

The PMBOK® Guide: Seven Facts About the Pending Seventh Edition

Practitioners are faced with the need to adapt quickly due to technology enhancements and the need for organizations to respond to rapid market changes. The *PMBOK® Guide* is evolving to support the project practitioner in meeting these challenges. Here are seven facts about the update that you should know.

1. The *PMBOK® Guide* – Seventh Edition contains two resources: *The Standard for Project Management*, which carries the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) designation, and *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)*, a framework for applying the standard based on the broad body of knowledge within the project management profession.
2. The next edition is being updated to reflect the full range of development approaches without preference for one over another. Project professionals need flexibility to choose the right tools based on project context with a view to enabling envisioned outcomes.

Some of the planned updates include:

3. A move from processes to principles: The 12 project management principles in the draft of *The Standard for Project Management* are built around a set of statements that guide the actions and behaviors of project management practitioners regardless of development approach. The principles summarize the *what* and *why* of project management.
4. A move from Knowledge Areas to project performance domains: The *PMBOK® Guide* is organized around eight project performance domains defined as a group of related activities that are critical for the effective delivery of project outcomes.
5. An expanded list of tools and techniques in a new section of the guide titled “Models, Methods, and Artifacts”—with additional content on how to apply these tools and techniques by project type, development approach, and industry sector to be available soon on a new digital platform called PMIstandards+™.
6. A new section with guidance on tailoring, which is the deliberate adaptation of the project management approach, governance, and processes to make them more suitable for the given environment and the work at hand.
7. The *PMBOK® Guide* – Seventh Edition is expected to be available in early 2021.