



AVORI

How to Plan Your Custom Software

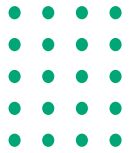
Your guide to getting your idea out of your head and committed to paper.

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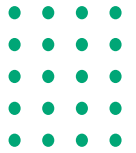
Preface



Congratulations on downloading this simple guide, your first step towards making your software idea a reality. Just like any project, you need to formulate and capture your ideas in a document which can be shared with others throughout the realisation process.

There are multiple aspects of your project that need consideration. This guide will help you address those aspects, allowing you to approach stakeholders, partners, investors, and vendors with a comprehensive reference.

We have worked with businesses and innovators who are passionate about their ideas and have learned a lot during that time. Using this experience, we created this guide to help you navigate on your journey. This guide, along with the other resources on our website, is freely available for your benefit. Should you have any questions do not hesitate to contact us.



Who will use your system and why?

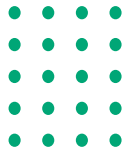
This question requires a lot of attention and is perhaps the most important step in the process. Understanding what users expect and need will save you a lot of time and money during the development process. By thoroughly analysing each user group and their needs, in the beginning, can prevent you from having to adjust your system halfway through the project.

Begin by making a list of the types of users that will use your system. Think about the different roles and/or job titles in your organization. Who will be the admins, editors, collaborators, etc? On a separate sheet for each user type, clearly state what goals this type of user must achieve when using your software.

Here is a list to help get you to get started.

- E-Commerce Customer
- Commercial Customer
- Vendor / Partner
- Various Departments (Sales, Operations, etc.)
- Management
- Back Office Personnel
- Company Admin
- Customer Admin
- Super Admin
- Read Only Users
- Investors
- Support Team





How will the users access your software?

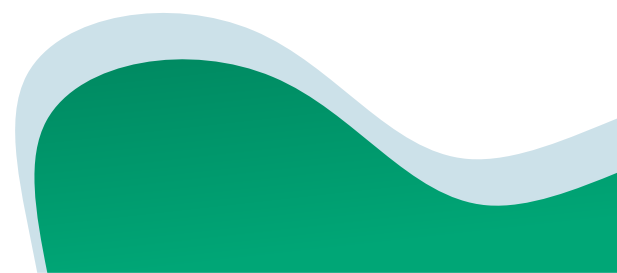
The word “platform” gets thrown around quite a bit and can be confusing. If you are new to software development, then you may want to know what a platform is.

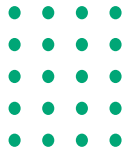
In this context, a platform is a framework of services that software relies on for standard operations. A software platform covers five principal areas: development tools, execution services, data services, operating systems, and cloud services.

When you are making a list of the ways you want users to access your software, think about the different types of devices, operating systems, any specific internet browsers and/or application types you want to give or limit access from.

The list below is a good starting point.

- Internet Browser in a Desktop or Laptop
- Internet Browser on a Tablet or Mobile Phone
- An iPhone Application
- An Android Application
- A Windows Phone Application
- A program installed locally on a Mac or PC



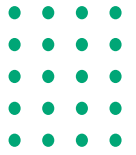


Which security provisions need to be made for your application?

This is yet another very important step that requires careful consideration. Whether it's securing your and your user's information or limiting access, taking necessary precautions to implement security measures is of utmost importance.

There are very many levels of security that could be applied to your system. This quick list can help you start thinking about security.

- Access via Logins and Passwords
- Different Access Levels by User Groups
- Single Sign On (SSO) Integration
- Facebook Login Integration
- Google Login Integration
- LDAP and PKI Access Control
- Encryption of Stored Data
- Encryption of Data in Transit



What are the tasks that each of your users needs to accomplish?

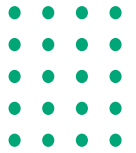
This builds upon the very first step of your journey, and we recommend you add this into the sheets you created for user types and user groups. Take your time and do not rush this step. You may find it necessary to return here throughout your planning. How unfortunate would it be if during testing you realized that one user group requires admin approval for certain changes and another doesn't, and now you have to rethink your entire process because you missed a single task?

The task lists will be the basis for features and functions of your software. It is important to be as thorough as possible and list tasks by each user type and user group.

Below is just a handful of common examples.

- Register
- Login
- Change Passwords
- Add Products or Services
- Create Orders
- Add or Change Payment Options
- Request a Refund
- Check Order Status
- Track Shipments
- Analyze Data
- Download Paid Content
- Stream Music or Video
- Manage Promotions
- Create Notifications
- Run Credit Checks
- Update Profiles
- Send Messages
- Run Reports
- Add or Manage Data Feeds
- Digitally Sign Documents

Rules & Regulations



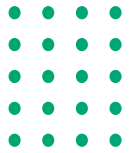
Must your application meet certain regulation requirements?

Most software must comply with some sort of rules or regulations. This is especially true for healthcare and financial industries where strict adherence to certain regulations is required.

Here is a list of common regulations that may apply to your software.

- HIPAA Compliance
- ISO 27001 Compliance
- PCI DSS Compliance
- SWIFT CSP
- SOX Compliance
- FISMA Compliance
- GDPR Compliance
- NIST 800-53
- NERC Compliance
- GLBA Compliance
- NISPRM Change 2 and H.R.666

System Integrations



Are there any internal or 3rd party systems or devices that your software needs to integrate with?

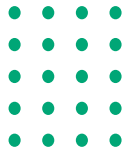
From plug-ins for popular open-source software to complex custom enterprise systems and IoT devices. Software integrations save from manual efforts and reduce human errors.

Most of our clients want the ability to capture every bit of data possible and distribute it throughout all systems. Often in such cases, custom integrations via API or EDI protocols must be built. There are many types of integrations with devices and systems that can be built.

Below are a few examples of integrations you may need.

- Data Feeds
- Payment Processors
- Credit Bureaus
- ERP Systems
- IoT Devices
- CMS Systems
- Bar-code Scanners
- SMS Services
- Medical Devices
- Social Media
- Data Analytics Platforms
- Reporting Platforms
- DHL/UPS/FEDEX

Building Blocks



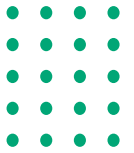
Do you have a technology preference for your software?

Software is made up of different types of technologies, such as programming languages, frameworks, and libraries.

Some organizations may prefer or be required to use certain technologies. In any case, make sure you consult your IT department to abide by your organization's practices. You do not want to start building something that your IT team may be ill-equipped to maintain.

- JavaScript
- Java
- Python
- Typescript
- Bash
- PHP
- C / C# / C++
- Swift
- Kotlin
- Ruby
- HTML
- CSS
- React
- Angular
- Spring
- Rails
- Node.js
- JQuery
- Maven
- Vue.js
- Gradle
- Express
- Hibernate
- Laravel

Data Migration



Will your new software replace an existing system?

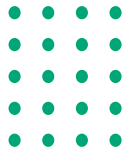
Are you going to need your existing data migrated into your new system? If so, what data? In the event you are not starting from scratch and plan to replace an existing system which has served its purpose, you are most likely going to have very valuable data that you cannot lose.

To make sure that your bigger and better system accounts for all your data, it's important to make a list to help you keep track of your information.

- Customers
- Vendors
- Products
- Order History
- Accounts Receivable/Payable
- Communication History
- Documents
- Reports
- Audit Logs
- Security Settings



Hosting



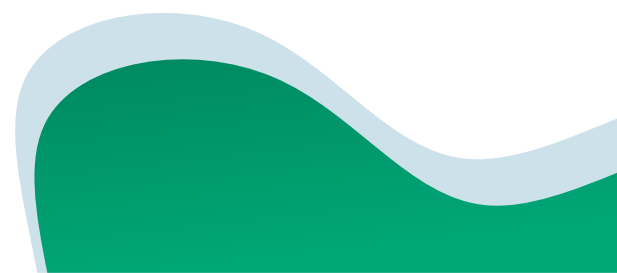
Where will your software live?

Applications are not typically run in isolation. They interact and share data with servers via an internet connection.

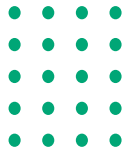
Involving your IT team is very crucial in this step. More than likely, your organization will have a solution, or the IT team will make a recommendation based on your company's existing infrastructure.

If you don't have an IT team or server options, Avori can help by deploying your application to a cloud hosting solution that's built to accommodate any project.

- Cloud Hosting
- 3rd Party Data Center
- In-House Data Center



Implement / Go To Market



What do you do when you have a viable product?

If you've gotten this far in the process then you've already thought about most of this. However, do not forget the reasons why you're building new software. You have to have a very well planned out strategy for getting your product out for the world to see. That "world" may simply be your employees or the entirety of the internet.

This list of questions will help you gather important information that you can include in your overall strategy.

- How will you train your employees?
- What's your software category and how big is that market?
- Is there a demand for your software?
- Who is your competition?
- What problem are you solving?
- What is your value proposition?
- What is your message?
- Which marketing channels will you use?
- Do you have a social media strategy?
- How will you offer support?
- How will you price your software?
- How do you plan to retain customers?



THANK YOU!

Unlock the future with custom digital solutions.

Have questions or ready to start your next app?
Let's build something great together.



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