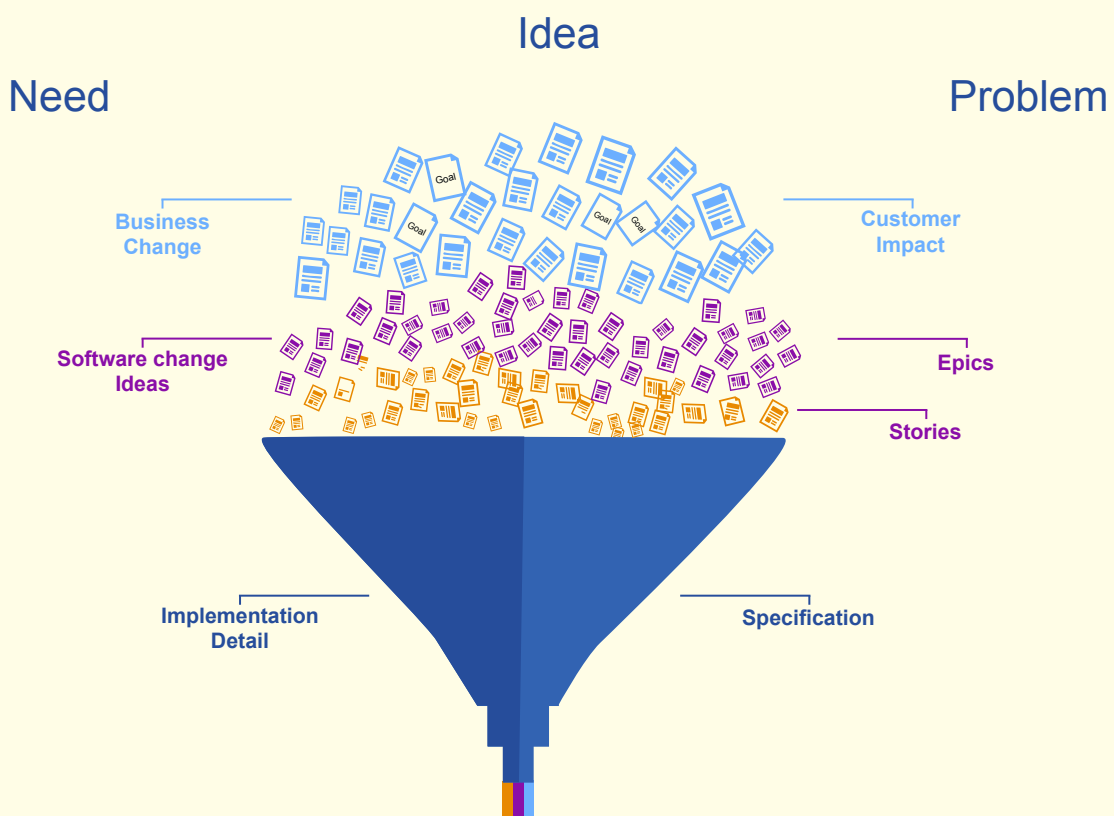# What are User Stories and why Developers need them?

Developers need to understand the exact customer requirements or challenges that are faced by actual users of the application being developed.

For a Product to succeed, it is important to set Goals & break them up into User Stories.

Idea

Need

Problem

Business Change

Customer Impact

Software change Ideas

Epics

Stories

Implementation Detail

Specification

When to Write User Stories?

At the start of project every stakeholder should participate & provide their requirements.

User Stories can be updated any time during the project execution & are used to create a Project Backlog.

Project Backlog is reviewed & divided into multiple Sprints, where each Sprint targets to build a workable build.

Guidelines to Create Great User Stories

Describe User Story:

A good user story is short and captures some functionality that is valuable to a stakeholder. Make sure you're not writing stories that are too long and complex.

Use **INVEST** Technique to write well-formed User Stories:

I - Independent   **N** - Negotiable   **V** - Valuable   **E** - Estimable   **S** - Small   **T** - Testable

Write Crisp User Stories:

Long User Stories often are confusing. When we go through them it is evident that more detailed information needs to be added to help everyone to understand what needs to be really developed.

Add Acceptance Criteria:

Capture details and assumptions about each story in its acceptance criteria. Together, these criteria can be used to verify a User Story after its implementation.

Template for Writing User Stories

Story ID	Provide an unique identifier for this user story. Priority: MUST/SHOULD
Goal	Provide Goals that this story will try to achieve
Actors	Identify actors/stakeholder involved with this user story
Description	A good user story is short and captures some functionality that is valuable to a stakeholder. Make sure you're not writing stories that are too long and complex. As a `<Actor>` I want `<to do something>` So that `<I can derive benefits>`
Acceptance Criteria	Capture details and assumptions about each story in its acceptance criteria. Together, these criteria can be used to verify a User Story after its implementation.
Sample Screen	Mention link to Screen, Workflow diagrams etc.
Document(s)	Mention any diagram depicting a workflow, a spreadsheet showing how to perform a calculation, or any other artifact the product owner or team desires.
Estimate	Capture estimates to complete this User Story, May be given in Points, Weeks etc.

Sample User Story

Story ID	NEW_USER_DISCOUNT_001 Priority: MUST
Goal	To increase users provide discount to new customer.
Actors	Customer
Description	As a Customer, I want to: purchase items for more than $50/- So that: I become preferred customer and avail 10% discount.
Acceptance Criteria	Customer is new user. Items purchased are available in stock.
Sample Screen	Refer to Cart_Disocunt.jpg for graphics.
Document(s)	Discount_Procedure.xls
Estimate	2 Points