

Top Challenges Construction Professionals Are Facing

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Construction is one of the most powerful industries on the planet. You start with a (virtual) stack of blueprints and a team of workers, and you end up with a physical structure that could stand for hundreds of years.

But the path from conception to project completion is riddled with obstacles, from unpredictable costs and supply chain hangups, to juggling schedules across multiple teams and locations.

In this article, we'll look at three top construction challenges for construction professionals – estimating, scheduling, and planning – based on the construction software features that are most in demand with buyers, along with strategies for dealing with each.

Top Construction Challenge: Estimating

During the past six months, more than 60% of the construction software buyers that worked with one of our advisors were looking for software that could help them with estimating.

Why is estimating so important?

Because accurate estimates help companies stay on budget with their construction projects, and when companies are able to stay on budget they are happy and ready to work on more



projects with the construction firm that gave them an accurate estimate.

Estimating software gathers all of the construction costs (labor, materials, rentals, etc) and automates the calculations to save time, reduce human error, and ultimately provide more accurate construction estimates.

So how effective is estimating software? According to our 2021 Small Business Construction Survey of more than 500 construction professionals, 42% said that more accurate estimates was a top positive impact of their construction software, putting that ahead of all other positive impacts.

Top Construction Challenge: Scheduling and Project Management

A construction project without organized scheduling and sound project management is chaos, and chaos is the last thing you want in a construction project. So it's no surprise that 43% of the construction software buyers who worked with our advisors in the past six months were looking for software to help them with their project management needs.

Construction project management software is the foundation of any firm's software stack. It can help construction teams stay on schedule and within scope, communicate across sites, keep track of budget, and more.


Having access to effective, up-to-date construction project management software to help with scheduling is so important to construction firm leadership that more than half of small construction businesses implemented new construction project management software in the past year alone (methodology below). That's more than any other type of software, including online meeting software (32%) and collaboration software (26%).

Top Construction Challenge: Planning and Takeoff

In construction, everyone is eager to break out the big hardware, get their hands dirty, and start building something. But without proper planning, that building could end up as a big mess.

Perhaps that's why almost 30% of construction professionals looking for new software with us in the past six months were looking for help with takeoff.

Takeoff software helps construction firms gather together electronic versions of all their blueprints and designs for a given project. The software then helps those teams set a realistic scope and create a comprehensive list of all the construction materials and skilled labor they'll need to complete the project.

Takeoff software works hand-in-hand with estimating software, and they're often included in the same system. 



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About the Article

Originally published in [Software Advice](#) online. With a goal of bringing more insights and better quality to customers, in 2014 the company joined forces with Gartner, the world's leader in IT research and advisory services, and Software Advice has helped more than 600,000 people find the top software options for their companies.

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