What is a Product Backlog

- A Scrum product backlog is simply a list of things to do for the project.
  - A list of features to be implemented
  - A collection of tasks in order to implement these features
  - In the form of user stories
  - With priority, estimates, and current status
  - At a relatively high level, no specific low level tasks

Roles of team members in Product Backlog

- The Scrum Product Owner owns the Product Backlog
- The Scrum Master and other team members contribute to the backlog so it contains a broad and complete to-do list

Typical items in a Product Backlog

- **ID**: define an ID for each item for easy references
- **Story**: describe the item to handle as a user story
- **Estimate**: use a point system to estimate the importance of the item
- **Priority**: define which item(s) should be tackled first
- **Status**: indicate the current status of the item
  - not-started-yet, in progress, done

Sample product backlog

- ![Sample product backlog image](http://www.scrum-institute.org/The_Scrum_Product_Backlog.php)

How to **estimate** your product backlog

- Product backlog estimate is at a relatively high level. It gives the team a rough idea how important each task or feature is in the final product.
- Estimate the product backlog using points. One example is to use the first a few Fibonacci numbers:
  - 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21
- Maintain a total points for the product so we can see the importance of a task or feature in relation to the product (see the example on previous slide)

- ![How to estimate product backlog](http://www.allaboutagile.com/how-to-implement-scrum-in-10-easy-steps-step-2-how-to-estimate-your-product-backlog/)
Characteristics of a product backlog

- Each Scrum Product Backlog has certain properties that differentiate it from a simple to-do list:
  - an entry in the Scrum Product Backlog always add value for the customer
  - the entries in the Scrum Product Backlog are prioritized and ordered accordingly
  - the level of detail depends on the position of the entry within the Scrum Product Backlog
  - all entries are estimated
  - the Scrum Product Backlog is a living document
  - there are no action-items or low-level tasks in the Scrum Product Backlog

What is a Sprint Backlog

- The sprint backlog is a list of tasks identified by the Scrum team to be completed during the Scrum sprint.
- All entries have to be estimated on a person-hour base in order to track progress and remaining efforts.

Sample Sprint Backlog (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
<th>Day 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Code Perf</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Sprint Backlog (2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Task 1</th>
<th>Task 2</th>
<th>Task 3</th>
<th>Task 4</th>
<th>Task 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimate</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The numerical values in the Day column can have different meaning. It is commonly considered best to use person-hours as an estimate.

References (1)

- The Scrum Product Backlog
- A Sample Format for a Spreadsheet-Based Product Backlog
  - [https://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/blog/a-sample-format-for-a-spreadsheet-based-product-backlog](https://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/blog/a-sample-format-for-a-spreadsheet-based-product-backlog)
- How To Implement Scrum in 10 Easy Steps
- Spring Backlog
  - [https://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/agile/scrum/sprint-backlog](https://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/agile/scrum/sprint-backlog)

References (2)

- The Spring Backlog
- Don’t Estimate the Sprint Backlog Using Task Points
  - [https://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/blog/dont-estimate-the-sprint-backlog-using-task-points](https://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/blog/dont-estimate-the-sprint-backlog-using-task-points)