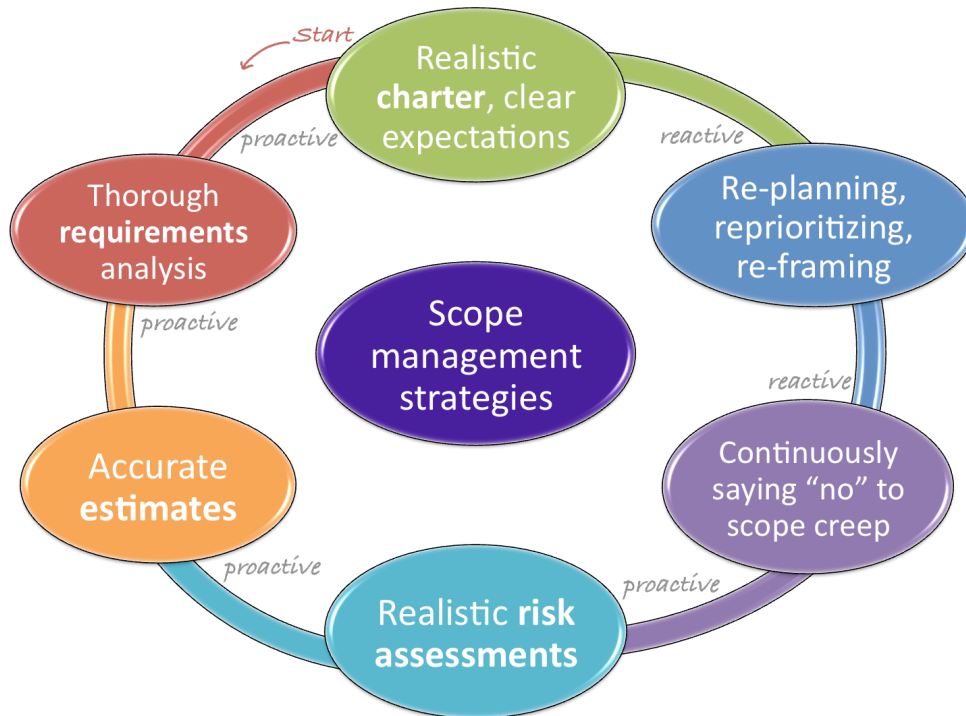




Scope Management Strategies



Scope management strategies play a crucial role throughout the project.

Some strategies apply very early on, during the planning process; and some may emerge a bit later, or occur throughout the project.

For example, **proactive** strategies can help prevent or minimize the likelihood of downstream scope explosions. **Reactive** strategies help us respond in a timely and meaningful way to scope-creep “red flags” and other unpleasant surprises that can affect scope.

Reactive strategies also attempt to gracefully handle situations in which fewer original goals can be met, such as by re-planning the work, reprioritizing deliverables, and re-framing expectations.

The “**Project Diamond**” is a powerful scope management aid! It comes into play because it’s not unusual for project sponsors, clients, or other stakeholders to want:

1. **Low cost** and
2. **Fast completion** and
3. **High quality** and
4. **Many features** in the project deliverables.

Although it’s understandable to want the greatest value for the money, usually it’s possible to achieve only **two** or **three out of four** of these goals on a typical project.

So, unless the project is blessed with an infinite schedule and an unlimited budget, certain **tradeoffs** will become necessary. The tradeoffs are sort of like “**dials**” that people can turn up or down as needed.

For example, if the **budget** and **schedule** are both fixed, the tradeoffs would have to limit the **quality**, constrain the **features**, or both.

