

Software Testing Regression Testing PDF Page

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SEO Title (50 chars):

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Meta Description (131 chars):

Download the regression testing PDF from Uncodemy: when to run it, selecting and prioritising cases, automation and a sample suite.

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Quick Answer

This page offers Uncodemy's regression testing guide as a PDF download. Regression testing re-checks existing behaviour after a change to make sure that nothing that used to work has broken. The guide explains types of regression, how to select and prioritise cases, why automation helps and how to keep a regression suite healthy.

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What is regression testing?

Regression testing is the practice of re-running previously passed tests after a change to the software, such as a bug fix, a new feature, a configuration change or an upgrade, to confirm that existing functionality still works. The word regression means going backwards: a change that fixes one thing can accidentally break another because parts of a system depend on each other in ways that are not always obvious. Regression testing is therefore not about finding new features that do not work, but about protecting what already works. It is one of the most repeated activities in testing, and the reason test automation is so valuable.

When to run regression tests

Trigger	Why regression is needed
A defect fix	The fix may affect nearby behaviour
A new feature	It may interact with existing features
A change in configuration or environment	Behaviour can depend on settings and infrastructure
A library or platform upgrade	Dependencies can change behaviour
Before every release	A final safety net for the whole product

Types of regression testing

Type	Scope	Use when
Corrective	Re-run existing tests unchanged	Software has not changed in behaviour, such as after a minor patch
Retest-all	Run the entire suite	A major change, or a risky release with sufficient time
Selective	Run only tests related to the change	Most changes, using impact analysis
Prioritised	Run the most important cases first	Time is limited
Progressive	Update tests for changed requirements and add new ones	The requirement itself has changed

Selecting regression cases

Running everything is ideal but often impractical, so teams select. Start with impact analysis: which modules does the change touch, and which others depend on them? Include cases for the area of the change, for related features and for critical business flows, such as login, search, checkout and payment. Add cases for defects found in the past, because areas that have broken before tend to break again. Keep a core regression suite of high-value cases that always runs, and add change-specific cases for each release.

A sample regression suite for an e-commerce site

Area	Example checks	Priority
Login and account	Login, logout, password reset	High
Catalogue and search	Search by keyword, filter, sort, product page loads	High
Cart	Add, remove, change quantity, totals	High
Checkout and payment	Address entry, payment methods, order confirmation	Critical
Orders	Order history, status, cancellation	Medium
Notifications	Confirmation email and message content	Medium
Admin	Product update reflects on the site	Medium

A regression testing process

1. Review the change and its likely impact with developers.
2. Select the regression cases: core suite plus change-specific cases.
3. Prepare the environment and data, and run a smoke test on the build.
4. Execute the cases, automated first, then manual where needed.
5. Log defects and retest fixes, repeating the relevant regression checks.
6. Report results and update the suite for the next release.

Why automation suits regression

Regression tests are repetitive, run often and have stable expected results, which is exactly where automation pays off. Running hundreds of checks by hand before every release is slow and boring, and human attention fades. Automated tests run the same way every time, can run overnight or on every code change and give fast feedback. Not everything should be automated: exploratory testing, usability judgement and tests of unstable features are better done by people. A balanced approach automates the stable core and keeps manual time for new and unusual areas.

Keeping the suite healthy

- Remove or update tests for features that no longer exist.

- Fix or delete flaky tests that fail without a real cause; they erode trust.
- Keep tests independent and data self-contained.
- Group tests by priority so a short run is possible.
- Add a regression test for every escaped defect.

Common regression mistakes

- **Never updating the suite**, so it tests an old product.
- **Running only happy paths**.
- **Ignoring flaky tests** until nobody trusts the results.
- **Selecting tests without impact analysis**.
- **Skipping regression before a release** under time pressure.

Retesting versus regression testing

Aspect	Retesting	Regression testing
Purpose	Confirm a reported defect is fixed	Confirm nothing else broke
Test cases	The exact failed case	Existing, previously passed cases
Scope	Narrow	Broad
Automation	Usually manual or one script	Strongly suited to automation
Order	Done first	Done after retesting

Estimating regression effort

1. List the modules touched by the release, with developers' help.
2. Count the regression cases that cover those modules and critical flows.
3. Estimate minutes per case for manual runs, or run time for automated ones.
4. Add time for defect retesting and a buffer.
5. Share the estimate and agree what is dropped first if time is cut.

Regression suite health checklist

- Every test has an owner and a priority label.
- The core suite runs in a time the team accepts.
- Flaky tests are tracked and fixed or removed within an agreed time.
- Results are visible to developers as well as testers.

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is regression testing?

It is re-running existing tests after a change to confirm that previously working functionality has not broken.

When should regression testing be done?

After bug fixes, new features, configuration or environment changes, upgrades and before every release.

What is the difference between retesting and regression testing?

Retesting checks that a specific reported defect is fixed. Regression testing checks that the change did not break other behaviour.

Can regression testing be automated?

Yes. It is one of the best candidates for automation because the tests are repeated often and have stable expected results.

How do I choose which tests to include?

Use impact analysis for the change, always include critical business flows and areas with past defects, and prioritise when time is short.

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