

# Planning Poker Exercise

---



Planning Poker is a consensus-driven estimating technique that combines the opinions of experts, the use of analogy, and decomposition to estimate the size of one thing relative to the size another. It leverages our innate ability of comparison over our limited ability to judge absolutes. Planning Poker also levels the playing field to ensure that all voices on the delivery team are heard.

## Exercise Instructions:

### Step 1: Preparation

1. Remove any cards greater than 13 from your planning poker deck. Use only the following cards from your deck: ?, 0, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, and 13.
2. Select a team member to moderate - this person will simply call for all team members to show their estimates by displaying a planning poker card.

### Step 2: Set a Reference Point

1. For this exercise, simply pick a user story at random from the Poodle Backlog.
2. Then assign this user story a value of either 3 or 5.

### Step 3: Play Planning Poker

1. Select any user story from the Poodle Backlog.
2. As a team briefly discuss what may need to be done to accomplish this story - **2 minute limit**.
3. Each member of the team should select a card reflecting their estimate of the size of this story compared to the reference story. Is this story bigger or smaller? By how much? **Do not show your card to anyone yet.**
4. The moderator calls for all team members to show their cards at the same time.
5. The team members with the lowest and highest estimates should briefly explain their estimates to the team.
6. Repeat steps 3 thru 5 until the team reaches a consensus of the estimate for this story.
7. Select another user story and continue using the same process.

## Poodle Backlog

---

As a pet owner I want FíFí to be bathed and groomed so that she look's her best when my in-laws visit.

As a pet owner I want FíFí to "stay" on command so that I can keep her safe.

As a pet owner I want FíFí to have adequate shelter outside.

As a pet owner I want FíFí to get regular exercise so that she stays active and fit.

As a pet owner I want FíFí to socialize with other dogs so that she is well behaved.

As a pet owner I want FíFí to have her monthly treatments for fleas and parasites so that she stays healthy.

As a pet owner I want FíFí to have her annual check-up.