

What's the Best Accounting Software for a Fast-Growing Business?

Accounting Software is an extremely specialized business solution. No single software package is “best” for every business.

If you're a growing company in need of dependable accounting software, you'll want to pick something that's appropriate for your specific business goals.

This is especially important for small to medium businesses that are growing by leaps and bounds. Choosing the wrong Accounting Software at this crucial stage, could mean epic operational disasters later on.



So, if you've decided it's time to update your Accounting Software, here are some guidelines to help you find the right vendor.

How Stable is the Software Vendor?

This is perhaps the hardest question to answer. But it's crucial if you're choosing an Accounting Software for a growing business.

In the digital age, software vendors come and go faster than almost any other type of business solutions provider. This can be a critical issue if you choose a software vendor that ends up going out of business or being bought by a larger vendor.

Large software vendors often buy out smaller companies simply to eliminate future competitors. In many cases, the larger company doesn't attempt to service the solution previously provided by the smaller company. They simply try to migrate the customers over.

This means, choosing an unstable vendor could put you in the awkward spot of being forced to migrate a crucial part of your business infrastructure. It's better to stay out of this trap by choosing a stable vendor in the first place.



Other considerations when examining a vendor's reliability is how they approach customer service. Are they available by phone, or do they force you to wait for a response on a support forum? We suggest that you test every vendor on your shortlist by seeing how easy it is to reach a real person in their customer service or support department.

Remember that your Accounting Software vendor is very much like a minor business partner. If they have their act together, you'll have much less drama when working with them to manage your business.

Does it Have the Right Features?

Before you look at any Accounting Software solutions, write down ALL the features you MUST have in order to manage your business. We suggest that you consult a few people in this process, as you might forget to include some important features in your list.

Once you've listed your "must have" features, write down any secondary features. These are features that would be nice to have, but which aren't essential. This way, if you find multiple solutions that have all your "must have" features, you'll be able to narrow down your list by examining the secondary features.

It's important that you do this BEFORE you start shopping for solutions. It's easy to get distracted by bells and whistles and overlook the crucial features of a software package. Starting with a list will help you stay objective and to not be distracted by extra complexities that you may never end up using anyway.

How is the Data Presented?

If you're like most growing businesses, reporting is an important part of your operations and your financial planning. So you want to make sure your Accounting Software can prepare and report your data in a format that will make it easy to share and discuss that data amongst the different departments in your company.

If you find an Accounting Software that you really like, but the data reports aren't formatted for your business, it's not likely that the vendor will agree to add a new customized report just for you.

Many times, even software customizations can't solve this problem satisfactorily. So before you choose an Accounting Software for your business, make sure you're comfortable with the way their data reports are formatted.

How Customizable is the Software?

No matter how robust and flexible an Accounting Software is, you need to be able to customize and adapt it to fit your business needs. Even if you don't anticipate the need for customization, make sure you choose an Accounting Software that gives you this option in the future.

You never know when a change in your business operations might require a modification in your accounting procedures.

It's better to have the option for customization than to be stuck with a solution that's holding you back from implementing a crucial change in your business.



Most importantly, you'll want to consider how easy (or hard) it will be to find a competent programmer to build your customized features. Every software application has its own API (Application Programming Interface), and a programmer has to learn that interface before they can build a customized feature or add on.

The problem is, some APIs are horrendously difficult to learn, even for smart and experienced programmers. Some Software Vendors are also better at keeping up their API documentation and making sure their API is bug free and secure. Other Vendors are horrible at this.

So, we suggest that you consult an experienced programmer (someone you trust) and pay them to check out the API for the Accounting Software Vendors you're looking at. A good programmer will be able to tell you whether future customizations will be easy and cost-effective, or whether they'll be expensive and time-consuming.

How Easy is it to Train and Implement?

This is a question you absolutely can't afford to ignore. If you're a fast growing company, you'll be hiring a LOT of new employees in the near and distant future. You want a software solution that will be reasonably easy for you to train these employees on.

Most businesses spend more money on human resources than anything else. So, if your business technology is too complicated, you'll burn up a lot of time and money bringing new hires up to speed on how to use it.

The final thing to consider is implementation. Depending on how established your accounting procedures are, you could spend a lot of time and money migrating from your old accounting solution to the new.

Of course, it's important to think of this migration as a long-term investment. So don't be in too much of a hurry when moving things over.

But it's also smart to pick an Accounting Software that makes it easy for you to migrate your data, train your staff and to keep your financial information safe and secure during the process.

The smartest way to do this is to get the help of a professional software consultant. Our Industry-Specific Software Consultants have decades of experience working with fast-growing businesses just like yours.

Many of our clients love us because our consultants help them to premeditate, and work-around setbacks which would otherwise have cost them a lot of time and money.



Call XXX-XXX-XXXX right now for a free consultation with one of our Accounting Software consultants, or send an email to *****@*****.com. Let's make sure your fast-growing business has the technology it needs to become truly remarkable. Call right now and let's see how we can make your business more effective.