

# Project Management: The Menlo Way™: From Fire Fighting, Chaos, and Ambiguity... to Clarity, Simplicity, and Predictability

## Project Management: The Menlo Way™

Most project executions are anything but joyful. Missed deadlines, misaligned teams and changing priorities challenge many projects today. Teams are often overwhelmed in managing the delicate balance that exists between scope, budget, and timeline. What if you could bring joy into project management?

What does joy look like to our clients and project teams? We've found it looks something like this: transparent control over the project with predictable outcomes.

Menlo Innovations provides a unique approach to project management. Our own visual management practices developed over time, and are honed through nearly 20 years of software design and development and organizational process engagements for clients. Menlo's project management processes don't solve the typical problems projects face. What our processes do is bring transparency to those problems, allowing the humans to solve them.

At Menlo, our clients have complete control over their project's direction. At any given moment, they know exactly where their project stands—how much progress has been made, the estimated cost for each step, and how the budget is holding up. They can change direction quickly and they see the end point and know what it will take to get there.

As for the project team itself, joy looks like knowing what's expected of them—what they need to work on each day, what's a priority and what isn't. They're given the tools they need to be successful. They communicate often and meaningfully with decision-makers.

During this workshop, the Menlo team will take you through a series of engaging exercises to introduce you to the Menlo Way of Project Management and explore how these concepts can help bring clarity, simplicity, and predictability to your organization.

**“ I learned new tools and strategies to estimate the amount of effort and associated schedule required for projects, and to enroll the customer in those estimates so that they are driving the direction, budget, and schedule of the project as much as the development team. This will help my team avoid surprises to our customers and be more successful delivering products within budget and on time.”**

**- Aaron M., Business Owner**

In this one day workshop, you will get hands-on insight into how we have crafted our systems and processes to create a simple, clear, unambiguous culture focused on elevating the human energy of our team to get practical work done (and done well) as a team. You will learn how activities like Estimation and Planning Origami can help you learn how to more effectively collaborate and drive alignment between your team and stakeholders.

## Workshop Overview

- Learn Menlo's Visual Management methods that provide whole-team transparency
- Virtual tour of Menlo's agile and lean inspired project management processes as utilized for in-person and remote teams
- Estimating incremental tasks to improve planning accuracy
- Establishing consensus on project priorities and trade off decisions through what we call "Planning Game"
- Observation of Menlo's best practices for a daily standup meeting
- Observation of Menlo's facilitation and collaboration strategies for conducting a project meeting
- Walk through an example client project end-to-end to demonstrate Menlo's project management techniques
- Apply newly learned concepts to solve a realistic project problem

## Who Should Attend

This workshop is intended for individuals and project teams across any industry or domain who are looking for inspiration when dealing with the following:

- Unclear priorities/misalignment between stakeholders
- Visibility into what will be done and when
- Fear around missing estimates/deadlines
- Ability to pivot project priorities to respond to changes/problems that arise
- How to introduce a project management system into the work already being done

**Cost:** \$800 per attendee

**Location:** Virtual

Have 6 or more people? Reach out to us about scheduling a private workshop at a date and time that works for you!

Email [experience@menloinnovations.com](mailto:experience@menloinnovations.com) or call 734-665-1847

