

Automation Testing Cucumber Guide PDF Page

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PART 1: Page plan

Item	Decision
Final URL	https://uncodemy.com/automation-testing-cucumber-guide-pdf
Intent (anti-cannibalisation)	CUCUMBER AND BDD. TestNG and page objects are covered on their own pages.
Why not thin	Explainer-style sections, FAQs and cross-links make the page useful even without a download
Schema	WebSite, Organization, Breadcrumb, CollectionPage, FAQPage (only FAQs visible on the page). PDF <code>ItemList</code> provided commented, to enable after titles are final
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PART 2: Page content (copy-paste ready)

SEO Title (48 chars):

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Meta Description (127 chars):

Download the Cucumber BDD guide PDF from Uncodemy: Gherkin, feature files, step definitions, scenario outlines, hooks and tags.

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Quick Answer

This page offers Uncodemy's Cucumber guide as a PDF download. Cucumber supports behaviour-driven development by letting teams write tests in plain language that business people can read, and then linking each step to automation code. The guide covers Gherkin, feature files, step definitions, scenario outlines, hooks and tags.

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What is Cucumber and BDD?

Behaviour-driven development, or BDD, is a way of working in which business people, developers and testers agree on examples of behaviour before building a feature, and write those examples in a shared, structured language. Cucumber is a tool that reads these examples, written in a language called Gherkin, and runs them against the application by calling automation code. The value is mostly in the conversation: the examples force the team to agree on what the feature should do. A side benefit is living documentation that stays accurate because it is executed. Cucumber is not a replacement for good test design, and for purely technical tests a plain framework is often simpler.

Gherkin keywords

Keyword	Meaning
Feature	Names the capability and describes its purpose
Background	Steps shared by all scenarios in the file
Scenario	One example of behaviour
Scenario Outline with Examples	A template scenario run with several data rows
Given	The starting context
When	The action taken
Then	The expected outcome
And, But	Continue the previous step type
@tag	Labels scenarios or features for filtering

A feature file

A readable specification in Gherkin. Business and technical people can both understand it.

```
@login
Feature: Login
  As a registered user
  I want to sign in
  So that I can see my dashboard

  Background:
    Given the user is on the login page

  @smoke
  Scenario: Successful login
    When the user enters email "test.user@example.com" and a valid password
    And clicks the login button
    Then the dashboard page is displayed

  Scenario Outline: Failed login messages
    When the user enters email "<email>" and password "<password>"
    And clicks the login button
    Then the error message "<message>" is displayed

  Examples:
    | email                | password | message                |
    | test.user@example.com | wrong-pass | Invalid credentials |
    |                       |           | Email is required    |
```

Step definitions in Java

Each Gherkin step matches a method through an expression. Illustrative structure; the page object is assumed to exist.

```
import io.cucumber.java.en.*;
import org.junit.Assert;

public class LoginSteps {
    private final LoginPage loginPage = new LoginPage(Hooks.driver);

    @Given("the user is on the login page")
    public void userIsOnLoginPage() {
        loginPage.open();
    }

    @When("the user enters email {string} and password {string}")
    public void userEntersCredentials(String email, String password) {
        loginPage.enterEmail(email);
        loginPage.enterPassword(password);
    }

    @When("clicks the login button")
    public void clicksLogin() {
        loginPage.submit();
    }

    @Then("the error message {string} is displayed")
    public void errorIsDisplayed(String expected) {
        Assert.assertEquals(expected, loginPage.errorText());
    }
}
```

Project structure

Item	Purpose
src/test/resources/features	Feature files
steps package	Step definition classes
pages package	Page objects wrapping UI locators and actions
hooks class	Before and After hooks for driver setup and teardown
runner class	Configures which features, tags and reports run
config and utilities	Environment settings, readers and helpers

Hooks and tags

- **@Before and @After hooks** run around each scenario, ideal for starting and closing the browser or capturing a screenshot on failure.
- **Tags** let you run subsets, such as smoke or regression, and attach hooks to specific scenarios.
- **Background** removes repeated Given steps, but keep it short.

Writing good Gherkin

Good scenarios describe behaviour from the user's point of view, not implementation. A step such as the user clicks the button with id submit-btn ties the example to the interface and breaks whenever the design changes. A step such as the user submits the login form expresses intent and leaves the detail to the step definition. Keep scenarios short, with one clear outcome, and use concrete examples rather than abstract statements. Avoid long lists of steps that read like a manual script; if a scenario needs fifteen steps, it is probably testing too much.

Good and weak step wording

Weak	Better
Given the user types abc in the field with id user	Given a registered user has an account
When the user clicks the third button on the page	When the user submits the login form
Then the div with class error appears	Then the error message Invalid credentials is displayed

When Cucumber helps and when it does not

- Helps when business stakeholders will actually read and contribute to the scenarios.
- Helps to build shared understanding through example workshops.
- Adds overhead when only testers read the files; plain code may then be simpler.
- Needs discipline to avoid duplicated or overly detailed steps.

Common mistakes

- **UI-specific steps** that make scenarios brittle.
- **Too many scenarios** for trivial behaviour.
- **Imperative, long scripts** instead of declarative examples.
- **Step definitions with logic** that belongs in page objects.
- **Treating Cucumber as only a test tool** and skipping the collaboration.

Cucumber versus plain test frameworks

Aspect	Cucumber	TestNG or JUnit alone
Readability for non-programmers	High	Low
Setup effort	More: feature files plus step definitions	Less
Collaboration value	High if the business reviews scenarios	Mostly for developers and testers
Maintenance risk	Duplicate or vague steps if not managed	Fewer layers to maintain

Tips for step definition reuse

- Write steps in business language so they can be reused across features.
- Use parameters such as {string} and {int} rather than hard-coded values.
- Keep step classes grouped by area, such as login or checkout.

Related Uncodemy resources

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is Cucumber in testing?

Cucumber is a BDD tool that runs plain-language scenarios written in Gherkin by linking each step to automation code.

What is Gherkin?

Gherkin is the structured language used in Cucumber feature files, with keywords such as Feature, Scenario, Given, When and Then.

What is a step definition?

A step definition is a method in code that is matched to a Gherkin step and performs the corresponding action or check.

What is a Scenario Outline?

A Scenario Outline is a template scenario that runs several times with different data from an Examples table.

Is Cucumber better than TestNG?

They solve different problems. Cucumber focuses on readable, shared specifications, while TestNG is a general test framework. They can also be used together, with TestNG as the runner.

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