

OnlineLibrary.com Product Backlog

An example of a bad Product Backlog

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For production bugs that need to be fixed, consult our issue tracker at www.bugtrack.com/onlinelib/buglist

Order	User Story	Value (\$)	Cost (sp)	Remarks
20	As the invoicing system, I get a dump from file REN_UP34 whenever a Renewal object is created, so that I know when a reader renewed its membership.	3000	3	
21	As a reader, I can chat with other readers that have (earlier or currently) checked out the same items I did, so that I can ask them for feedback or discuss the content.			
22	As a librarian, I get a clear overview per reader what items he/she reserved and has checked out.	2250	5	
22	As a reader, I get an e-mail when an item I reserved becomes available, so I immediately know it and don't have to check manually.	2250		Not estimated, but probably small according to PO's opinion.
23	As a reader, I can fully manage my profile including preferences, experience, interests, etc so that the system can offer me a lot of personalized info (items, other readers, ...)	2157	21	
24	As a reader, I get an e-mail 3 days before an item I checked out expires, so that I don't have to remember myself when to check in items and I don't get a fee for late check in.	1500	5	Only development for this story + unit testing.
24	As a reader, I get an e-mail 3 days before an item I checked out expires, so that I don't have to remember myself when to check in items and I don't get a fee for late check in.	1500	3	All testing for this story (system + integration + acceptance testing). Dependent on dev story.
24	As a reader, I get an e-mail 3 days before an item I checked out expires, so that I don't have to remember myself when to check in items and I don't get a fee for late check in.	1500	2	All documentation for this story. Dependent on dev story.
25	As a reader, I can check out items on all my devices, so that I can read/listen to items whenever I want without having to manually copy items between my devices.	3500	8	Acceptance criteria: laptop/PC - tablet - smartphone + iOS - Android.
26	As an author, I get monthly reports on my items, so that I learn how much, and what type of readers check out my items.		5	
27	As the Product Owner, I want all functionalities to be available 24/7 with a 95% uptime so that we don't lose customers.	1200		
28	As any user of the system, I want a login screen, so that I can log in to the system.	1000	3	
29	As the dev team, we want to refactor the reader classes, to remove duplicate code, improve strange variable names and find alternatives for deprecated libraries.	800	8	
...
81	As a reader, I can see the number and list of other readers that have (earlier or currently) checked out the same items as I did, so that I know how popular my checked out items are.	200	8	
82	As a reader, I want to download content in the .mp2 format, so that I can play it on windows XP media player.	125	5	No longer relevant, as we don't support win XP anymore.
83	As a reader, I want to be able to rate an item I checked out, so that I can inform others about my opinion.	20	3	Ratings go from 1-5, and are visualized with 'stars'.
84	As a reader, I want to be able to change the rating I gave to items, so I can correct errors I might have made when rating.	19	1	Estimate made by PO, looked really easy story to implement.
85	As a reader, I want to add a small comment to a rating I give, so that I can explain my judgement.	18	2	Free text, 240 chars max.
86	As the librarian, I want extensive reporting on readers, items and authors, so that I can adapt my marketing and partnerships based on real life statistics.	15	34	Epic story, to be detailed when it becomes relevant.

Dysfunctionalities in the OnlineLibrary.com Product Backlog

The area's of improvement for getting a healthy Product Backlog

Nr	Dysfunctionality	Story (order)
1	Not a unique order of Product Backlog Items (user stories).	22
2	Not ordered according value (taking cost also into account).	25
3	User story too large to be on top of backlog, not sprintable.	23
4	System/technical user story with no apparent business value.	20
5	PO is not a single person.	header
6	No effort estimation for a user story.	27
7	No value assigned to user story.	26
8	No user story but a on-functional requirement (should be in DOD)	27
9	Separate 'user stories (and estimations) for dev, test and documentation. These items don't represent business value.	24
10	User stories too dependent on each other (or dependency not taken into account in order).	21 and 81

Nr	Dysfunctionality	Story (order)
11	No goal explicited in the user story.	22
12	Action in user story equals the value, so true (higher) value is missing.hidden). Typical pattern is 'I want X so that X'.	28
13	Lower value items that are too small/detailed too early. Should be kept as epic story until later.	83 - 85
14	Technical user story without business value (or value not explicited at least).	29
15	No proper business value model (eg. \$ only is hardly ever possible or representable).	all
16	Un-groomed, old story that became irrelevant is still in the Product Backlog. Should be removed.	82
17	Bugs are managed in another list, and not included in the Product Backlog. So Product Backlog is not complete.	header
18	Effort estimate was made by PO instead of by Dev Team. Bad!	84
19	No unique ID available to properly reference user stories. Add column with unique ID's.	all