

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.

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