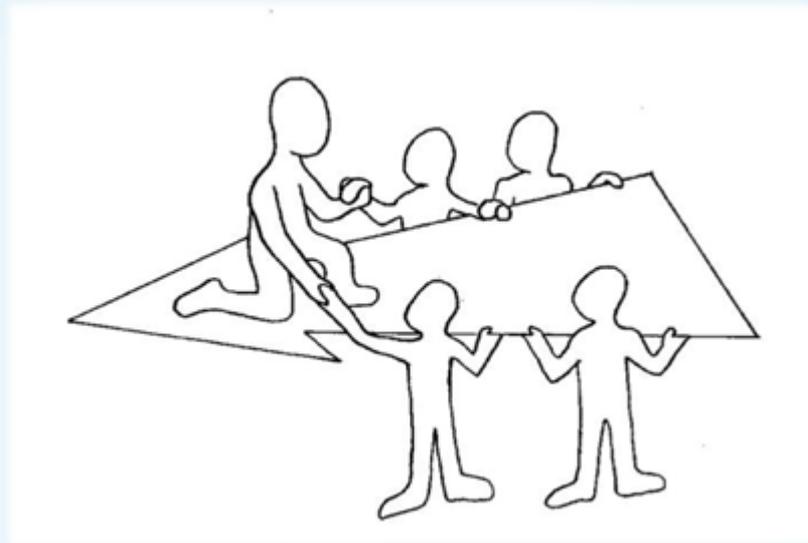
AT #8: Self-organize – MT #4

- Self-organize to build a quality culture, collaboratively
- Manage WIP for a sustainable, consistent pace
- Relates to continual improvement



AT #9: Focus on people – all 7 MT principles

- People, not tools or methodologies, make teams successful
- We have science to back this up!



AT #10 Enjoyment!

- The Modern Testing call to action is a big challenge
- Don't take it on if you won't enjoy the journey!

Helping your company & team succeed

+

Growing a culture of quality

+

Helping non-testers learn to build quality in

Hugely rewarding accomplishments!

They're principles, not rules

- Use them as a “guiding light”
- They may continue to evolve
- The foundations remain the same



Which principles resonate with you?

Agile Testing

Provide continuous feedback
Deliver value to the customer
Enable face-to-face communication
Have courage
Keep it simple
Practice continuous improvement
Respond to change
Self-organize
Focus on people
Enjoy

Modern Testing

Business First

Bottlenecks Out

Always Learn and Improve

Lead a Quality Culture

The Customer is King

Data trumps intuition

Everyone can test

Questions?



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Let's continue the conversation!

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Links

- “Our take on the Modern Testing principles”
<https://agiletester.ca/our-take-on-the-principles-for-the-modern-agile-tester/>
- “Quick tools for agile testing” (available in 10 languages):
<https://agiletester.ca/quick-tips-for-agile-testing/>
- “Modern Testing Principles” poster by Melissa Eaden:
<https://www.ministryoftesting.com/dojo/lessons/modern-testing-principles>
- <https://moderntesting.org>
- Practical Application of Modern Testing, Melissa Eaden,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPaDoJARFhw>

