# Ten logic faults that wreck a programme

A field checklist for a programme you can actually defend.

A programme can open in P6 clean, on time and fully floated, and still be built on logic that distorts the critical path and every risk number stacked on top of it. Here are the ten faults to find before someone else does.

## The ten to hunt down first

1. **Open ends.** Activities with no predecessor, or no successor. Their dates float free of the network.
2. **Dangling activities.** Logic tied only at the start or only at the finish, so the activity cannot properly drive or be driven.
3. **Hard constraints.** Mandatory Start or Finish constraints that override the logic and freeze a date regardless of what feeds it.
4. **Soft constraints.** Start On and Finish On. Oracle's own manual says they distort float, and they quietly reshape the critical path.
5. **Negative lags (leads).** A lag that lets work start before its predecessor finishes. Often a shortcut that hides missing detail.
6. **Excessive positive lags.** A long lag standing in for an activity that should have been modelled properly.
7. **Out-of-sequence progress.** Work reported against the retained logic in an order the logic did not allow.
8. **Wrong relationship types.** Finish-to-Start, Start-to-Start and Finish-to-Finish used loosely, with lag papering over the mismatch.
9. **High-duration activities.** Long bars that hide detail and dodge proper progress measurement (DCMA flags these beyond about forty four working days).
10. **Calendar faults.** Missing or mis-assigned calendars, and cross-calendar hand-offs that shift dates silently.

P6 will open a programme carrying all ten without a single warning. That is the point. The checker you already have does not catch most of them.

### When you want the machine to find them

**XER Logic-Guard** flags these faults in plain English, offline, with the reason for each.

The mechanical ones, hard constraints and negative lags, can be repaired on a sandboxed clone with **LogicSmith**, by arrangement, so the sealed forensic record is never touched.

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