

# [Estimation techniques - work breakdown structure](https://assignbuster.com/estimation-techniques-work-breakdown-structure/)

[](https://assignbuster.com/)[Technology](https://assignbuster.com/essay-subjects/technology/), [Information Technology](https://assignbuster.com/essay-subjects/technology/information-technology/)

Estimation techniques Insert Insert Estimation techniques I. Work breakdown structure It is used in planning effectively for a project by breaking down the key tasks or activities into smaller manageable units of work.   
Advantages   
They can be used to effectively control projects while showing greater accountabilities   
It can be used in identifying and managing risks   
It can be used to achieve accurate forecasts for projects to save costs.   
Disadvantages   
It requires adequate planning   
II. Gantt charts   
Gantt chart is a horizontal bar chart that is in scheduling of projects. Each activity is represented as a block over time and the performance recorded as time and then related to the planned deadlines.   
Advantages   
They are useful in planning time scale for projects and estimating the required resources   
They are useful in planning, coordinating and tracking particular tasks in a project   
They are efficient especially when the number of activities involved in a project is small.   
Disadvantages   
They do not show the interdependencies between project activities   
They are inefficient especially when the project is complex and lengthy.   
III. Critical path analysis   
It is a visual tool that is used to effectively manage time while clearly displaying the relationship between the activities.   
Advantages   
It shows the interrelationship between different activities   
It can be used to plan and allocate resources including planning of staff   
It is an effective communication and planning tool in managing time.   
Disadvantages   
It assumes that time and money can trade off whereas most costs are not variable, they are fixed.   
The critical path analysis diagram becomes more complex with increasing activities   
There are always unforeseen uncertainties in estimating duration for activities, which will result in poor prediction.   
Most efficient technique for an IT project   
Work breakdown structure   
(Work breakdown structure, Innovative ProjectGuide, n. d.)   
The efficient technique   
Estimating a source code based project- Critical path analysis because it shows the interdependencies of the activities involved.   
Systems development project- Work breakdown structure because it effectively manages complex and lengthy projects.   
High risk software project- Work breakdown structure because it effectively manages the risks involved in a project.   
References   
Innovative ProjectGuide. (n. d.). Advantages of WBS and WBS Examples. Retrieved April 28, 2014, from http://www. innovativeprojectguide. com/project-management-tools/1-project-management-tools/145-advantages-of-wbs-and-wbs-examples. html   
Kirkland, C. E. (2011). Mastering software project management: Best practices, tools and techniques. Project Management Journal, 42(6), 92-92. Retrieved April 27, 2014, from http://dx. doi. org/10. 1002/pmj. 20276