

The PMBOK® Guide: Seven Facts About the Pending Seventh Edition

The evolution of technology has changed the way work gets done for many professions, including project management. Based on feedback from project managers across industries and around the world, we heard there was room to improve the content and structure to reflect current ways of working. Practitioners are now tasked with identifying the right delivery approach (predictive, adaptive or hybrid) to get the job done and deliver value. We recognized that we needed to update the *PMBOK® Guide* in order to stay relevant and meet the needs of our customers.

Here are seven facts about the update that you should know.

1. The *PMBOK® Guide* – Seventh Edition contains two resources: *The Standard for Project Management*, which carries the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) designation, and *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)*, a framework for applying the standard based on the broad body of knowledge within the project management profession.
2. Overall, the goal with the next edition of the *PMBOK® Guide* is to make the content more user-friendly and relevant to project managers using predictive, hybrid and adaptive, or agile, approaches.

Some of the planned updates include:

3. A move from processes to principles: The 12 project management principles in the draft of *The Standard for Project Management* are built around a set of statements that guide the actions and behaviors of project management practitioners regardless of development approach. The principles summarize the *what* and *why* of project management.
4. A move from Knowledge Areas to project performance domains: The *PMBOK® Guide* is organized around eight project performance domains defined as a group of related activities that are critical for the effective delivery of project outcomes.
5. An expanded list of tools and techniques in a new section of the guide titled “Models, Methods, and Artifacts”—with additional content on how to apply these tools and techniques by project type, development approach, and industry sector are available on a digital platform, [PMIstandards+™](#).
6. A new section with guidance on tailoring, which is the deliberate adaptation of the project management approach, governance, and processes to make them more suitable for the given environment and the work at hand.
7. The *PMBOK® Guide* – Seventh Edition is expected to be available in 2021. As soon as we have a final date for the publication of the *PMBOK® Guide* – Seventh Edition, we will announce this through all of our normal communication channels. Until then, we will continue to provide updates and links to helpful resources and informational sessions through our dedicated web page: pmi.org/standards-projects.