

# Project Complexity Assessment

Project Complexity Assessment is one of the project management deliverable you can create with our [project management lifecycle software](#).

If your project is about developing a simple tic-tac-toe game, it may seem a bit overkill to perform management activities for budget, procurement, staffing resources, right? In the IT Project Management Framework, there is a classification mechanism that helps identify your project's complexity, which determines the activities required to perform.

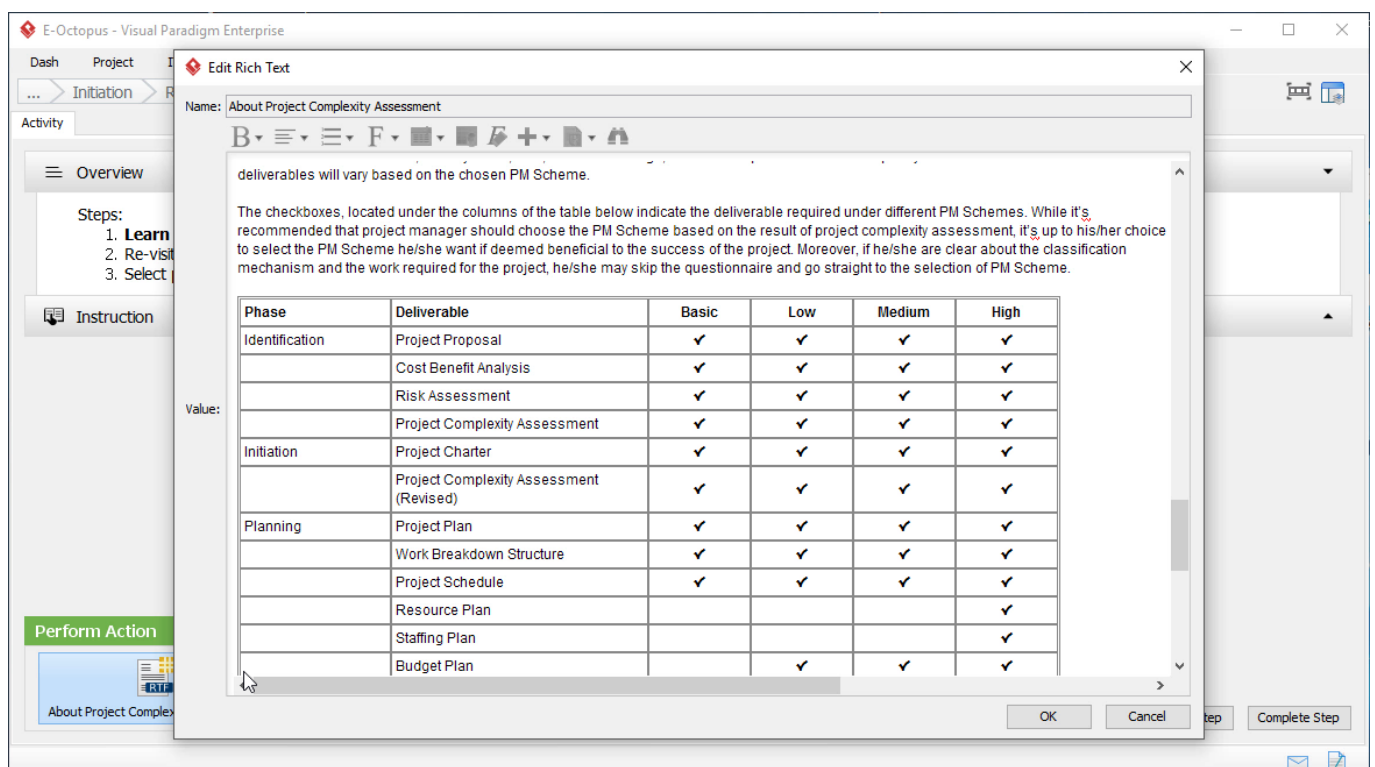
The classification mechanism involves the answering of a project complexity questionnaire. By answering a set of complexity questions, a total score along with a classification of project complexity will be obtained.

This article shows you how to perform project complexity assessment.

## Activity 1: Perform Initial Project Complexity Assessment

### Learn what Project Complexity is and how it influences your project management activities

A project's complexity determines what activities and deliverables are required for managing a project. It is an important concept that you **must** understand clearly in order to adopt this project management framework. Read a short passage about project complexity. Make sure you understand what it is before you continue.



The screenshot shows the 'Edit Rich Text' dialog box in the E-Octopus software. The dialog contains a text editor with the following text:

deliverables will vary based on the chosen PM Scheme.

The checkboxes, located under the columns of the table below indicate the deliverable required under different PM Schemes. While it's recommended that project manager should choose the PM Scheme based on the result of project complexity assessment, it's up to his/her choice to select the PM Scheme he/she want if deemed beneficial to the success of the project. Moreover, if he/she are clear about the classification mechanism and the work required for the project, he/she may skip the questionnaire and go straight to the selection of PM Scheme.

Phase	Deliverable	Basic	Low	Medium	High
Identification	Project Proposal	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Cost Benefit Analysis	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Risk Assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓
Initiation	Project Complexity Assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Project Charter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Planning	Project Complexity Assessment (Revised)	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Project Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Work Breakdown Structure	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Project Schedule	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Resource Plan				✓
	Staffing Plan				✓
	Budget Plan		✓	✓	✓

### Perform initial project complexity assessment

Complete the project complexity questionnaire by answering a set of complexity questions. A total score along with a classification of project complexity will be obtained when all questions have been answered.

No.	Project Complexity Question	Answer
1	What is the estimated total project cost?	Between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000
2	Have sufficient project funds been budgeted and allocated?	Funding is available but not allocated.
3	How much confidence is there in the expenditure and funding projections?	Accuracy of budget estimate is greater than 50% and less than or equal to 85%
4	Is funding available for maintenance of the project deliverable after project closure?	Maintenance funding has not been planned.
5	Is the project sponsor fully resourcing the project?	Sponsor has control of most of the resources needed
6	Does this project require resources from other organizations?	Project requires some external resources.
7	What is the size of the project team (Full Time Equivalents)?	Project requires no external resources. Project requires few external resources. Project requires some external resources. External resources are critical to the project.
8	What is the Project Manager's authority over the project?	
9	To what degree are the project team members collocated?	
10	Has the project team executed similar projects?	Project team has never been executing a similar project
11	What is the level of management commitment?	Management is not committed.
12	What is the experience and training level of the project manager?	Have some training or experience.
13	What is the project's duration?	12 to 24 months

## Study the result of project complexity assessment

Take a look at the result of project complexity assessment. See the total project complexity score and the classification of complexity.

Summary of complexity factors:	Project Score	Range of Maximum Weight Points Possible			
		Basic	Low	Medium	High
Costs, funding, and budget	64	18	40	62	92
Project team attributes and personnel commitment	64	11	21	42	70
Scheduling, dependencies, and duration	29	8	16	26	40
Project impacts	34	4	20	36	60
Novelty of solution	17	5	10	17	24
Degree of end user involvement	22	2	8	14	24
Data Conversion from other sources	4	0	4	6	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>318</b>

Project Scheme	Complexity Score	Selected Project Management Scheme
	234	High