

# Customer Development for Product Managers

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## ⚠ Customer Development

- ↳ understand customer problems and needs
- ↳ develop a repeatable sales model
- ↳ deliver on customer demand

## ⚠ Product / Market Fit

- ↳ identifying a compelling value hypothesis

⚠ good customer development = constant contact with your users

## ⚠ customer development phases

- ↳ customer discovery
- ↳ customer validation
- ↳ customer creation
- ↳ company building

## ⚠ Product ideas

- Sales questions
- Customer service calls
- data scientists observe user trends
- customer share their needs

## ⚠ Goal of customer discovery

- who are your customer?
- Is the problem you're solving important to them?
- will customers pay for your solutions?

## ⚠ Customer discovery phases

- state problem hypothesis
  - test problem hypothesis
  - test solution
  - verify the hypothesis or pivot
    - ↳ by generating measurable data
- assumptions

⚠ Create a problem hypothesis

- ↳ define who are your users
- ↳ what are their needs, goals, and desires?

⚠ User Story template

- ↳ As a [user type], I want [behaviour] so that [outcome or benefit]

⚠ User story = hypothesis

⚠ Customer research - secondary sources

- ↳ academic research
- ↳ private research firms
- ↳ consumer reports
- ↳ expert interviews

⚠ Primary research ~ acquiring information by talking directly

⚠ Get feedback from target users about their problems and your proposed solution

⚠ target audience

- ↳ Use demographic information or job title
- ↳ Look for patterns in the responses during customer research

⚠ start with demographic then psychographic

⚠ Primary research methods

- ↳ surveys
  - ↳ measure attitudes
  - ↳ collecting quantitative feedback
- ↳ interviews

⚠ Screener

- ↳ determines if someone would be a good candidate for user feedback

↳ determine who you don't want to talk, too

⚠ when to use surveys

- ↳ measure attitude, intent, or task success
- ↳ track changes over time
- ↳ quantify user problems

⚠ Do not use surveys for

- ↳ discover the reasons behind your users' cares & needs
- ↳ learn if your product can be used effectively
- ↳ understand user behaviour with your product

⚠ open-ended questions just for interviews not surveys

⚠ Net Promoter Score (NPS)

- ↳ How likely is it that you would recommend this product to a friend or colleagues?

⚠ effective interviews

- ↳ asking open-ended and non-leading questions

⚠ Interview Template

- ↳ learning objective
  - ↳ what are you trying to learn by talking to this person
- ↳ introduction
  - ↳ share expectations
  - ↳ set ground rules

→ Questions

→ keep them open-ended

→ start with who, what, when, where, why, and how

→ seek clarity

→ Can you give me an example...?

⚠ key Patterns in analyzing interview results

→ some problem is mentioned

→ users are seeking solutions

→ unhappy with the available solutions

→ budget available to solve the problem

⚠ Pivot ~ create a new hypothesis