Continuous Delivery Maturity Checklist

Check the boxes next to the practices you currently perform to see your maturity in each area of Continuous Delivery. Add up your score at the end based on the highest levels you checked.

Source Control

Baseline
- Early branching
- Branches tend to remain apart

Novice
- Branches are used for isolating work
- Merges are common

Intermediate
- Pre-tested commits
- Integration branch is pristine

Advanced
- All commits are tied to tasks
- History used to rewrite features before pushing to central repository
- Version control DB schema changes

Expert
- Traceability analysis and release notes auto-generated
- Commits are clean enough for the master branch/trunk

Build Process

Baseline
- Official builds are not performed on developers’ machines
- Self-service build or nightly build

Novice
- System polls source control and builds on commit
- Build artifacts are managed, some manual scripts still used

Intermediate
- Build artifacts are managed by purpose-built tools, no manual scripts
- Dependencies are managed in a repository

Advanced
- Distributed builds on build cluster, can be done in sequence
- Source control tells system when to build, no polling

Expert
- Build environments based on VMs
- Streams are never “broken”
- Gated commits

Testing & QA

Baseline
- Automatic unit testing with every build
- Code coverage is measured

Novice
- Peer-reviews
- Mockups & proxies used

Intermediate
- Periodic static code analysis
- Automated functional testing

Advanced
- Integrated management and maintenance of the test data
- Automated performance & security tests in target environments

Expert
- Automated acceptance testing

Deployment

Baseline
- Fully scripted deployments

Novice
- Push-button deployments to test environments

Intermediate
- Auto deploy to first test environment
- Standard deployments across all environments
- Push-button deployments to production

Advanced
- Automated deployments after tests pass
- Database deployments
- Multi-tier deployments

Expert
- Ability to implement continuous deployment

Visibility

Baseline
- Build status notification is sent to committer

Novice
- Latest build status is available to all team members

Intermediate
- Trend reports are automatically generated from build server events
- People outside the team can subscribe to build statuses

Advanced
- Stakeholders have dashboards with real-time product and dependency stats

Expert
- Cross-team data mining and analysis

Overall Maturity Scorecard

For each check mark add the assigned number of points and total them for each section:

Tally Your Scores

Point Key:
- Baseline 0 points
- Novice 1 point
- Intermediate 2 points
- Advanced 3 points
- Expert 4 points

Total

0-7 Adequate
8-11 Average
12-14 Skilled
15-17 Adept
18-20 Master

Inspired by Chris Shayan and Eric Minick