



Principles to Guide Testing: Modern and Agile

Lisa Crispin

With content from Janet Gregory,
Alan Page and Brent Jensen

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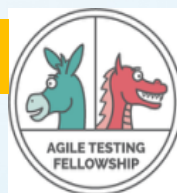
A little about me



With Janet Gregory



"Agile Testing for the Whole
Team" AgileTestingFellow.com



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What I'll talk about:

- 10 Principles for Agile Testers – from me and Janet Gregory
- Modern Testing Principles – from Alan Page and Brent Jensen
- How they relate to each other
- How they can help you and your team



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Let's start with the agile testing principles



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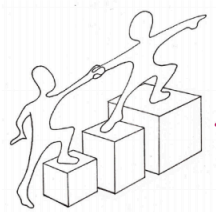
10 Principles for Agile Testers



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



10 Principes pour le testeur agile

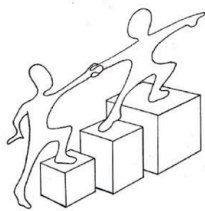


Donner du feedback en continu
 Livrer de la valeur au client
 Permettre la communication
 en face-à-face
 Avoir du courage
 Garder les choses simples
 Pratiquer l'amélioration continue
 Répondre au changement
 S'auto-organiser
 Mettre l'accent sur les personnes
 Prendre plaisir



Which of these do you already embrace?

10 Principles for Agile Testers



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Modern Testing Principles – Alan Page, Brent Jensen



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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)

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.

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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.

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MT principles (part 3)

7. We expand testing abilities and knowhow across the team; understanding that this may reduce (or eliminate) the need for a dedicated testing specialist.

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Wait, what, “eliminate the need for a dedicated testing specialist...”



How do you feel about that idea?

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



Or do they?

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The AT principles support the MT principles

Let's explore them one by one...



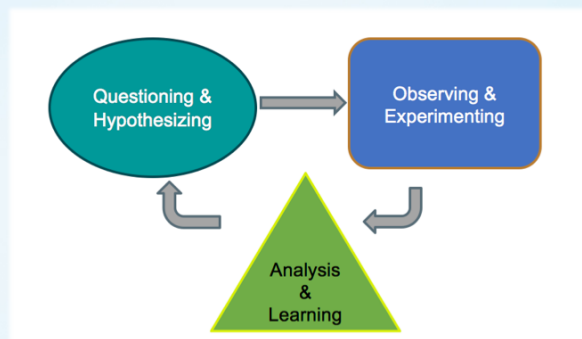
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Photo by [Daniel Gonzalez](#) on [Unsplash](#)



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

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



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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



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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



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AT #4: Have courage – MT #7

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



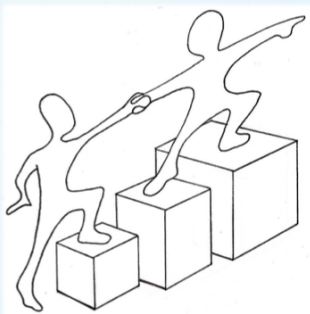
I can
test my
code!

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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



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AT #6: Continuous improvement – MT #3

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



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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

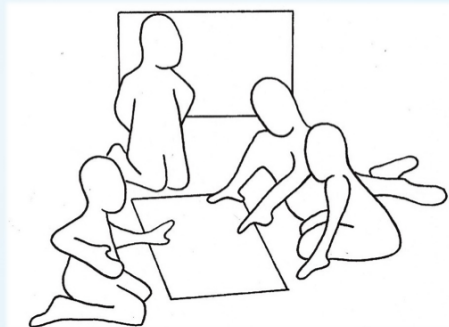


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AT #8: Self-organize – MT #4

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

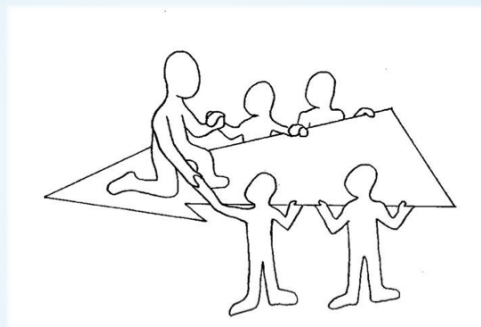


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AT #9: Focus on people – all 7 MT principles

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



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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!

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They're principles, not rules

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



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Which principles resonate with you?

Agile Testing

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- Deliver value to the customer
- Enable face-to-face communication
- Have courage
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- Focus on people
- Enjoy

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Modern Testing

- Business First**
- Bottlenecks Out**
- Always Learn and Improve**
- Lead a Quality Culture**
- The Customer is King**
- Data trumps intuition**
- Everyone can test**



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”: <https://agiletester.ca/quick-tips-for-agile-testing/> En français: <https://agiletester.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/26/2015/10/Agile-tips-French-revised2.pdf>
- “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>

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Questions?



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