

Project Planning

FACTSHEET


Apply basic project planning principles to the construction of a log cabin within a tight deadline and within a tight budget!

 **1.5 hours + debrief**

 **3-24** (up to 4 teams of 3-6 per team)

 **For staff at any level**

 **Includes computer program** (internet access required)

 **595** (hard & digital copy) or **545** (digital copy) ex VAT



Learning objectives

- demonstrates the importance of a critical path
- emphasises the need to schedule efficiently
- highlights the need to plan for contingencies
- covers labour planning and materials ordering
- shows how cashflow is crucial to a project

About the activity

Project Planning is an easy-to-use team activity that tests participants' project-management and planning skills in terms of:

- planning a schedule
- resource allocation (materials & labour)
- cash-flow smoothing
- cost control

Each team represents the management of the Log Cabin Company that designs and constructs wooden holiday homes. Teams must plan, and quote, for the construction of a log cabin. The client is, of course, looking for the cheapest approach but is also concerned about the quality of the plan.

Teams have details of the 7 stages of the project from clearing the land to putting the roof on and landscaping. They have a file of information about the labour required for each phase and the cost and delivery times of materials. Their task is to plan the build within the deadline and within the budget, allowing for contingencies such as rainy days. They have 90 minutes to plan their project and complete a Schedule, an Order Form and a quotation.

Their schedules are entered into the program that identifies the shortcomings of their plans and scores them out of 100. Can the team work together and come up with a feasible plan? The contract is awarded to the highest-scoring team!

Five-year repeat use licence

This Northgate training activity comes with a five-year licence for repeat use with up to 24 participants. A licence is required for each site (or remote hub). To use with larger groups or for multiple site licences please contact us for a quote.

Pack contents

- Trainer's Notes
- PowerPoint
- Computer Program (internet access required)
- Team Folder containing:
 - Introduction, Financial Considerations, Material Requirements, Material Supplies, Workforce Requirements, Schedule
- Planning Sheets (3 options)
- Schedule
- Order Form
- Review Form
- Trainer's Sample Plan

This activity is for face-to-face & virtual training. It is supplied as a hard copy pack and digital files are supplied via the Northgate Trainerhub (or you can purchase digital files only).

Ideally suited to

Any project planning training course where you want your delegates to put theory into practice - in a safe environment!

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Customer reviews

” Project Planning really highlighted the human instinct to try to complete things as quickly as possible rather than make use of the full time available and deliver a more quality output. The game was *very well designed*. I liked the *competitive* nature of it and the comprehensive reports that each team gets. A *great activity* that was challenging even for a Senior Group of Managers.
Andrew Mardon, Director of Consulting, Kantar Retail Middle East

” I love using this activity on my level 4 Leadership and Management programmes. Participants find it really *good fun*. It really *brings project management to life*. They often get quite carried away with their spreadsheets and cannot wait to find out the results!
Shirley Gaston, Founding Director, Azesta



Trainer's role (full guidance supplied in Trainer's Notes)

- Introduce the activity to the whole group in plenary using the PowerPoint presentation provided.
- Explain that teams are going to plan a project - the construction of a log cabin.
- Issue the Team Folders and allow teams up to 90 minutes planning.
- At the end of the planning phase, collect the Schedules and Order Forms and input the data into the computer program (very straightforward).
- Issue Review Forms for teams to analyse their performance.
- Conduct a debrief, getting teams to give feedback on how they worked together and how they approached the task.
- Issue the final reports and award the contract to the highest scoring team.
- Lead a discussion on the key points and summarise the lessons (supplied on the PowerPoint presentation).

Northgate says...

All teams must score over 80% to be in with a chance of winning the contract!

The new & updated PowerPoint provided makes it easy to debrief in a virtual or face-to-face classroom setting - showing the 'ideal' answer that scores 97%.

Ordering is easy!

- 📧 northgatetraining.co.uk
- ☎ +44 (0)1225 484990
- ✉ sales@northgatetraining.co.uk

Fast delivery

Digital files are accessed via our online Trainerhub and the hard copy pack is sent via courier:

- £15 UK (next working day)
- £29 Europe (1-3 working days)
- £39 International (1-5 working days)

Our guarantee

If you are not 100% happy we offer a 30-day no-quibble returns service on unused goods.



Northgate customers

