

# Splitting user stories: cheatsheet



“Can we split this user story (vertically) on .....”  
(and make them less complex, more understandable and easier to prioritize)

<p><b>1. Workflow steps?</b></p> <p>What steps does a user perform? Are all steps necessary (right now)? Can steps be simplified (for now)?</p> <p><i>le: steps in an order proces, like selecting a payment option, delivery method, etc</i></p>	<p><b>2. Business rules?</b></p> <p>What rules apply to this story? Are all busines rules necessary (right now)? Can simpler rules suffice (for now)?</p> <p><i>le: failures during webshop order process and possible recovery options</i></p>
<p><b>3. Happy/unhappy flow?</b></p> <p>What does the happy / unhappy flow look like? Are all unhappy flows necessary (right now)? Can unhappy flows be simplified (for now)?</p> <p><i>le: failures during webshop order process and possible recovery options</i></p>	<p><b>4. Input options</b></p> <p>Which platforms are supported? Are all platforms required (right now)? Are some platforms harder than others?</p> <p><i>le: tablet, iPhone, desktop, touchscreen</i></p>
<p><b>5. Datatypes and parameters</b></p> <p>What datatypes are supported? What parameters are relevant?</p> <p><i>le: different search options / strategies or different kinds of reports (table, graphs, etc)</i></p>	<p><b>6. Operations?</b></p> <p>What operations does the story entail? Are all operations necessary (right now)?</p> <p><i>le: splitting on CRUD (create, read, update, delete)</i></p>
<p><b>7. Test cases / acceptance criteria?</b></p> <p>What tests are used to verify this story? What acceptance criteria apply? Are all test scenarios necessary (right now)?</p> <p><i>le: some test scenarios may be very complex, but not highly relevant</i></p>	<p><b>8. Roles?</b></p> <p>What roles are involved in this story? Are are roles necessary now?</p> <p><i>le: customers can create orders, administrators can manage orders, etc</i></p>