THE TEN KNOWLEDGE AREAS OF PMP
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If you are a Project Manager who is looking to rise in the ranks, the most important and essential skill you need is the Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification. This certification has the true potential to drive your project management career in an upward direction, that too in a very little time. It is also widely reported that PMP is one of the most challenging certification exams to pass. The industry is known to have a lot of aspirant PMP seekers who believed that they studied and prepared enough to pass the exam but still failed to clear the test. Informal polls say that as many as 40 percent of applicants don't clear the test on the first try. You don't have to join that 40 percentage of losers but be a winner by taking up a PMP certification course as soon as possible! To come out as a winner, you need to learn the management concepts, knowledge areas, tricks and strategies. The primary objective of this whitepaper is to give you an introduction and precise descriptions to the ten knowledge areas in project management.

The Ten Knowledge Areas

The ten knowledge areas are the skills a project manager must practice and master to manage a project efficiently. All knowledge areas given in the PMBOK Guide® follow a similar naming convention. Most times, they are referred to the specific middle word of the respective knowledge area.
The ten knowledge areas of project management are given below:

- Project Integration Management
- Project Scope Management
- Project Time Management
- Project Cost Management
- Project Quality Management
- Project Human Resources Management
- Project Communications Management
- Project Risk Management
- Project Procurement Management
- Project Stakeholder Management

**Project Integration Management:**

The knowledge area which is devoted to identify and define the work in the project is known as the Integration Management. This knowledge area deals also with efficiently integrating changes into the project. There are six different processes in the integration knowledge area.

**Project Scope Management**

This knowledge area deals with defining the project scope, project requirement scope, project work, making the work breakdown structure, making the scope baselines and managing the scope of the project. This is one point where you can plan the ways of keeping the project within the established boundaries. There are six processes in the scope management knowledge area.
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**Project Time Management:**
The project managers estimate the duration of the tasks in this knowledge area. This is where he/she sequences the tasks and chooses the number of resources required to achieve the objective of the project. Schedule is monitored and managed here in this area to keep the project on the track. Seven processes are present in this knowledge area of project management.

**Project Cost Management:**
Budget baseline is established and costs are estimated in this knowledge area. The plan to manage the costs is categorized in the cost management knowledge area too. This knowledge area consists of four processes.

**Project Quality Management**
There are three processes in Project Quality Management, the knowledge area where the quality requirements for project deliverables are planned and tracked. In this area, all the quality issues are monitored and fixed.

**Project Human Resources Management**
This knowledge area, which is the HR management of the project, comprises of the processes very essential to define the ways human resources will be utilized, developed, acquired and managed. Project Human Resources Management has four processes in it.

**Project Communications Management**
Communications management is the knowledge area that defines how communications within the project will work. In these processes, the project manager makes the communication management plan, ensures the plan is followed, and controls information flow within the project. The communications management knowledge area has three processes.
Project Risk Management

Project Risk Management consists of identifying risks, planning risk management, conducting risk assessments, and controlling risks. This knowledge area has six processes in it. The area concentrates on identifying, analyzing, planning responses to both ‘threat risks’ (negative) and ‘opportunity risks’ (positive).

Project Procurement Management (some changes)

This knowledge area deals with the processes which project managers usually follow to acquire required material for the successful completion of the project. In this knowledge area, project managers come up with the plan for conducting procurements, controlling the procurements and closing out the procurements. 4 processes are there in this knowledge area.

Project Stakeholder Management:

Project Stakeholder Management area encompasses all the processes which is used by a project manager for recognizing and satisfying the ones who are affected by the project. The affected party can either be internal or external, in nature. You can pay close attention to those stakeholders who can have a powerful positive or negative impact on the project. There are four processes in stakeholder management.
Conclusion

Your attitude towards exam matters a lot when it comes to passing a PMP certification exam. You always must remember that the certification is the ultimate goal so you should devote enough time for studying those major concepts in project management.

You should prepare well for the Boot Camp as well as for the exam. Don’t make the mistake of spending too much time on one question. If you cannot figure out the answer for one question, just mark it and go for the next one. Understanding the knowledge areas and their application in project management is an important step to face the Boot Camp and the exam. If this whitepaper inspired you to learn more for the PMP certification, it has served its purpose. Good luck!