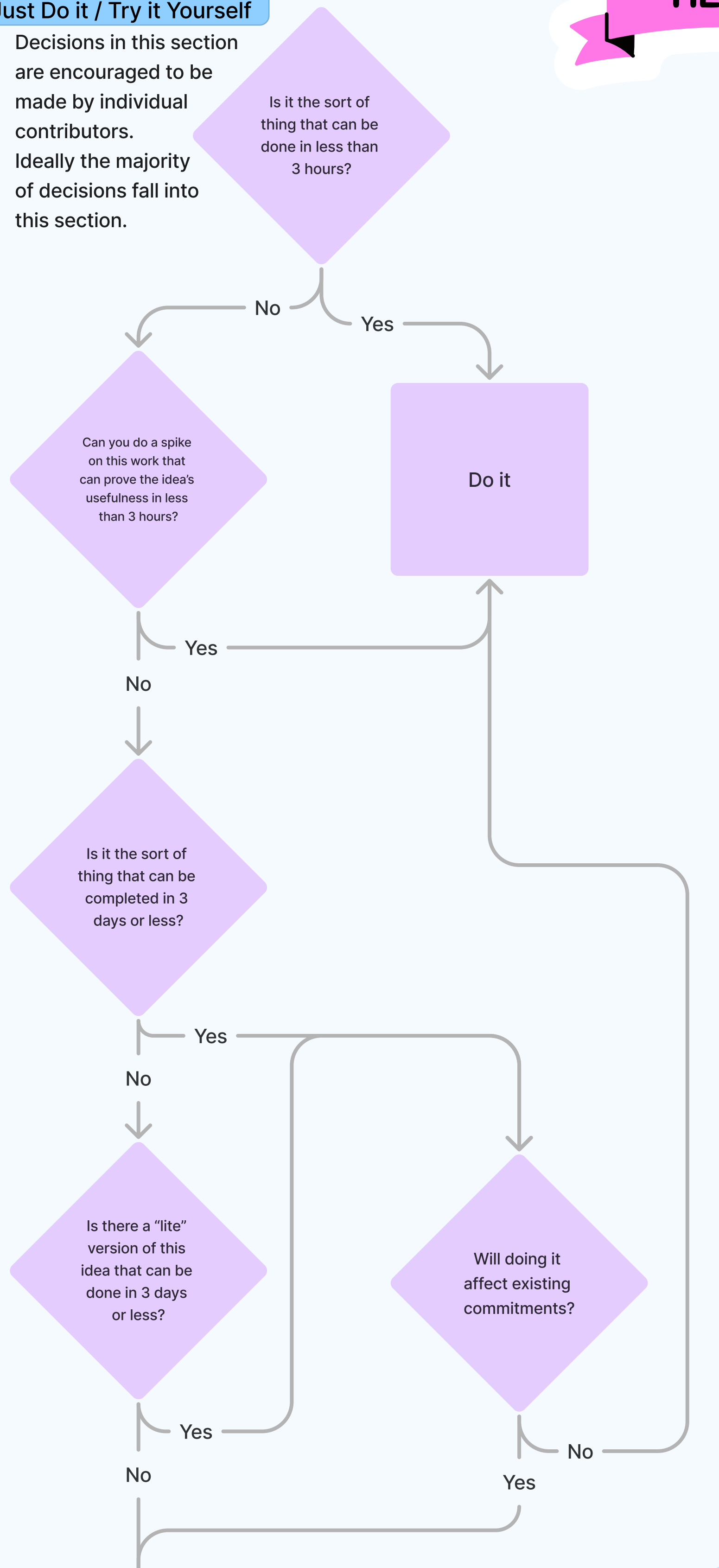


START

HERE

Just Do it / Try it Yourself

Decisions in this section are encouraged to be made by individual contributors. Ideally the majority of decisions fall into this section.



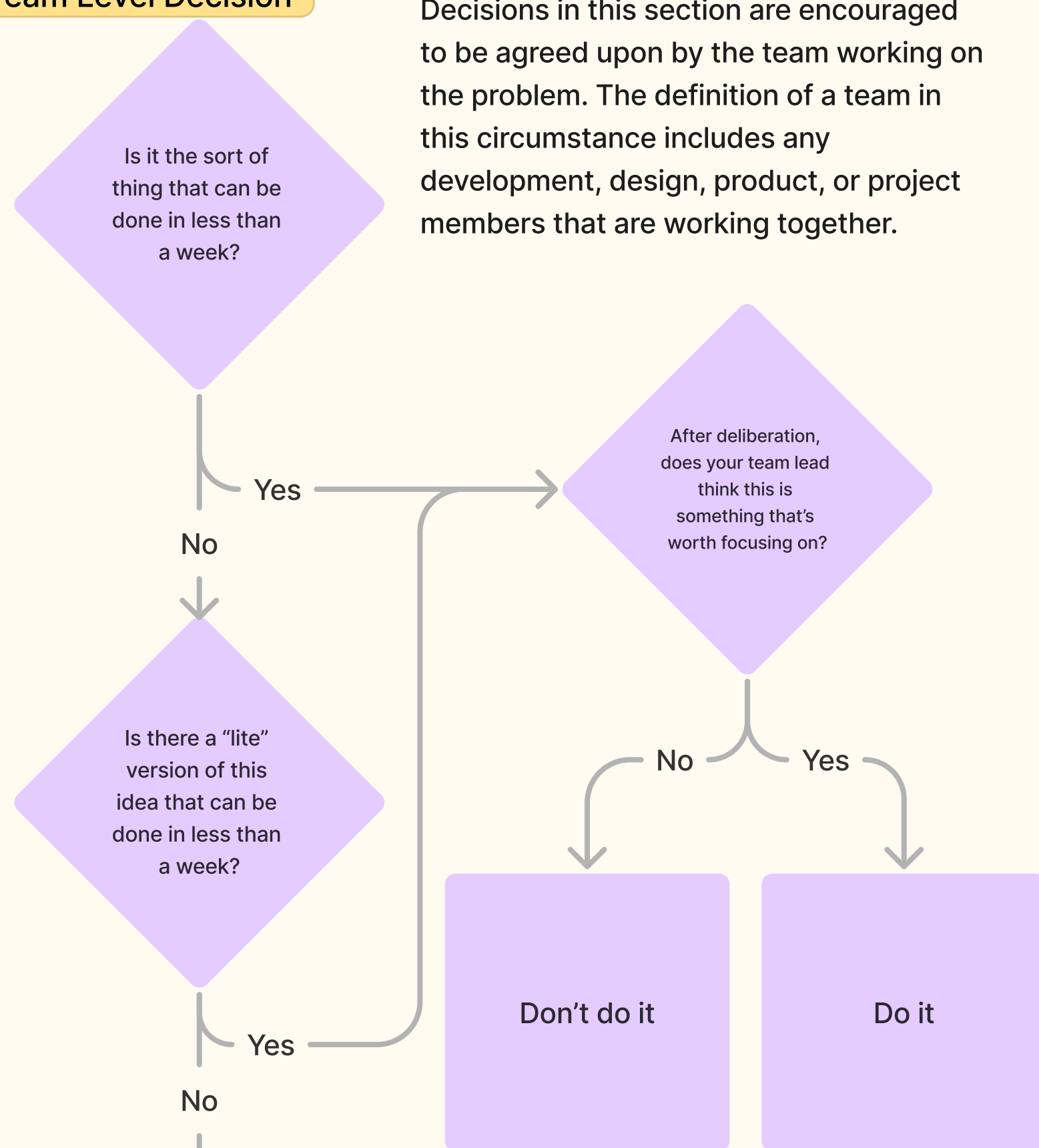
Developers have the most context on how the system works. That's why they're key in planning changes. For large changes, this technical perspective needs to be balanced with our organizational goals and what our users need too. Sometimes a balanced perspective leans towards paying off, intentionally keeping, or taking on additional technical debt. Also, the decision could be to take action now, at a later time, or not at all. It all depends on the situation. What's important is that the organization is making those decisions with the full context.

We want everyone on the team to feel free to make decisions on their own when it comes to the day-to-day stuff. We also want to empower everyone (regardless of their seniority) to raise issues, gather context, and get a quick decision on a path forward for the bigger issues that impact prioritization, timeline, or budget.

This Prioritization Decision Tree should create a clear path for our individual contributors to share their thoughts and get decisions quickly. It is also designed to help people break apart big ideas into smaller chunks, such that they can be tackled in ways that minimize their impact on timelines and budgets.

Team Level Decision

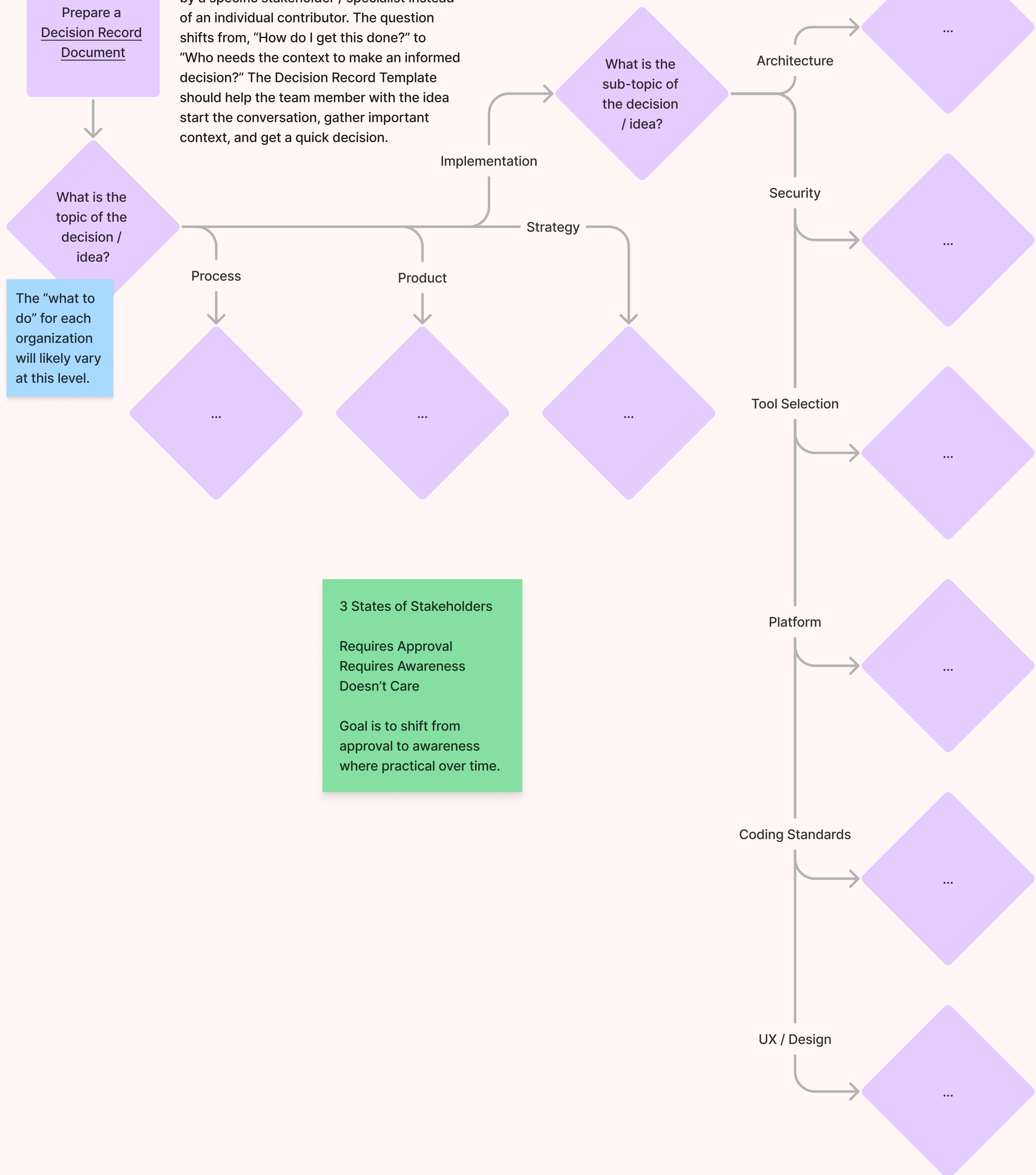
Decisions in this section are encouraged to be agreed upon by the team working on the problem. The definition of a team in this circumstance includes any development, design, product, or project members that are working together.



Provide Useful Context to Stakeholder / Specialist

Prepare a Decision Record Document

Decisions in this section should be decided by a specific stakeholder / specialist instead of an individual contributor. The question shifts from, "How do I get this done?" to "Who needs the context to make an informed decision?" The Decision Record Template should help the team member with the idea start the conversation, gather important context, and get a quick decision.



The "what to do" for each organization will likely vary at this level.

3 States of Stakeholders

Requires Approval
Requires Awareness
Doesn't Care

Goal is to shift from approval to awareness where practical over time.