The Home Stretch
The Plan

- Review of the Design
- The Last 10%
- Freezing the Project
- Ensuring Success
- Cutting your losses
- Testing
- Documentation
- Enhancements
Review of the Design

- **Late for Serious Changes**
  - May be some course correction possible.

- **Often: Simplification rather than enhancement**
  - Shed some frills.
  - Narrow down some of the goals.

- **When Adding Things: Must be Orthogonal!**
  - Orthogonal: Will *not* adversely affect other parts.
  - Don’t risk project for that “just one more”.
The Last 10%

- You may think you’re almost done
- Common wisdom is:

  *The last 10% of a project takes up 90% of the time.*

- Allow for the unexpected
- Prevent serious problems by testing as you go
- Don’t put off fixing a problem to go to another enhancement
Freezing the Project

- Earlier rather than later, *quit adding features*
- Make sure what you have is done right
- Allow for the unexpected
- Resist the *lure of enhancements*
- Spend any extra time to make product more professional
Ensuring Success

- **Always have a working project**
  - After some natural increment (with everything so far working) *save a complete copy (project).*
  - Think of it as a simpler version.
  - Don’t lose or change this copy.

- **Start the next version**
  - After significant progress, *repeat* this process.

- **Too often, a formerly working project is “destroyed” by improvements**
  - It may never work again.
  - You must have a previous version to *fall back on*.
Cutting your Losses

- **Sometimes:** Nothing Seems to Work
- **Before it’s too late:**
  - Severely Prune your goals.
  - Get help from instructors for this.

* A Simple Working Project
  * ALWAYS RATES HIGHER
  * than a Fancy Non-Working Project*
Testing

“Testing can prove the presence of bugs, but not the absence of bugs.”

- Games: different standard from most software
  - Bugs sometimes become features.
- Errors can be costly, however
  - When demo-ing for your grade!
  - When showing off for your date.
- Test Plan
- Testing by a naïve user
Documentation

- Javadocs provide imbedded documentation
- Traditional
  - User manual.
  - Technical/Program Logic Manual (for heirs).
- On-line documentation
- Legal / for Grade
  - Make clear who did what work and when.
Enhancements

- *If* you have time …
  - Make sure you have polished main parts.
  - Make sure you do not risk previous work.

- **Enhancements can be a lot of fun**
  - Extra: can add that sparkle.

- **The pressure is off**
  - Little cost: if it doesn’t work, *back it out*