

# Zero to Hero: The Accidental Project Manager's Guide to Success in Iterations

If you're an accidental project manager, don't worry - you're not alone.



## Accidental Agile Project Manager: Zero to Hero in 7 Iterations (Accidental Project Manager) by Sandi Krakowski

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In fact, many of the most successful project managers started out as accidental project managers. They may have been thrust into the role because of their technical expertise or their leadership skills. Or they may have simply volunteered to take on a project because no one else wanted to do it.

Whatever the reason, accidental project managers often find themselves in a position where they have to learn the ropes of project management on

the fly. This can be a daunting task, but it's also an opportunity to learn and grow.

In this article, we'll guide you through the iterative process of becoming a successful project manager, from planning and execution to monitoring and evaluation.

## ## Planning

The first step in any project is planning. This is where you define the project's goals, objectives, and scope. You also need to identify the resources you'll need to complete the project and develop a timeline.

If you're an accidental project manager, you may not have a lot of experience with planning projects. However, there are a number of resources available to help you get started.

One helpful resource is the Project Management Institute (PMI). PMI offers a number of certification programs for project managers, including the Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.

Another helpful resource is the Association for Project Management (APM). APM offers a number of resources for project managers, including training courses, conferences, and networking opportunities.

## ## Execution

Once you've planned your project, it's time to execute it. This is where you put your plan into action and start working towards your goals.

As you execute your project, it's important to monitor your progress and make adjustments as needed. This will help you stay on track and avoid any potential problems.

There are a number of different ways to monitor your project's progress. One common method is to use a Gantt chart. A Gantt chart is a visual representation of your project's timeline. It shows you the tasks that need to be completed, the dependencies between those tasks, and the overall progress of the project.

Another common method for monitoring project progress is to use a burn-down chart. A burn-down chart shows you the amount of work that has been completed on a project over time.

## ## Monitoring and Evaluation

Once you've completed your project, it's important to monitor and evaluate its results. This will help you determine whether or not the project was successful and what you can learn from it for future projects.

There are a number of different ways to monitor and evaluate a project's results. One common method is to use a project post-mortem. A project post-mortem is a meeting where the project team discusses the project's results and identifies areas for improvement.

Another common method for monitoring and evaluating a project's results is to use a lessons learned log. A lessons learned log is a document where the project team records the lessons they learned during the project.

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Becoming a successful project manager takes time and effort. However, by following the iterative process outlined in this article, you can increase your chances of success.

Remember, you don't have to be a perfect project manager to be successful. Just be willing to learn, adapt, and improve.



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