Software delivery

Before you ask for a custom software quote

From the field note "How much does custom software cost? What actually drives the price".

The short version

- Custom software cost is mostly hours × hourly rate, plus a margin for what nobody knows yet. Compare quotes on hours and assumptions, not on the total.
- Hours are driven by scope: user roles, integrations, platforms, data migration and compliance move the price far more than screen count.
- Fixed price suits a small, well-defined first release; time and materials suits work whose scope will change as you learn.
- Budget for life after launch: hosting, fixes, updates and support are recurring costs, not one-off extras.
- A short, fixed-price discovery sprint is the cheapest way to turn a rough idea into an estimate you can hold a supplier to.

The checklist

- [ ] Describe the one workflow that hurts most today, step by step.
- [ ] List who will use the software and what each role must be able to do.
- [ ] Name every system it must connect to, and whether those systems have APIs.
- [ ] Say which platforms you need now: web, iOS, Android, or a subset.
- [ ] Note any data you must migrate and any rules around personal, health or financial data.
- [ ] Decide your budget range and launch date, and share them with suppliers.
- [ ] Ask each supplier for hours per feature, their assumptions, and their pricing model.
- [ ] Agree who owns the code, accounts and documentation after launch.

Want a second pair of eyes on your answers?

Book a free 30-minute discovery call at www.seriustech.com/contact or email contact@seriustech.com. We reply within 1 business day.

 © SeriusTech.