



Your Company Name

Building Test Scenarios

Date

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Revision History

Date	Version	Author	Change

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1 PURPOSE

A test scenario is a hypothetical story, used to assist a person think through a complex problem or system.

The development of test scenarios helps the design team understand the motivations of users and the functions that will compliment those motivations. This is valuable for all tests, but especially important for scenarios because they are complex.

Scenarios are also useful to connect to software requirements, especially requirements modeled with use cases, and to reveal requirements-related controversies. Test scenarios also check if all of the business flows are working as expected.

2 DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TEST CASE AND TEST SCENARIO

A test case is “How to be Tested,” while a Test Scenario is “What is to be Tested.”

The difference between a test case and a test scenario is explained below:

- A test case is a set of conditions or variables under which a tester will determine whether an application, software system or one of its features is working as it was originally established for it to do.
- A test scenario tells a story about how a user will interact with an application. A test scenario makes sure that end to end functionality of an application under test is working as expected. It also checks if the all business flows are working as expected. In scenario testing, the tester needs to put his/her mind in the end users mind to check and perform the action as how they are using the application under test. In scenario testing, the preparation of scenarios would be the most important part, in which the scenario tester needs to consult or accept help from the client, stakeholder or developers.



3 THE IDEAL TEST SCENARIO

- The test is based on a story about how the program is used, including learning information about the motivations of the people involved.
- The story is motivating. A stakeholder with influence would push aggressively to fix a program that failed this test.
- The story is credible. It not only could happen in the real world; stakeholders will believe that something like it probably will happen.
- The story involves a complex use of the program or a complex environment or a complex set of data.
- The most important factor in a scenario is that the test results are easy to evaluate.

4 WHY USE TEST SCENARIOS?

Below are critical reasons why you will want to create test scenarios:

- Learn about the product.
- Directly connects testing to the business, system and design requirements.
- Expose any failures to deliver the desired benefits.
- Explore expert use of the program.
- Bring requirements-related issues to the surface, which might involve reopening old requirements discussions or exposing not-yet-identified requirements.

5 12 WAYS TO CREATE GOOD TEST SCENARIOS

1. Write life histories for objects in the system or application.
2. List possible users; analyze their interests and objectives.
3. Consider disfavored users; how do they want to abuse the system?
4. List "System Events." How does the system handle them?
5. List "Special Events." What accommodations does the system make for these?
6. List benefits and create end-to-end tasks to check them.
7. Interview users about challenges and failures of the "old" system.
8. Work along side users to see how they work and what their work steps are.
9. Read about what systems like this system are supposed to do.



10. Study complaints about the predecessor system or its competitors.
11. Create a mock business. Treat it as real and process its data.
12. Try converting real-life data from a competing or a predecessor application.

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6 TESTING SCENARIOS

Test Scenario # 1					
Version #	Version Number	Build #	Tracking number	Retry #	Number representing number of times the test case has been executed.
Test Scenario ID #	A sequential number assigned to this test		Process ID:	The Process ID this test scenario relates with	
Environment	Enter the environment, e.g., mainframe, client/server, etc.		Machine Tested:	Enter the machine type used for this test, e.g., PC, server.	
Test Scenario Description	Describe what this test scenario will be testing.				
Objective:	Describe the objectives of the testing.				
Assumptions and Constraints	List any assumptions or constraints the tester should be fully aware of.				
Test Files / Test Data	List the test files or test data in order to successfully execute this test scenario.				
Author	Author's name	Last Modified	Enter date the test was last modified.		
Reviewed By	Reviewer's name.	Reviewed on	Enter date the test was reviewed.		
Executed By	Executor's name.	Executed on	Enter date the test was executed.		

Test Steps				
Step #	Description	Expected Results	Actual Results	Pass / Fail
Sequential #	Enter a description of each step of the test scenario. Carefully list what each step the test must accomplish.	Enter the expected results of each step assuming the execution of each step is successful.	Enter the actual results for each step. If the actual results match the expected results, then the same text should be entered in	Pass



			<i>both Expected and Actual Results.</i>	

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Test Scenario # 2				
Version #		Build #		Retry #
Test Scenario ID #		Process ID:		
Environment		Machine Tested:		
Test Scenario Description				
Objective:				
Assumptions and Constraints				
Test Files / Test Data				
Author		Last Modified		
Reviewed By		Reviewed on		
Executed By		Executed on		

Test Steps				
Step #	Description	Expected Results	Actual Results	Pass / Fail



Test Scenario # 3					
Version #		Build #		Retry #	
Test Scenario ID #			Process ID:		
Environment			Machine Tested:		
Test Scenario Description					
Objective:					
Assumptions and Constraints					
Test Files / Test Data					
Author			Last Modified		
Reviewed By			Reviewed on		
Executed By			Executed on		

Test Steps				
Step #	Description	Expected Results	Actual Results	Pass / Fail