A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY LEADERS

10 Ways to Deliver Better Solutions, Faster

Practical strategies to shorten timelines, strengthen collaboration, and deliver meaningful business value.

01 Engage Your Executive Sponsor

Make the sponsor's support visible to the team and ensure they are available to remove obstacles. High-profile or urgent initiatives may need frequent involvement. Smaller efforts still benefit from sponsor participation at kickoff, launch, and completion.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE For critical meetings, consider having the sponsor send the invitation to reinforce priority.

02 Keep Scope Under Control

Define the specific questions or problems the solution must address. If a proposed feature doesn't address those needs, nix it. Otherwise, remove lower-priority features to make room, or expect longer timelines, additional resources, or both.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Check proposed additions against the agreed problem before accepting them.

03 Put the Right Talent in Place

Identify the skills the work requires, then secure people (by name) with those skills. Missing expertise or unreserved resources can stall an otherwise sound plan.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Confirm key contributors have the necessary skills, availability, tools, and access to do their work.

04 Involve Stakeholders Early

Work directly with stakeholders who understand the end user. Their perspective helps teams anticipate how a solution will actually be used and spot edge cases before deployment.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Invite stakeholders into solution discussions throughout development, not just for final reviews.

05 Recognize Contributions and Concerns

Acknowledge the work and concerns of team members, stakeholders, and business partners throughout delivery. People are more invested when they know their contributions matter.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Make appreciation and genuine listening part of routine project conversations.

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TURN BETTER TEAMWORK INTO FASTER DELIVERY

Keep Momentum. Deliver Value.

Five more ways to turn everyday project decisions into stronger outcomes.

06 Make Expectations Crystal Clear

Describe assignments precisely and confirm understanding. Ask whether the person has the skills, time, and information required to complete the work.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Ask: “What obstacles might prevent you from completing this?”

07 Secure Commitments to Deadlines

Agree on a realistic due date with the person responsible for each deliverable. Confirm their commitment rather than simply assigning a date.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Try: “Can you commit to having the wireframe ready for review by 3:00 PM on November 1?”

08 Make Status Meetings Count

Use regular meetings to surface dependencies and delivery risks. Participants need to listen across workstreams, not just report their own progress and multitask.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE When one team reports a delay, ask which downstream teams are affected.

09 Address Missed Deadlines at the Source

When work slips, find out why before choosing a fix. Explore unclear expectations, skill gaps, competing priorities, or missing information.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Diagnose the barrier. Then adjust support, sequencing, or commitments.

10 Measure Real Business Value

Track tangible customer impact and business outcomes, not just red-yellow-green status indicators. Measures may include cost savings, revenue potential, or customer improvements.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE Choose indicators that show what value the solution is actually delivering such as new customers acquired, dollars saved, or productivity gained.

Ready to get better results, faster?

Great solutions take more than great ideas. They take teams that collaborate well, overcome obstacles, and deliver results. Explore Team Optimization solutions at TeresaLuse.com.

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