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DevOps in a nutshell

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DevOps in a nutshell, Part 1

DevOps is a set of practices that combines software development (Dev) and IT operations (Ops). It aims at merging development, quality assurance, and operations (deployment and integration) into a single, continuous set of processes.

The goal of DevOps is to establish an environment where different teams working on the same product collaborate to release more reliable applications faster to their customers. By establishing this culture, you enable teams to fast-track the delivery of working software without compromising stability or creativity. The aim is to boost the efficiency, quality, and speed with which you deploy new software versions.

Looking at Microsoft's definition of DevOps, you can clearly see the focus is set on three main areas: People, Process and Products (Tools).

The **people** part of the definition talks to the stakeholders that is responsible for delivering value to the customer. This includes the mindset that needs to change to adopt the notion of shared responsibility which entails working collaboratively to ensure that a high-quality product is delivered continuously.

The **process** part of the definition talks about the journey that the team and the organization will have to undergo to support faster delivery of high-quality software. In some cases, it will mean that existing processes and the flow of information will have to change to support a more collaborative culture amongst the different teams to help improve the efficiency and transparency needed to rapidly deploy working software.

The **products** are the tools used to support the DevOps practices and should not be seen as any part of the definition of DevOps or maturity in any way. Examples of such tools include Jenkins, Jira, Docker, OpenShift, etc.

To truly adopt a DevOps culture in your organization, you will need to follow some key principles for a smooth transition. Some of the key principles include:

- Constant collaboration and communication.
- Small incremental releases.
- Shared end-to-end responsibility.
- Early problem-solving.
- Shared metrics across the different teams.
- Automate everything you can.



DevOps in a nutshell, Part 1

The adoption of DevOps in your organization will not happen overnight and you need to prepare yourself and your team for a journey of learning, reviewing, changing, and improving your process.

I will leave you with a quote from Mark Berry that rings very true in software development teams, and which can be avoided with the successful adoption of a DevOps mindset.

“Programmers don't burn out on hard work; they burn out on change with the wind directives and not 'shipping.'”

There are still a lot of topics that are very important to understand before adopting a DevOps mindset and **ProLink** will gladly assist your organization with the journey of delivering high quality software more rapidly to your customers.

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Mark Berry





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