

5 Core Lean Principles - overview



(Source: Womack & Jones, 1996)



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5 Core Lean Principles - detailed

In their bestselling 1996 book “*Lean Thinking: Banish Waste and Create Wealth in Your Corporation*”, James Womack and Daniel Jones distilled Lean Thinking down into five core principles:

1. Firstly your customers define what value is.
2. Then you map the value stream – that is, all the people, materials, information, activities, and processes that must come together and flow to deliver value to your customers when, where, and how they want it.
3. Through value-mapping you identify those processes and activities that are value-adding (VA), non-value-adding (NVA), and necessary-non-value-adding (NNVA).
4. Your job is then to develop countermeasures to reduce or remove the waste so as to establish improved flow, and implement pull systems.
5. Thereafter you commit to continuous improvement and the relentless pursuit of perfection using PDCA (Plan, Do, Check, Act).



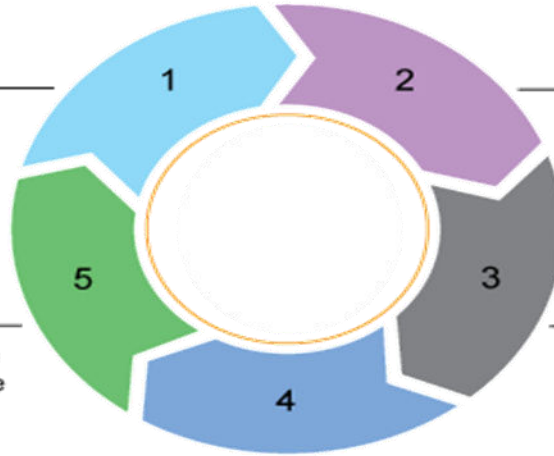
5 Core Lean Principles - explained

Specify Value

Define **value** from the customers perspective and express value in terms of a specific product or service

Work to Perfection

The complete elimination of waste so all activities create value for the customer by breakthrough and **continuous improvement** projects



Map the Value Stream

Map all of the steps...value added and non-value added...that bring a product or service to the customer

Establish Flow

The continuous **flow** of products, services and information from end to end through the process

Implement Pull

Nothing is done by the upstream process until the downstream customer signals the need, actual demand **pulls** product/service through the value stream

