



## Standard Glossary of Terms used in Software Testing

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### Search results

Filter for terms used in a syllabus: Foundation - v4.0  
Keywords only



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## All terms

<p><b>acceptance criteria</b></p> <p>The criteria that a component or system must satisfy in order to be accepted by a user, customer, or other authorized entity.</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> ISO 24765</p>	Version 2
<p><b>acceptance test-driven development</b></p> <p>A collaboration-based test-first approach that defines acceptance tests in the stakeholders' domain language.</p> <p><b>Abbreviation:</b> ATDD</p> <p><b>See also:</b> specification by example</p>	Version 1
<p><b>acceptance testing</b></p> <p>A test level that focuses on determining whether to accept the system.</p> <p><b>See also:</b> user acceptance testing</p>	Version 2
<p><b>anomaly</b></p> <p>A condition that deviates from expectation.</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765</p>	Version 1
<p><b>black-box test technique</b></p> <p>A test technique based on an analysis of the specification of a component or system.</p> <p><b>Synonyms:</b> black-box test design technique, specification-based test technique</p>	Version 3
<p><b>black-box testing</b></p> <p>Testing based on an analysis of the specification of the component or system.</p> <p><b>Synonyms:</b> specification-based testing</p>	Version 2
<p><b>boundary value analysis</b></p> <p>A black-box test technique in which test cases are designed based on boundary values.</p> <p><b>See also:</b> boundary value</p>	Version 2
<p><b>branch coverage</b></p> <p>The coverage of branches in a control flow graph.</p>	Version 2
<p><b>checklist-based testing</b></p> <p>An experience-based test technique in which test cases are designed to exercise the items of a checklist.</p>	Version 3
<p><b>collaboration-based test approach</b></p> <p>An approach to testing that focuses on defect avoidance by collaborating among stakeholders.</p>	Version 1
<p><b>component integration testing</b></p> <p>The integration testing of components.</p> <p><b>Synonyms:</b> module integration testing, unit integration testing</p>	Version 3
<p><b>component testing</b></p> <p>A test level that focuses on individual hardware or software components.</p> <p><b>Synonyms:</b> module testing, unit testing</p>	Version 3
<p><b>confirmation testing</b></p> <p>A type of change-related testing performed after fixing a defect to confirm that a failure caused by that defect does not reoccur.</p> <p><b>Synonyms:</b> re-testing</p>	Version 3
<p><b>coverage</b></p> <p>The degree to which specified coverage items are exercised by a test suite, expressed as a percentage.</p> <p><b>Synonyms:</b> test coverage</p>	Version 3
<p><b>coverage item</b></p> <p>An attribute or combination of attributes derived from one or more test conditions by using a test technique.</p> <p><b>See also:</b> coverage criteria</p>	Version 2

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<b>debugging</b>	Version 2
The process of finding, analyzing and removing the causes of failures in a component or system.	
<b>decision table testing</b>	Version 3
A black-box test technique in which test cases are designed to exercise the combinations of conditions and the resulting actions shown in a decision table.	
<b>defect</b>	Version 2
An imperfection or deficiency in a work product where it does not meet its requirements or specifications.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765	
<b>Synonyms:</b> bug, fault	
<b>defect management</b>	Version 3
The process of recognizing, recording, classifying, investigating, resolving and disposing of defects.	
<b>defect report</b>	Version 2
Documentation of the occurrence, nature, and status of a defect.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> bug report	
<b>dynamic testing</b>	Version 2
Testing that involves the execution of the test item.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>See also:</b> static testing	
<b>entry criteria</b>	Version 2
The set of conditions for officially starting a defined task.	
<b>Reference:</b> Gilb and Graham	
<b>See also:</b> exit criteria	
<b>equivalence partitioning</b>	Version 3
A black-box test technique in which test conditions are equivalence partitions exercised by one representative member of each partition.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>Synonyms:</b> partition testing	
<b>error</b>	Version 1
A human action that produces an incorrect result.	
<b>Reference:</b> ISO 24765	
<b>Synonyms:</b> mistake	
<b>error guessing</b>	Version 2
A test technique in which tests are derived on the basis of the tester's knowledge of past failures, or general knowledge of failure modes.	
<b>Reference:</b> ISO 29119-1	
<b>exit criteria</b>	Version 2
The set of conditions for officially completing a defined task.	
<b>Reference:</b> After Gilb and Graham	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test completion criteria, completion criteria	
<b>See also:</b> entry criteria	
<b>experience-based test technique</b>	Version 4
A test technique based on the tester's experience, knowledge and intuition.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> experience-based test design technique, experience-based technique	
<b>exploratory testing</b>	Version 3
An approach to testing in which the testers dynamically design and execute tests based on their knowledge, exploration of the test item and the results of previous tests.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>See also:</b> test charter	

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<b>failure</b>	Version 2
An event in which a component or system does not perform a required function within specified limits.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765	
<b>formal review</b>	Version 2
A type of review that follows a defined process with a formally documented output.	
<b>Reference:</b> ISO 20246	
<b>functional testing</b>	Version 3
Testing performed to evaluate if a component or system satisfies functional requirements.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765	
<b>informal review</b>	Version 3
A type of review that does not follow a defined process and has no formally documented output.	
<b>inspection</b>	Version 3
A type of formal review that uses defined team roles and measurement to identify defects in a work product, and improve the review process and the software development process.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 20246	
<b>See also:</b> peer review	
<b>integration testing</b>	Version 2
A test level that focuses on interactions between components or systems.	
<b>maintenance testing</b>	Version 1
Testing the changes to an operational system or the impact of a changed environment to an operational system.	
<b>non-functional testing</b>	Version 3
Testing performed to evaluate that a component or system complies with non-functional requirements.	
<b>product risk</b>	Version 2
A risk impacting the quality of a product.	
<b>See also:</b> risk	
<b>project risk</b>	Version 2
A risk that impacts project success.	
<b>See also:</b> risk	
<b>quality</b>	Version 3
The degree to which a work product satisfies stated and implied needs of its stakeholders.	
<b>Reference:</b> After IREB	
<b>quality assurance</b>	Version 2
Activities focused on providing confidence that quality requirements will be fulfilled.	
<b>Abbreviation:</b> QA	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765	
<b>See also:</b> quality management	
<b>regression testing</b>	Version 3
A type of change-related testing to detect whether defects have been introduced or uncovered in unchanged areas of the software.	
<b>review</b>	Version 3
A type of static testing in which a work product or process is evaluated by one or more individuals to detect defects or to provide improvements.	
<b>risk</b>	Version 1
A factor that could result in future negative consequences.	
<b>See also:</b> product risk, project risk	
<b>risk analysis</b>	Version 2
The overall process of risk identification and risk assessment.	

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<b>risk assessment</b>	Version 2
The process to examine identified risks and determine the risk level.	
<b>risk control</b>	Version 1
The overall process of risk mitigation and risk monitoring.	
<b>risk identification</b>	Version 2
The process of finding, recognizing and describing risks.	
<b>Reference:</b> ISO 31000	
<b>risk level</b>	Version 2
The measure of a risk defined by risk impact and risk likelihood.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> risk exposure	
<b>risk management</b>	Version 3
The process for handling risks.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765	
<b>risk mitigation</b>	Version 2
The process through which decisions are reached and protective measures are implemented for reducing or maintaining risks to specified levels.	
<b>risk monitoring</b>	Version 1
The activity that checks and reports the status of known risks to stakeholders.	
<b>risk-based testing</b>	Version 2
Testing in which the management, selection, prioritization, and use of testing activities and resources are based on corresponding risk types and risk levels.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>root cause</b>	Version 1
A source of a defect such that if it is removed, the occurrence of the defect type is decreased or removed.	
<b>Reference:</b> CMMI	
<b>shift left</b>	Version 1
An approach to performing testing and quality assurance activities as early as possible in the software development lifecycle.	
<b>state transition testing</b>	Version 3
A black-box test technique in which test cases are designed to exercise elements of a state transition model.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> finite state testing	
<b>statement coverage</b>	Version 2
The coverage of executable statements.	
<b>static analysis</b>	Version 2
The process of evaluating a component or system without executing it, based on its form, structure, content, or documentation.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 24765	
<b>static testing</b>	Version 4
Testing that does not involve the execution of a test item.	
<b>See also:</b> dynamic testing	
<b>system integration testing</b>	Version 4
The integration testing of systems.	
<b>system testing</b>	Version 2
A test level that focuses on verifying that a system as a whole meets specified requirements.	

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<b>technical review</b>	Version 3
A formal review by technical experts that examine the quality of a work product and identify discrepancies from specifications and standards.	
<b>See also:</b> peer review	
<b>test analysis</b>	Version 2
The activity that identifies test conditions by analyzing the test basis.	
<b>test approach</b>	Version 3
The manner of implementing testing tasks.	
<b>test automation</b>	Version 2
The use of software to perform or support test activities.	
<b>test basis</b>	Version 2
The body of knowledge used as the basis for test analysis and design.	
<b>Reference:</b> After TMap	
<b>test case</b>	Version 2
A set of preconditions, inputs, actions (where applicable), expected results and postconditions, developed based on test conditions.	
<b>See also:</b> test step	
<b>test completion</b>	Version 2
The activity that makes testware available for later use, leaves test environments in a satisfactory condition and communicates the results of testing to relevant stakeholders.	
<b>test completion report</b>	Version 3
A type of test report produced at completion milestones that provides an evaluation of the corresponding test items against exit criteria.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test summary report	
<b>test condition</b>	Version 3
A testable aspect of a component or system identified as a basis for testing.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test situation, test requirement	
<b>test control</b>	Version 2
The activity that develops and applies corrective actions to get a test project on track when it deviates from what was planned.	
<b>See also:</b> test management	
<b>test data</b>	Version 3
Data needed for test execution.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test dataset	
<b>test design</b>	Version 3
The activity that derives and specifies test cases from test conditions.	
<b>test execution</b>	Version 2
The activity that runs a test on a component or system producing actual results.	
<b>test implementation</b>	Version 2
The activity that prepares the testware needed for test execution based on test analysis and design.	
<b>test level</b>	Version 2
A specific instantiation of a test process.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test stage	
<b>test monitoring</b>	Version 3
The activity that checks the status of testing activities, identifies any variances from planned or expected, and reports status to stakeholders.	
<b>See also:</b> test management	

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<b>test object</b>	Version 2
The work product to be tested.	
<b>See also:</b> test item	
<b>test objective</b>	Version 3
The purpose for testing.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test goal	
<b>test plan</b>	Version 2
Documentation describing the test objectives to be achieved and the means and the schedule for achieving them, organized to coordinate testing activities.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>See also:</b> master test plan, level test plan, test scope	
<b>test planning</b>	Version 1
The activity of establishing or updating a test plan.	
<b>test procedure</b>	Version 1
A sequence of test cases in execution order, and any associated actions that may be required to set up the initial preconditions and any wrap up activities post execution.	
<b>Reference:</b> ISO 29119-1	
<b>test progress report</b>	Version 4
A type of periodic test report that includes the progress of test activities against a baseline, risks, and alternatives requiring a decision.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test status report	
<b>test pyramid</b>	Version 1
A graphical model representing the relationship of the amount of testing per level, with more at the bottom than at the top.	
<b>test result</b>	Version 1
The consequence/outcome of the execution of a test.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> outcome, test outcome, result	
<b>test technique</b>	Version 3
A procedure used to define test conditions, design test cases, and specify test data.	
<b>Synonyms:</b> test design technique	
<b>test type</b>	Version 2
A group of test activities based on specific test objectives aimed at specific characteristics of a component or system.	
<b>Reference:</b> After TMap	
<b>testing</b>	Version 3
The process within the software development lifecycle that evaluates the quality of a component or system and related work products.	
<b>See also:</b> quality control	
<b>testing quadrants</b>	Version 1
A classification model of test types/test levels in four quadrants, relating them to two dimensions of test objectives: supporting the product team versus critiquing the product, and technology-facing versus business-facing.	
<b>testware</b>	Version 2
Work products produced during the test process for use in planning, designing, executing, evaluating and reporting on testing.	
<b>Reference:</b> After ISO 29119-1	
<b>validation</b>	Version 2
Confirmation by examination that a work product matches a stakeholder's needs.	
<b>Reference:</b> After IREB	

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**verification**

Version 1

Confirmation by examination and through provision of objective evidence that specified requirements have been fulfilled.

**Reference:** ISO 9000

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**walkthrough**

Version 3

A type of review in which an author leads members of the review through a work product and the members ask questions and make comments about possible issues.

**Reference:** After ISO 20246

**Synonyms:** structured walkthrough

**See also:** peer review

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**white-box test technique**

Version 3

A test technique only based on the internal structure of a component or system.

**Synonyms:** white-box test design technique, structure-based test technique

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**white-box testing**

Version 1

Testing based on an analysis of the internal structure of the component or system.

**Synonyms:** clear-box testing, code-based testing, glass-box testing, logic-coverage testing, logic-driven testing, structural testing, structure-based testing

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