

# Exam DSDM Foundation

## Foundation Certificate in Dynamic Systems Development Method

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**Target group** The exam DSDM Foundation is intended to qualify:

- IT professionals new to business-focussed projects delivered using DSDM
- personnel from the user organisation that will be using DSDM, especially those fulfilling the DSDM user roles
- management within organisations that want to apply DSDM

**Presumed knowledge** None.

**Exemption** None.

**Exam requirements**

1. The rationale of DSDM
2. DSDM principles
3. DSDM process & products
4. People aspects & DSDM roles
5. Management techniques
6. Development techniques

### **Study load**

The study load is 60 hours. This is merely an indication. Those who are already familiar with DSDM through their work or the literature will need less study time.

## Exam requirements specifications

### **1. The rationale of DSDM**

1.1 The candidate knows why DSDM is applied.  
The candidate can:

- describe the objective of DSDM
- describe the fundamental assumptions of DSDM
- describe the advantages of DSDM

1.2 The candidate knows when DSDM should be applied.  
The candidate can:

- summarise the critical success factors for DSDM
- name the characteristics of projects where DSDM is the most effective approach
- name the characteristics of projects where special attention is required when applying DSDM

### **2. DSDM principles**

The candidate understands the principles of DSDM.  
The candidate can:

- describe the principles of DSDM
- explain the meaning of each of the principles of DSDM

### **3. DSDM process & products**

3.1. The candidate understands the lifecycle phases of DSDM.

- The candidate can name and describe the phases of DSDM.
- The candidate can describe the objectives of each DSDM phase.

3.2. The candidate understands the products of DSDM.

- The candidate can summarise the formal DSDM products in each phase.
- The candidate can describe the purpose of each product.

3.3. The candidate understands the maintenance levels according to DSDM.

- The candidate can describe the three maintenance levels.

#### **4. People aspects & DSDM roles**

4.1. The candidate knows the DSDM roles.

- The candidate can describe the DSDM project organisation.
- The candidate can describe the DSDM roles.
- The candidate can indicate the responsibilities of each role.

4.2. The candidate understands the DSDM team.

- The candidate can indicate the characteristics of a successful DSDM team.

#### **5. Management techniques**

5.1. The candidate knows management techniques.

- The candidate can explain the meaning of the DSDM management techniques.

5.2. The candidate understands MoSCoW prioritisation.

- The candidate can summarise and describe the MoSCoW rules.

5.3. The candidate understands time boxing.

- The candidate can explain the characteristics of a time box.
- The candidate can describe the time box process.

5.4. The candidate understands DSDM project management.

- The candidate can describe the specific characteristics of DSDM project management.
- The candidate can describe the escalation process within a DSDM project.

5.5. The candidate understands DSDM project planning.

- The candidate can indicate the specific characteristics of DSDM project planning.
- The candidate can summarise the DSDM products associated with planning.

5.6. The candidate understands the concept of quality within DSDM.

- The candidate can indicate which techniques are recommended to ensure the quality of the DSDM products.

5.7. The candidate understands risk management as it relates to DSDM.

- The candidate can indicate, for each DSDM principle, the risks that

occur if the relevant DSDM principle is not satisfied.

## 6. Development techniques

6.1. The candidate knows development techniques.

- The candidate can explain the meaning of the development techniques that support DSDM's business centred approach.

6.2. The candidate understands facilitated workshops.

- The candidate can summarise the advantages of using facilitated workshops.
- The candidate can summarise and describe the workshop roles.

6.3. The candidate understands modelling.

- The candidate can describe the concept of User-Centred Development.
- The candidate can describe the model categories.
- The candidate can describe the modelling technique categories.

6.4. The candidate understands prototyping within DSDM.

- The candidate can describe the phases in the prototyping cycle.
- The candidate can describe the three iterations of a prototype.
- The candidate can summarise and describe the prototype categories.

6.5. The candidate understands testing.

- The candidate can summarise and describe the test principles in DSDM.

6.6. The candidate understands configuration management.

- The candidate can indicate which points are fundamentally important for the application of configuration management in a DSDM project.

6.7. The candidate understands tools.

- The candidate can indicate which types of tools can be used to support DSDM projects.

## Literature

### Defining literature

**Framework for Business Centred Development,**  
Handbook for DSDM version 4.1

### Examination session

Literature and notes may not be used.