



Preventing UX/UI Bypass

A structured approach to ensure designer expertise is leveraged in every UI/UX decision, preventing costly rework and maintaining design consistency.

The Core Problem

Current Reality

Product owners and developers often make quick UI/UX decisions without designer input, leading to inconsistent user experiences and technical debt.

- Design system violations
- Accessibility issues
- Costly rework cycles
- User experience fragmentation



Mandatory UX/UI Gate Process

Rule #1

ALL UI/UX related feedback must flow through the Designer first before implementation begins.

The 5-Minute Rule

Before making any design-related decision, spend 5 minutes asking: "Does this affect user interface, experience, or visual design?"

Feedback Categorization Framework



Pure Business Logic

Data processing, API integrations, backend functionality - PO can handle directly with Developer.



Has ANY UI/UX Component

IA, Navigation, Visual elements, user flows, interactions, layouts - Must route to Designer first for assessment.

When in doubt, default to involving the Designer. Better safe than sorry.

Three-Step Feedback Process

01

Feedback Intake (PO)

PO receives stakeholder feedback and asks the mandatory question: "Is there a UI/UX element to this feedback?"

02

Designer First Assessment

Within 2 hours, Designer reviews from UX perspective and identifies implications for visual consistency, user flow, and accessibility.

03

Solution Ownership

Designer creates solution options with UX rationale. Team reviews collaboratively: PO for business viability, Designer for UX impact, Developer for feasibility.

Designer Assessment Framework

Quick Fix

Simple change with minimal impact.
Proceed with implementation after
brief guidance.

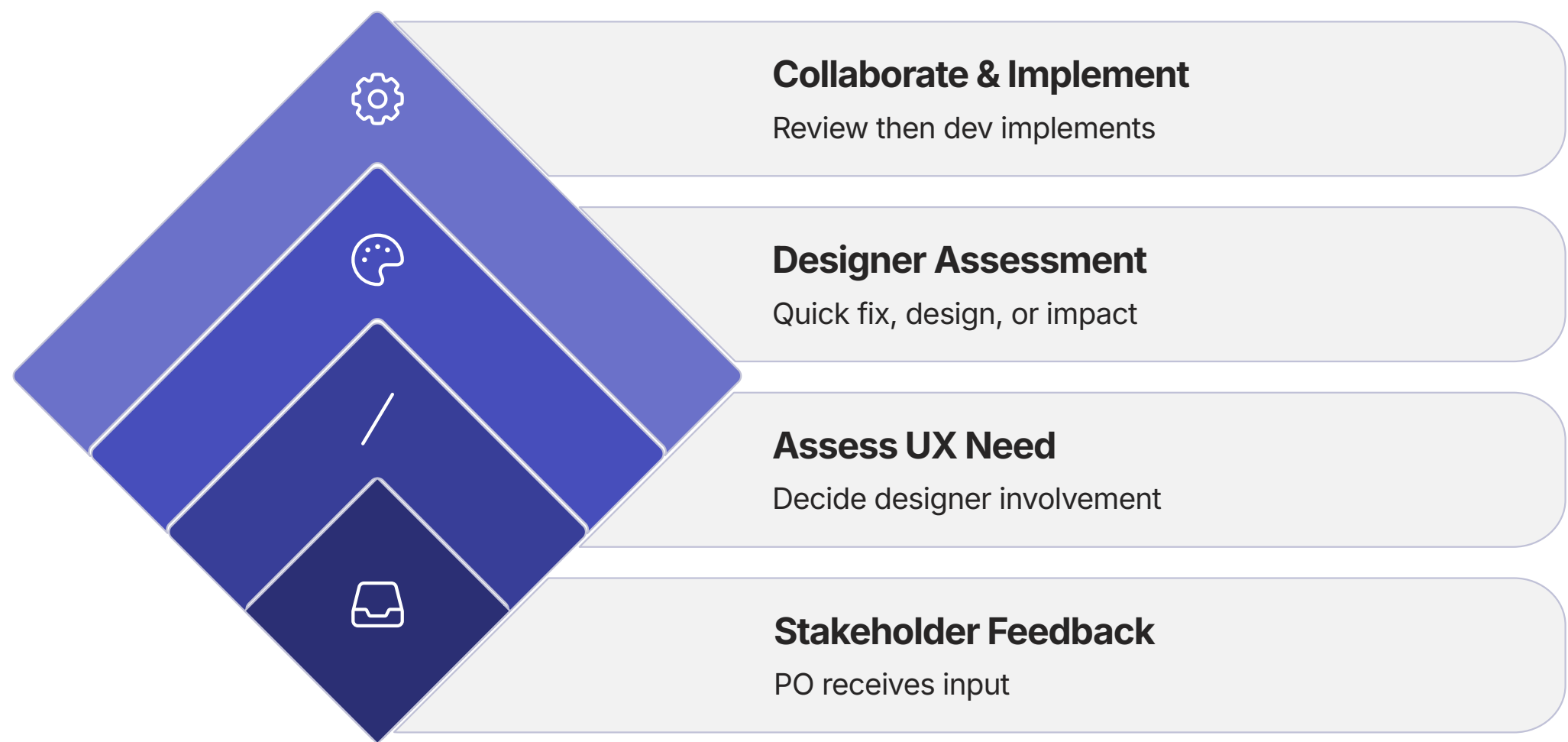
Needs Design Thinking

Requires proper UX consideration
and solution exploration before
development begins.

System Impact

Affects broader design patterns,
requires comprehensive review and
potential design system updates.

Process Flow Diagram



This visual workflow ensures every team member understands their role and the decision points that require Designer involvement.

Common Bypass Scenarios & Solutions

"It's just a small color change"

Designer confirms it doesn't break accessibility guidelines or brand consistency before PO proceeds.

"Just move this button"

Designer considers impact on user flow and mobile responsiveness before Developer implements.

"Make this text bigger"

Designer ensures typography scale consistency while PO handles business requirements.

Enforcement & Communication Protocol

Daily Operations

- **Sprint Agreement:** All team members commit to the gate process
- **Developer Checkpoint:** "Did Designer review this?" before implementation
- **Standup Flag:** Design-related work must mention Designer involvement

Response Times

- 2 hours: Designer assessment
- 24 hours: Solution options



Emergency Protocols & Success Metrics



When Designer Unavailable

PO can make temporary business logic decisions only. Flag all UI/UX changes for Designer review and create "design debt" tickets.

This process ensures Designer expertise is leveraged while maintaining sprint velocity and preventing costly rework from UX/UI bypass decisions.



Track & Improve

Document all design decisions with rationale. Track bypass instances and conduct regular retrospectives on process adherence.

THANK YOU