

Why Should You Start Testing Changes ASAP?

Learning Objectives

- Discuss the advantages of starting tests of improvement as soon as possible.
- Explain why the question “what can you do by next Tuesday?” is a useful provocation to think differently about systems.

Description: You can never be too prepared — or can you? “You don’t necessarily need all the answers before you get started,” says Lloyd Provost, co-author of the legendary *Improvement Guide*. In fact, placing too much emphasis on studying processes and collecting baseline data at the outset of a project can stall your progress. Learn how to avoid this pitfall and save precious time in Provost’s Open School video short.

Watch the video at https://youtu.be/Q4d7T_aBUPo or [read the transcript](#).

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the risks of starting a test of change earlier versus later. Which scenario do you think carries greater risk?
2. Provost implies that it’s important to see improvement quickly. Why do you think that could be?
3. What do you think of the provocation “what can you do by next Tuesday?” Is it helpful?
4. Can you think of something to test by next Tuesday?