How to make big things happen with small teams

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Reducing mass

Making things manageable

Lowering cost of change

Managing debt

Small has big advantages

The customer is closer

Less distortion
Less middle/muddle
Everyone on the front line
Change is easier

The right people

Passionate and happy Well rounded Quick learner Good writer Trustworthy

I'll take someone happy and average over a guru who is disgruntled and frustrated.

Act your size

Less formalities Less mass Less fear

More flexibility
More change
More freedom

Embrace constraints

Less people, more power
Less money, more value
Less resources, better use
Less time, better time

Build half a product not a half-ass product

Say no by default Listen to the product Ignore details early on Improve what you have Decisions are temporary

Build Less Software

Lower cost of change Less room for error Less support required Encourage human solutions

Give people just enough to solve their own problems their own way.

Then get out of their way.

Get Real, start with the Ul

There's nothing functional about a functional spec.

Start designing Start prototyping Start experiencing Start changing

Rinse and repeat

Make most decisions JIT

Scalability Admin interfaces Basecamp billing example

Make decisions when you have real information.

Next most important thing

Is this it? If not, what is? Are we doing it? If not, why not?

Celebrate small victories

Iterate Celebrate Iterate Celebrate Iterate Celebrate

Feel the hurt

Builders support it Chefs become waiters Shared annoyance

Publicity amplifiers

Feature food Promote through education 30-day major upgrade Transparency = Trust Bloggle

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Any questions?

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