

# A Product Manager's Check List For Avoiding Getting Burned by Software Quality



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Product Management is hard. You have enough to worry about without wondering if you've covered all the software quality bases.

Here's a simple checklist that can help make sure you've touched all the important quality bases and won't have any nasty surprises when you launch.

We help our Product Manager customers answer these questions every day. The more answers you have, the lower your risk of failing to achieve your goals.

## Achieving Your Goals

- Are Goals clearly defined and understandable?
- Is there a valid strategy or just a To-Do List plan?
- Are goals written or discussed daily?
- Is cost vs. value still aligned?

## Project and Release QA Planning

- Will you need regression testing? If so, how much?
- How will you align sprint testing with next sprint development and fixes?
- Real time testing, unit testing, or planned testing phases?
- How much test coverage is enough? How will you know?
- Plan B for testing when delays blow up your plan?

## Risk Identification and Management

- Test coverage amount?
- Full, false and required
- Penetration testing coverage?
- Performance testing coverage?
- Cross device/browser testing coverage?
- Risks identified with a burn down list?

## Story Development

- Are stories complete with a verifiable end state?
- Are stories testable - happy path, edge cases and failure?
- Are story assumptions clearly documented?

## Faster Cycle Times

- Are stories with test cases included in schedule?
- Is real-time testing behind each software developer?
- 3rd party unit testing?
- Test automation creation vs. maintenance vs. manual testing - what's the best split?

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