

# Agile for Data Engineers: Interview Cheat Sheet

Agile questions come up in almost every data engineering interview. Use this to connect Agile ceremonies to your work.

## Daily Standup

Definition: A short, daily meeting where the team syncs on progress and blockers.

What it means to me: I raise issues like schema drift, late data, or broken pipelines. Less about code, more about data.

## Sprint Planning

Definition: A working session where the team decides what to deliver in the next 1–2 weeks.

What it means to me: User stories = ingestion tasks, transformations, gold tables. Acceptance = data flows, tests, and monitoring.

## Backlog Refinement

Definition: Regular grooming of the backlog to clarify, estimate, and prioritize work.

What it means to me: Ensuring stories are in business terms — not 'add 20 columns,' but 'enable Finance to access data.'

## Sprint Review

Definition: Demo and discussion of what was delivered during the sprint.

What it means to me: Show stakeholders that pipelines run, quality checks pass, dashboards reflect correct data.

## Retrospective

Definition: A look back at the sprint to identify what worked and what didn't.

What it means to me: Discuss schema changes that broke prod, or monitoring that saved us — adjust for next sprint.

## Interview Tip:

Don't just say 'I've been in standups.' Connect ceremonies to your work.

Example: 'In sprint planning, I break down ingestion into small, testable pieces...'