

## The Power of Three – What are My Three (or More) Options?

Ken Pugh / Bob Galen

Seating Suggestion: Four to a table

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## Ken Pugh



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<https://kenpugh.com>

*The Triad*  
collaborating together

- ATDD/BDD, TDD, BVDD, Lean, Scrum, Kanban, SAFe, OOA&D, Design Patterns,
- Over 2/5 century of software development experience
- Author of seven books, including:
  - *Lean Agile Acceptance Test-Driven Development: Better Software Through Collaboration*
  - *Prefactoring: Extreme Abstraction, Extreme Separation, Extreme Readability* (2006 Jolt Award)
  - *Interface Oriented Design*



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## Bob Galen

- Independent Agile Trainer & Coach at Agile-Moose
- Somewhere “north” of 35 years overall experience ☺
- Wide variety of technical stacks and business domains
- Roots of a software developer
- Senior/Executive software development leadership for 20+ years
- Agile “Coach of Coaches” and Leaders
- Deep XP, Lean, Scrum, and Kanban experience since 2000
- From Cary, North Carolina, dog lover, grandfather, husband



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## Logistics

- Teams
- Flipcharts

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## Acknowledgement



- Jerry Weinberg
  - American computer scientist, author and teacher of the psychology and anthropology of computer software development.
  - Some books:
    - *The Psychology of Computer Programming*
    - *Introduction to General Systems Thinking*.

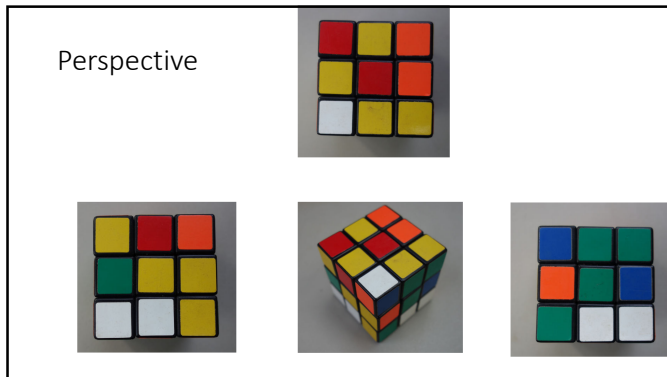
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## Rule of Three

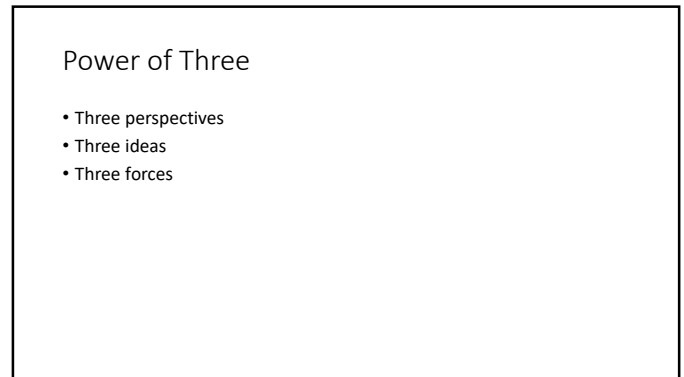
“If you can’t come up with at least three solutions to a problem, you don’t understand the problem well enough”.

Jerry Weinberg

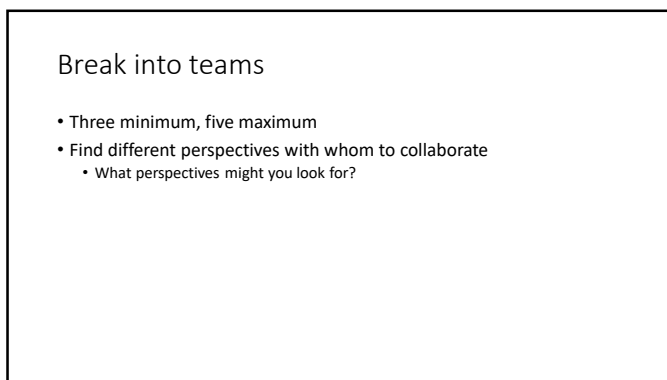
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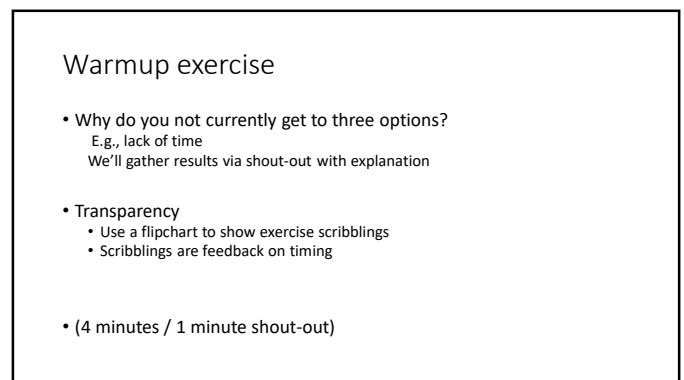
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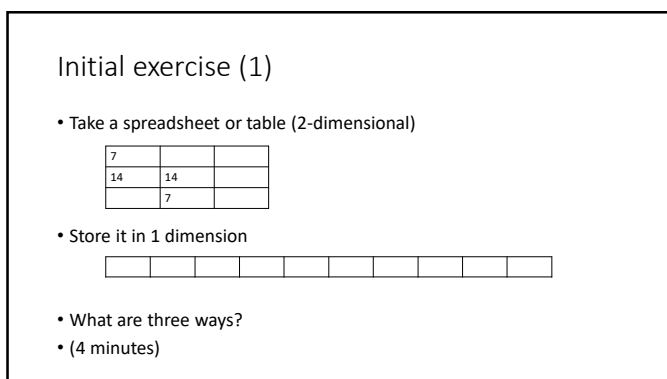
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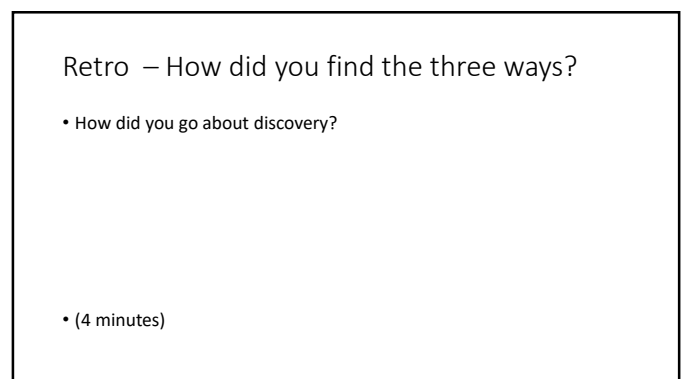
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## Forces / Tradeoffs

- Contextual
- Implementation
- Consequential

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## Initial exercise (2)

- What are the forces that would suggest selecting one solution over the others?
  - Suggestion: start with contextual, then consequential, then implementation

- (4 minutes / 2 minute shout-out)

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## 1-2-4-All Model

- Work Individually
- Then Pairs
- Then Fours
- Then All

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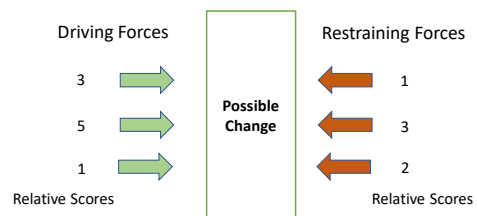
## Second exercise

- Determine three ways that responsibilities could be allocated for developing a software product
  - If spare time, what are the forces?

- Individual (2 minutes)
- Pairs (2 minutes)
- Fours (2 minutes)
- All (5 minutes) - optional
- Retro (3 minutes)

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## Force Field Analysis



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## Second exercise (2)

- What are the driving and restraining forces?

- (4 minutes / 2 minute shout-out)

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### Third Exercise

- Pick an area:
  - New Scrum Team first sprint – how to estimate and for how many sprints?
  - Transformation of non-agile company – how to go agile?
  - Backlog flow – who fills it and how?
- Pick a means:
  - 1-2-4
  - Facilitator-led
  - Your own
- Outcome
  - Three options, some forces, and how you got there
- (20 minutes)

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### Retrospective

- You're Ken and Bob
  - What are three ways we could run a retrospective?
  - How should we choose?
- Who would like to run the retrospective?

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### Recap

- Rule of Three in a different contexts
- Multiple perspectives
- Forces
  - Contextual, implementation, consequential
  - Driving, restraining
- Ken Pugh ([ken@kenpugh.com](mailto:ken@kenpugh.com), <https://kenpugh.com> )
- Bob Galen ([bob@rgalen.com](mailto:bob@rgalen.com), <https://rgalen.com>)

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### Bonus Exercise

- Determine three ways alternative designs for a software application
  - User interface or internal architecture

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