

What to Ask Custom Software Development Companies

Instructions: Use this resource to take notes during interviews with prospective custom software development company.

Company Name:

Top 5 Questions to Ask Custom Software Development Companies

1. What experience do you have working on similar projects?
2. What software development model (waterfall, agile, etc.) do you use?
3. Who will be my primary point of contact, and how often will they communicate project updates with me?
4. Do you outsource any of your work?
5. What support will you provide after the project is completed?

Must-Have Features

Use this checklist to determine whether or not the custom software development company you're considering offers all of the tools and features your business requires.

Note: There may be features beyond this list that you require, so be sure to study it carefully and add any other services you need.

Must-Have Feature	Why It Matters	Is It Offered?
In-house team	A company that relies on in-house employees rather than contractors will be able to provide a more consistent working relationship with fewer points of contact.	Y: [] N: []
Full-stack developers	A full-stack development team can handle everything from UX/UI to complex back-end engineering.	Y: [] N: []
Agile software development model	Many project managers prefer an agile development model, which breaks things down into "sprints" and allows plenty of opportunity for feedback.	Y: [] N: []
Proofs of concept	Your software developers should be able to provide wireframes and other prototypes along the way to ensure that they're getting it right.	Y: [] N: []
Clear timelines	You need to understand how your developers estimate the length of the project, and how any extensions to the timeline will affect the cost.	Y: [] N: []
Well-written code	The software should go through quality control testing and have well written code.	Y: [] N: []
Licensing agreements	Determine who owns the source code and other intellectual property, and whether you'll be expected to pay ongoing licensing fees to use the final product.	Y: [] N: []
Post-launch support	Your developers should be able to fix any bugs that are found after launch, and be open to working on future iterations of the product.	Y: [] N: []