

Why do projects fail?

It is widely reported that **more than 50%** of projects, programs and change initiatives **fail to deliver** on their intent [Standish, McKinsey, Prosci et al].

There is a broad consensus about the primary drivers. By integrating this commentary with peer debate and direct first-hand experience, we have compiled a list of the most important factors: **a checklist for success.**

- A clear vision, goals and objectives
- Proactive and engaged executive support
- Measureable success factors defined
- Effective communication that addresses stakeholder needs
- Realistic stakeholder expectations
- Active management of scope
- Active management of risk
- Validated assumptions
- Meaningful End-user engagement
- Strategies that align with the bigger picture
- Strategies that minimise complexity and risk
- Reviews of project alignment with changing business priorities
- Accountabilities that work
- Appropriate levels of governance
- Effective leadership
- An effective escalation process that quickly removes obstacles
- A useful and achievable plan; validated with key stakeholders
- Plans that anticipate discovery, learning and adaptation
- Realistic, validated estimates
- The right resources identified and consistently available
- Mechanisms to address cultural differences and dispersed teams
- An integrated and structured approach to change management
- A strategy for managing resistance to change
- Transition plans for the adoption of new capabilities
- Strategies for realising sustainable benefits
- Effective knowledge management
- Regular reviews of progress, plans, issues, risks and financials

Simple tracking with 'Harvey Balls':

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Backlog / Captured | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Done / Implemented |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Prioritised / Assessed | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Verified / Reviewed / Closed |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> In Progress / Assigned | |

If you'd like some specific help with your projects or programs please drop us a line at info@sigmarose.com or simply call the number below.