

Step 4 – Acceptance Criteria

Template

“Given **[context or pre-condition]**, when **[some action is carried out]**, then **[observable outcome]**.”

How to write acceptance criteria

1. Write short bullets in a Given / When / Then style.
 2. Include typical behaviour (sometimes called the “happy path”).
 3. Then proceed to consider edge cases – when users might do something unexpected.
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Quality check (INVEST, simplified)

- Independent — can be built on its own
- Negotiable — details can change during dev
- Valuable — a real user benefits
- Estimable — you can roughly size the effort
- Small — fits in a short sprint
- Testable — you can verify it objectively

User Story (repeat from step 3)

Acceptance Criteria