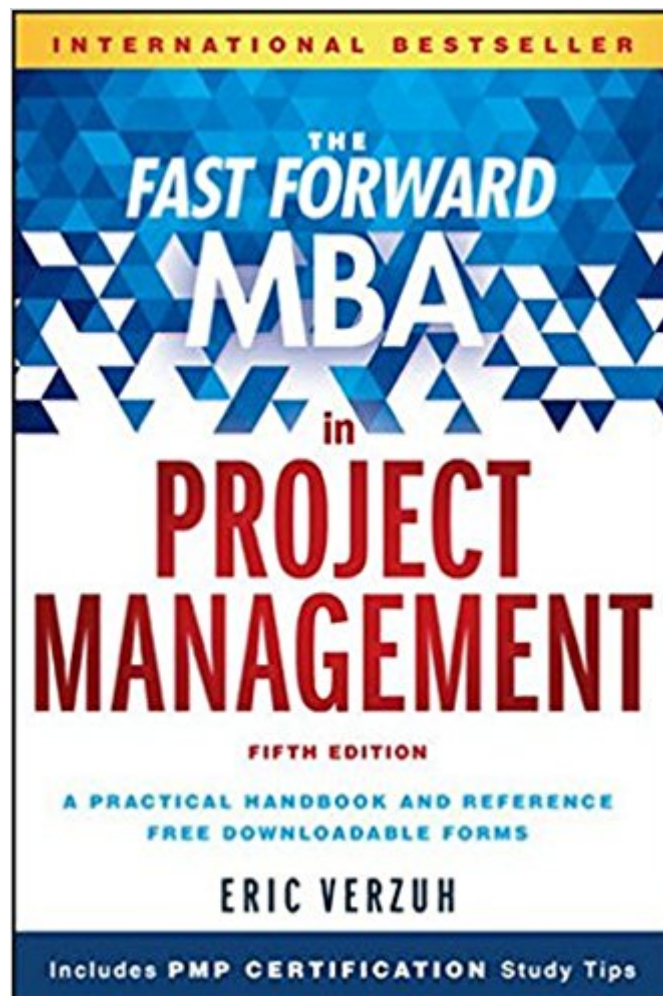




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The Fast Forward MBA In Project Management (Fast Forward MBA Series)



Synopsis

The all-inclusive guide to exceptional project management
The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management is the comprehensive guide to real-world project management methods, tools, and techniques. Practical, easy-to-use, and deeply thorough, this book gives you answers you need now. You'll find the cutting-edge ideas and hard-won wisdom of one of the field's leading experts, delivered in short, lively segments that address common management issues. Brief descriptions of important concepts, tips on real-world applications, and compact case studies illustrate the most sought-after skills and the pitfalls you should watch out for. This new fifth edition features new case studies, new information on engaging stakeholders, change management, new guidance on using Agile techniques, and new content that integrates current events and trends in the project management sphere. Project management is a complex role, with seemingly conflicting demands that must be coordinated into a single, overarching, executable strategy – all within certain time, resource, and budget constraints. This book shows you how to get it all together and get it done, with expert guidance every step of the way. Navigate complex management issues effectively Master key concepts and real-world applications Learn from case studies of today's leading experts Keep your project on track, on time, and on budget From finding the right sponsor to clarifying objectives to setting a realistic schedule and budget projection, all across different departments, executive levels, or technical domains, project management incorporates a wide range of competencies. The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management shows you what you need to know, the best way to do it, and what to watch out for along the way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Project management is a strategic capability for organizations and a popular career track for countless individuals. The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management is the classic resource and handy guide to essential project management methods, tools, and techniques. Now in its fifth edition, the text retains its laser-like focus on excellence in project management and outlines the key factors that influence project success. Designed to be practical and easy-to-use, this comprehensive resource is filled with the most recent ideas and time-tested strategies in the field. Author Eric Verzuh—a noted project management expert—delivers the information in short, lively segments that address the underlying principles, strategies, and management issues related to project management. The revised fifth edition features new content on the vital role that innovation plays in most organizations, as well as fresh case studies that clearly demonstrate successful project management in action, and updated ideas for engaging stakeholders. The text offers details on the discipline of change management and gives suggestions for using Agile techniques for project scheduling. Advice for using Microsoft Project—the most commonly used software application specifically designed for planning and managing projects—is also included. In addition, the author provides references for preparing for the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional exam. Step by step, the author reveals how a project begins and the critical actions that bring the necessary stakeholders to agreement on the definition and direction of the project. The book then details the essential planning techniques and the tools that have been used by seasoned project managers to organize information in order to make better decisions. Verzuh reviews the strategies for controlling a project that blends the art and science of project management—building a strong, committed team while at the same time making progress with the plan. The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management also contains a proven framework that individuals and organizations can adopt to extend and improve the practice of project management. Project management is a critical discipline for navigating through today's complex and turbulent work environment. The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management is the basic resource that includes concise descriptions of key concepts, tips for applying proven strategies in the real world, illustrative case studies, common pitfalls to avoid, and a review of the most in-demand project management skills. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"The Fifth Edition of The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management is a very good companion to

PMI's PMBOK Guide. Students and practitioners of traditional project management concepts will find the book both helpful and clarifying. Students will find the test questions throughout the book beneficial for taking the certification exam. Practitioners will find the tips to be helpful in their daily jobs. More importantly the book explains how to handle the processes, tools, and techniques used for leading and managing a project." —Jim Johnson, Chairman, The Standish Group The bestselling guide to managing projects—updated and more comprehensive than ever! Revised and updated to reflect the most recent strategies and trends in project management, this fifth edition of The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management is an essential resource and practical guide written for aspiring professionals and working practitioners who are responsible for coordinating projects among different departments, executive levels, or projects with technical complexity. The Fast Forward MBA in Project Management clearly explains how to get a project off the ground, do it in a timely fashion, and on budget. Step by step, the author reveals how to find the right sponsors, clarify a project's objectives, set a realistic schedule, work successfully with stakeholders, and create accurate budget projections. Filled with illustrative case studies, this must-have text offers the strategies and techniques needed to manage the relationships and process needed to get the project done – and done right!

I have read and used all 5 editions of Mr. Verzuh's FFMBA in Project Management. Each has been more valuable than the last, and the 5th edition is no exception. I love the additional content around AGILE project management and change management, both very relevant topics today. I highly recommend this book, both as a practitioner who looks for tips and best practices as I lead project efforts, and as an instructor. I encourage all of my students to use this book as an extension of their learning. It provides a very user-friendly, practical approach to apply tools and techniques to ensure projects deliver the expected value. The book also contains links to free downloadable templates that have been very helpful in setting up some basic project structure. Mr. Verzuh keeps bringing us better and better guidance with his books and I am grateful for that!

This is a great book for Project Managers. Provides a method for putting the PMBOK guidelines into practice without being dull. This is my 3rd copy. I always buy the latest version when it comes out. This book is my Project Management Bible. I carry it around in my backpack and reference it a lot. It's especially useful when I have to explain things to stakeholders and managers because I can often refer to the book in their presence to give them a chance to understand why I'm asking certain questions or explain why I'm doing things a certain way. If your PMO has a library, this book should

definitely be in it. If you don't have a library and you are looking for that one PM book that you can use as a guide on all your projects, this book is the one.

I've been managing project for years but just starting in on a PMP certification program. While PMBOK may be the official guidebook, Eric Verzuh's book on project management is infinitely more readable. The book provides pertinent real-world example of how project management principles and techniques have been successfully applied. The end of most chapters includes some interactive element. These include PMP exam practice questions and hands-on exercises (e.g., constructing a Responsibilities Assignment Matrix). Moreover, the book is accompanied by a website that includes loads of tutorials and templates to kick start your projects. I highly recommend this book for anyone doing project management or pursuing a PMI cert. My copy is now filled with notes and will be great reference for years to come.

It's excellent book. After finishing this book, I got general view of project management. This book is like a complete guide of project management. There are very good examples and good practices in this book. While reading this book, I attended Eric Verzuh's webinars. He has very powerful vision about project management as well as corporate world. This book is not only giving lessons about project management, it gives a lot of good insight about business life. I highly recommend it. The documents which can be downloaded from the web page helped me a lot. The book explains very clearly how to fill the documents which vital to project management. There are also many sections about PMP exam and MS Project usage.

Books regarding PM are usually either too broad to get any "real" knowledge from or too industry/approach specific to gain useful guidance from. The Fast Forward MBA was able to provide practical knowledge without being "wordy". One of the most prized possession for a PM is their Templates, and as a Template Hoarder, I found great ideas for improvements on one's I use and some Actual Downloadable Forms. Having the base knowledge that this book provides will set you up to take on more industry/function specific roles as a PM and be successful. Great book for any PM or students alike.

This was a textbook we used in my graduate level Project Management course last term. I loved this textbook and am keeping it for future project references! It has so many tools and forms to use, and is not a dry read by any means. I am recommending it on to my boss to refer to.

The Verzuh text offers down to earth explanations of all the core concepts and techniques in the discipline of project management. It's an outstanding complement to the industry-standard The Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK). Verzuh walks you through the concepts with a natural flow. His liberal use of examples ensures you not only know the concepts, but why they matter and how they can be applied. His examples span industries and projects of different scale. He covers all the essential tools and techniques, as well as a number of more advanced and emerging practices. He includes templates so you can visualize the tools, and he makes them available for download and gives permission to adapt them to your circumstances. He concludes each chapter with an excellent summary of the key points. Most authors have jumped on the certification bandwagon, writing about the PMP exam. That is of little help to the millions of people around the world that just need experience in this increasingly project-oriented global economy. Indeed, Verzuh gives a good dose of practice exam questions and study tips, but not to the expense of core learning. I have been in the profession for nearly 30 years and have managed, coached, and critiqued projects in the private, public, and missional sectors. I have taught project management at the university undergraduate, graduate, and professional education levels. I got on the Verzuh band-wagon with his 3rd edition and was delighted with it. His 4th edition trumps it. I'm all in. If you want a single book on the subject, this is it. Hands-down.

Good book. Explains well but I wish it had more practical steps on how to do project management itself.

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