

PRD: Name of Product

author1@, author2@

Date last updated: 11-01-2015

[PRD: Name of Product](#)

[Vision](#)

[Motivation](#)

[Key Path Scenarios](#)

[Detailed Design & Features Description](#)

[Design Principles](#)

[Suggested Information Architecture](#)

[Features](#)

[Roadmap](#)

[v1 aka Minimum Viable Product](#)

[vNext](#)

[vLongterm](#)

[Milestones / Timing](#)

[Metrics](#)

[Projected Costs](#)

[Engineering Costs](#)

[Marketing / other Costs](#)

[Operational Needs](#)

[Risks](#)

[International](#)

[Group Members](#)

Vision

1-2 sentence description of target customers, their unmet needs, and your proposed solution.

Consider using Geoffrey Moore's positioning statement from Crossing the Chasm, i.e., "For [target customer segments] who must [problem to be solved], our product is a new [category name] that provides [solution to the problem]. Unlike [current solutions], we offer [key differentiating factor]."

Motivation

Copy this section from your [MRD](#) (including personas, unmet needs, existing solutions, differentiation, and why now?), yellow highlighting any new material added since your MRD was completed.

Key Path Scenarios

Key Path Scenarios describe how personas interact with the product; they are called “use cases” in many product development processes.

Adapting the use scenarios from your MRD as appropriate, describe the key pathways that your primary personas will take through the product’s user interface with the greatest frequency. Use a step-by-step narrative approach to describe how the persona will interact with the product, interspersing user interface wireframes and/or detailed mocks throughout your text narrative. Be sure to specify your product’s modality, e.g., whether it is a native mobile app, a responsive website, desktop client software, etc.

PRD key path scenarios are more task oriented than MRD use scenarios, which focus on personas’ goals. Also, remember that while MRD use scenarios should be feasible with existing technologies, they do not describe which specific technologies should be employed in the product, nor do they describe the user interface. PRD key path scenarios, by contrast, should depict your user interface and should be compatible with the specific technologies that are likely to be used in what is described below as vLongTerm, i.e., the mature version of your product.

While the narrative should focus on users’ interactions with the product, it should also include some description of server-side activities required to support those interactions. For example, “After user clicks ‘Buy,’ server checks database for user’s credit card and shipping address. If present, then server presents...”

If your product serves a two-sided network, be sure to include key path scenarios for both sides.

If your product has separate features for site administrators, consider including key path scenarios for them.

Detailed Design & Features Description

Design Principles

State any overarching design principles.

- Examples of principles: “we are willing to omit incremental features to maintain ease of use,” “We must preserve backward compatibility with earlier versions”
- For ideas, see the lists of principles collected by [adactio](#); chapter 13 in Marty Cagan’s [Inspired](#), as well as statements by [Microsoft](#), [OPOWER](#), [TiVo](#), etc.
- Consider citing some products with design elements you admire and would aspire to emulate

Suggested Information Architecture

Describe, at a high level and preferably using the MVC model, your information architecture.

List the key tables of your **database** and their main data elements; the key views of your **display**; and the key **logic** components/algorithms that control how user inputs are processed, how data is retrieved/transformed, how appropriate displays are invoked, etc. Consider organizing these elements in a table with columns labelled “model,” “view,” and “controller,” and rows contain specific database tables, their corresponding display views, and the relevant algorithm/processing logic module.

Features

What are the product’s features and how should they work? You should make your descriptions in this area as complete as possible.

Present features in a table with columns presenting 1) the feature name; 2) a description of what the feature does; 3) a list of dependencies (these might take the form of data, logic, or display elements required to use the feature, if you haven’t linked these elements in the info architecture section); and 4) priority for the feature -- using the v1, vNext, vLongTerm distinction described below.

Roadmap

Provide a summary of the functionality proposed for your MVP, the next version of your product, and the mature product.

v1 (aka Minimum Viable Product)

What constitutes the minimum viable product for launch?

vNext

What functionality will your next version provide?

vLongterm

What functionality will the mature product provide that won't be available in your first two versions? This is likely just a bullet point list of placeholder features.

Milestones / Timing

Describe the planned timing of releases and key activities for your first release. What are your major milestones (internal demo, beta launch, full launch, etc.)? Are there natural points for reassessment? Consider linking to a spreadsheet with a PERT / gantt chart.

Describe the major elements of your Go-to-Market plan. What marketing methods do you plan to leverage, in what sequence, etc?

Metrics

What are the key metrics for tracking success? Please indicate how you will compute them (e.g, with log data etc.). This will likely link off to a spreadsheet along with your expected hypotheses on where the metrics will be after X Days, Months, etc.

Projected Costs

Engineering Costs

*How many engineers * weeks will the project require? How much will different components, individuals, or usage cost you for storage and compute resources?*

At some point, you will need to get estimates from engineers (or via Upwork) on the amount of time and potential costs for your project.

Marketing / other Costs

What costs will you incur in marketing and launching your product?

Operational Needs

Describe any ongoing customer service or other operational support that will be required, and how you plan to provide it.

Risks

How will you address each of the risks identified in your MRD, and any new risks identified since you completed MRD?

Consider presenting risks in table format with columns providing detailed description and possible mitigants for each risk .

International

Some of you will be required to think internationally such as Unicode characters, translations, etc. If international issues are not relevant, skip this section.

Group Members

List the names and roles of any project contributors who are not PM101 students. We encourage making names a [mailto: link](mailto:link).