Going Beyond The Basics of

Project Manager & Product Manager Roles

@vallabhchitnis

Similarities

Aspect	Project Manager	Product Manager
Leadership	Essential for guiding teams	Crucial for long-term vision
Team Collaboration	Coordinates with cross-functional teams	Collaborates with cross-departments
Problem-Solving	Resolves issues to keep project on track	Addresses challenges tied to product growth
Stake Holder Management	Manages expectations of clients and team	Balances needs of customers and business
Goals	Project success is the end goal	Overall Product success
Decision-Making	Makes calls to meet project deadlines	Decisions revolve around user needs
Accountability	Accountable for project delivery	Accountable for product performance

Differences

Aspect	Project Manager	Product Manager
Timeframe	Fixed Duration	Ongoing
Output	Specific deliverables	Continuous improvements
Scope	Defined scope and resources	Flexible, can change with market demand
KPIs	Budget, timelines, quality	User engagement, revenue, customer retention
Ownership	May shift between different projects	Typically sticks with the same product
Risk Management	Manage project-related risks	Manage product-market fit and competition
Customer Interaction	Limited, mainly through stakeholders	Direct, through user feedback and data
Skill Set	Generalized	Specialized on Product Type
Focus	Process and Execution	Strategy & Vision

Intrapreneurship

Aspect	Project Manager	Product Manager
Innovation	Applies innovative methods to beat deadlines	Drives product innovation
Autonomy	Has autonomy on how to reach project goals	Autonomy in guiding product strategy

Emotional Intelligence

Aspect	Project Manager	Product Manager
Self-Awareness	Understands the emotional pulse of the team	Tunes into customer feelings
Empathy	Builds relationships with stakeholders	Empathizes with customer needs

Ethical Considerations

Aspect	Project Manager	Product Manager
Transparency	Clear about project goals and timelines	Transparent about product features
Fairness	Treats all team members equally	Product meets accessibility standards

Tips

- **Shared Mindset to Inspire Teams**

- **Emotional Synchronization to Understand Team & Customers**

- **Ethical Alignment as the Foundational Pillar**

- **Transparency & Ethics for Trust Building**

- **Continuous Learning to improve outcomes**