

A Project Sponsor's Warp-Speed Guide: Improving project performance

Appendix D – Value of competent project management

This appendix describes the value that competent project management can bring to projects.

Project management adds value by:

1. Improving project success rates.
2. Bringing leadership and direction to projects.
3. Improving team morale and productivity.
4. Controlling risks, issues and changes to the scope.
5. Cutting project costs.
6. Strengthening organizational buy-in to the project.
7. Building team skills and experience.

The antithesis of competent project management is the self-managed team. Some promote the concept of the self-managed team for these invalid reasons:

1. Cost-saving. Project management typically costs about 10 - 15 percent of the total project.
2. Project experience of team members means they can manage themselves.
3. Seeing other project resources such as engineers, business analysts and designers as more valuable than project management to the project deliverables.

Please read this PMI monograph, [The Value of Project Management](#), to learn more about the value of competent project management.



Sometimes project managers are not valued because stakeholders hold an incomplete view of the role of project managers and tend to see project managers more as self-important project administrators or even as over-paid clerks.

The project manager and the project sponsor address this issue of not valuing project management by informally educating stakeholders and proactively communicating what the team is doing regularly.