

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PRINCE2

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# PROJECTS IN CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS

Project management is rarely straightforward. Even when you have a clear goal, there will be a huge number of variables to take into account, and many will vary from case to case.

While many managers choose to tackle projects solely based on their own intuition and experience, this is rarely the most efficient approach possible. A lack of any firmly standardized processes, combined with the inconsistency that comes with multiple actors relying on their own personal methodologies, can often lead to confusion, delays and, inevitably, finger-pointing.

PRINCE2 is the world's most popular project management framework. It provides best practices and a solid structure which can be applied regardless of a project's purpose, industry, sector or location. This has helped PRINCE2 to earn a staggering professional following, to the extent that it has even been combined with other leading frameworks such as Agile.

So, how exactly does PRINCE2 work, and what does it have over alternative project management frameworks?



# SO WHAT IS PRINCE2?

PRINCE2 (PRojects IN Controlled Environments) is a project management methodology. Unlike others such as ITIL and Six Sigma, PRINCE2 is a generic standard which can be applied regardless of contextual factors such as a project's industry, sector or use of IT. In other words, anyone can use it, and its project guidance will always be applicable.

PRINCE2 offers a well-structured approach based on solid and varied real-world experience, rather than simple theory. It was originally created from the input of 150 different European organizations and has since been kept fresh and relevant for the everevolving Digital Age. At the same time, PRINCE2 can also be tailored by experienced users, making it an excellent long-term investment for organizations which manage projects frequently. The guidance of PRINCE2 is based around several Principles, Processes and Themes. These apply to every project, and should thus be considered even if a user is tailoring PRINCE2 to suit their own unique requirements.

**Principles** - These are the core values which exist in every PRINCE2 project:

- *Continued Business Justification*
- *Learn From Experience*
- *Define Roles and Responsibilities*
- *Manage by Stages*
- *Manage by Exception*
- *Focus on Products*
- *Tailor to Suit the Project Environment*

**Processes** - Within PRINCE2 projects, each 'Process' is triggered by either a decision or event. They occur in chronological order, with managers at different levels carrying them out:

- *Starting Up a Project (SU)*
- *Initiating a Project (IP)*
- *Directing a Project (DP)*
- *Controlling a Stage (CS)*
- *Managing a Stage Boundary (SB)*
- *Managing Product Delivery (MP)*
- *Closing a Project (CP)*

**Themes** - PRINCE2's Themes each provide knowledge on a specific area of project management, and should be referred to throughout a project's lifecycle:

- *Business Case Theme*
- *Organization Theme*
- *Quality Theme*
- *Plans Theme*
- *Risk Theme*
- *Change Theme*
- *Progress Theme*



# HOW CAN **PRINCE2** BENEFIT..

## Organizations

Approaching project management without having a standardized process or framework in place can lead to confusion, wastage and inevitable frustration! With a proven methodology, everyone understands their role and what needs to be done leading to faster benefits realization.

This is where the benefits of PRINCE2 really come into play. It is a proven framework with clear guidance, helping users to firmly establish goals, responsibilities and hierarchies early on in their projects. This streamlines operations and creates a transparent management structure. With a clear grasp of responsibilities, users can also act autonomously, without constantly having to defer decisions to upper management or spend days waiting for feedback on specific issues.

PRINCE2 also helps to streamline projects with its approach to risks. The framework acknowledges the inevitability of setbacks and has users assess them from the get-go. This level of preparation can help PRINCE2 users to avoid delays further down the line. At the same time, certified PRINCE2 users can also amend the framework to suit their own organizations, allowing them to gradually create safer, more reliable practices that will improve future projects and handle common risks almost automatically. Another key advantage comes from PRINCE2's focus on the 'Business Case'. This is used to constantly re-evaluate projects, ensuring that they are both on-target and worthwhile. Obviously, this kind of targeted methodology can have huge advantages in terms of keeping work on point. However, it can also be of huge help when it comes to keeping stakeholders invested in the viability of a project. If the costs of a project outweigh the business case, it can be closed without further issues.

## Individuals

For aspiring project managers, PRINCE2 can provide an excellent career stepping stone. Becoming certified in and gaining experience with the world's most popular project management methodology can bring a huge boost to a candidate's hirability, helping them to unlock new responsibilities as well as higher-paying job roles. Indeed, experienced PRINCE2-certified managers can often earn over \$80,000 on average, and many use the certification to find roles in new industries or locations (an easy feat, given the global popularity of the framework!).



# FAQ

## How big do PRINCE2 projects have to be?

PRINCE2 can be utilized for projects regardless of their size. Indeed, the framework is used by everyone from new startups to international corporations.

## What type of organization is PRINCE2 suitable for?

PRINCE2's guidance is not specific to a particular industry, sector, location or project type. In other words, the framework is suitable for any organization.

## Can PRINCE2 be used for non-IT projects?

A project does not have to be IT-driven to be able to take advantage of PRINCE2. However, it is worth remembering that these days, almost every company and project is somehow linked to IT.

## Who owns and who can use PRINCE2?

PRINCE2 is currently owned by AXELOS. One of the perks of PRINCE2 is that it can be used by virtually any organization regardless of its size, industry or sector. Indeed, it is used by both multinational corporations and startups, and there is demand for it all over the world.

## In what countries is PRINCE2 most popular?

PRINCE2 is used and recognized all over the world. While it is still primarily popular in Europe, it is also making significant gains in the USA, Asia and elsewhere. It has also been adopted by a number of international organizations, including NATO and the UN.

## How long are PRINCE2 certifications valid for?

There are two PRINCE2 certification levels: Foundation and Practitioner. PRINCE2 Foundation certifications remain valid indefinitely. However, this is not the case at Practitioner level.

Once you pass, you will become a 'PRINCE2 Registered Practitioner', a designation that will remain valid for three years. After this point, you will need to retake the exam in order to remain registered.

## What are the prerequisites for becoming PRINCE2 certified?

There are no prerequisites to taking the PRINCE2 Foundation examination. Passing this will enable students to move on to the PRINCE2 Practitioner exam. This latter assessment can also be unlocked by candidates who have successfully passed the exams for:

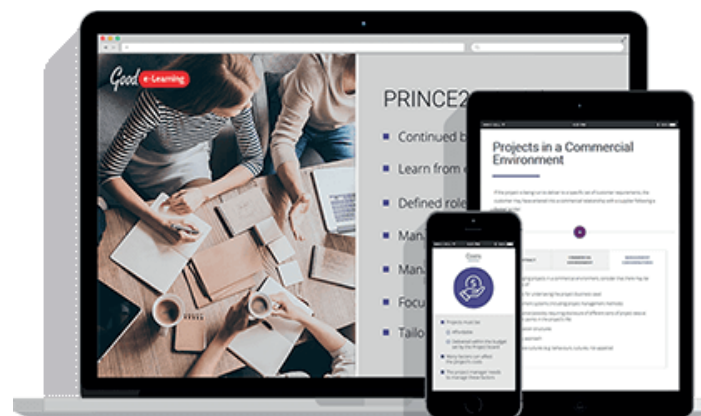
- *Project Management Professional (PMP)*
- *PRINCE2 Agile Foundation*
- *Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)*
- *IPMA Level A® (Certified Projects Director)*
- *IPMA Level B® (Certified Senior Project Manager)*
- *IPMA Level C® (Certified Project Manager)*
- *IPMA Level D® (Certified Project Management Associate)*

The PRINCE2 Foundation certification can also serve as a prerequisite for sitting the PRINCE2 Agile Practitioner exam.

# PRINCE2 2017 **CERTIFICATION**

Our accredited PRINCE2 courses are ideal for anyone wanting to pass the PRINCE2 Foundation and Practitioner exams in quick succession in order to become a fully qualified PRINCE2 6th Edition Practitioner.

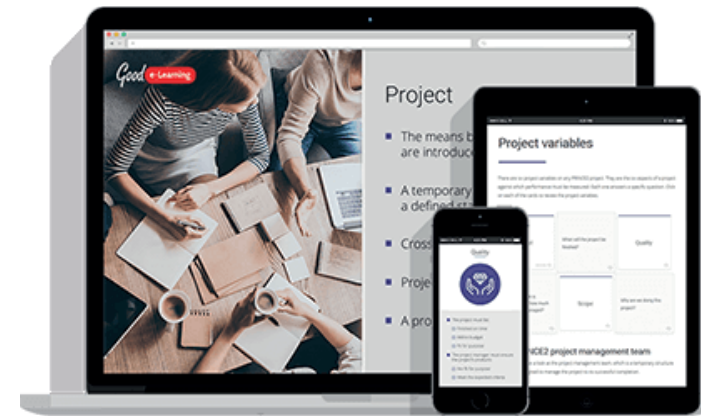
The courses offer an excellent fast track to becoming a registered PRINCE2 practitioner and provide students with everything needed to prepare for, take and pass the official examinations, including FREE exam vouchers!



## PRINCE2 **6th Edition Foundation**

PRINCE2 project management is used across virtually every industry, enabling flexibility, focus and proper planning. Take the first step in gaining your PRINCE2 certification with this fully accredited course from Orbus Software!

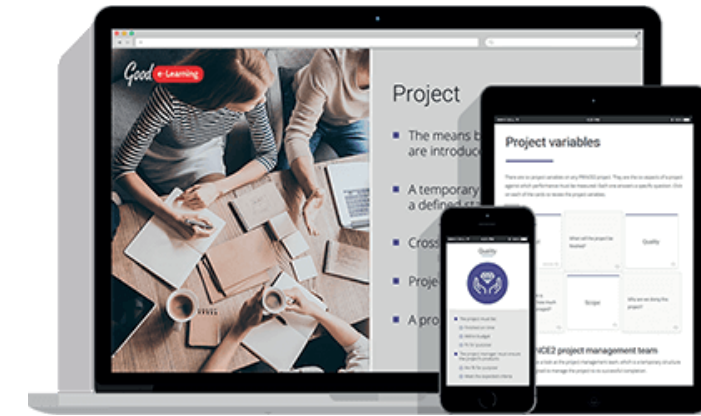
**Accredited by PeopleCert**  
**12+ hours of course material**  
**Quizzes and revision modules**  
**FREE exam voucher included**



## PRINCE2 **6th Edition Practitioner**

Become fully certified in PRINCE2 with this PRINCE2 Practitioner course from Orbus Software! Moving on from the PRINCE2 Foundation exam, this course will teach you everything you need to know about how to apply and adapt the PRINCE2 project management methodology.

**Accredited by PeopleCert**  
**14+ hours of course material**  
**Quizzes and revision modules**  
**FREE exam voucher included**



## PRINCE2 **6th Edition Foundation & Practitioner (LEVEL 1 & 2)**

PRINCE2 offers a clear yet flexible approach to project management that has become widely used in industries the world over. Earn your PRINCE2 Foundation and Practitioner certifications in one go with this combined course from Orbus Software!

**Accredited by PeopleCert**  
**25+ hours of course material**  
**Quizzes and revision modules**  
**FREE exam vouchers included**



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