Disclaimer

I cannot speak for every workplace

I cannot speak for every team

I cannot speak for every manager

Teams

Team structures vary. Common roles include:

- PM
- Engineering Manager
- Team Lead
- Developers
- Designer
- Quality Assurance/Test Engineer
- Database Administrator
- Ops
- Security

Often many of these roles will be OUTSIDE the team itself

PMs

Product Manager (PM) or Project Manager (PM)

- Products are specific apps/tools/functionality
    - focus: improvements, meeting goals
- Projects are specific timelines and requirements
    - focus: requirements, time/resource limits

PMs **may** be "technical", but often are not

- PMs **are** familiar with the topic and user needs
- Do not assume non-technical means ignorant

You should not agree to unsustainable commitments

- They may need you to say what **is** sustainable

Manager

A good manager is trying to **remove** obstacles to your work

- Help them do that with information

1:1 (One-on-ones)

- A regular meeting with an authority figure
- Each of you can express hopes and concerns
- Should NOT be an evaluation
    - Do not feel you need to justify or defend
    - The idea is to have many and regularly

Team Lead

This may the PM or Manager

- or may be a separate duty for a dev

Goal is to find "blockers" and resolve them

- keeps timeline accurate

Developers

Different types and levels

Often no real idea/training/guidance how to mentor

Different histories and personalities

Worry less about judgment and more about inclusivity

Designer

More on this later, but designers are frequently:

- Key to a good product
- An easy source of conflict

Designers are often outside the team and work on multiple products

Designers may or may not have practical web UX experience

- Do they focus on how it looks or how it works?
- As with PM, your role is to work with, not obey or dictate

Quality Assurance

aka Test Engineers

Vital source of domain information

- NOT there to find your bugs (you should!)

Juggle a crazy number of languages/frameworks/services

Database Administrator

Growing further from many development teams

- often their priorities aren't yours

Databases are vital

- data
- speed
- reliability

DBAs work out problems

Operations

"Ops" / "Admins"

Almost never part of a dev team

Maintain the network, operating machines, and fundamental software installations

- They DO not have your priorities
- Their jobs are important

Security

Almost never part of a dev team

- They do not share your priorities
- They tend to lean harder on the uncooperative
- Like QA, you want to do your part before they are involved