**Prototyping Software**

In this report I will evaluate multiple different prototyping softwares that provide both high and low fidelity prototyping tools. My evaluation will take into account aspects of cost, accessibility and the quality of the prototypes that can be produced.

**Balsamiq**

Balsamiq is a tool that is available both on the web and also as a downloadable app for both Windows and Mac OS X. It is used to create low fidelity wireframes. When it comes to this Balsamiq is very well equipped, as the applications comes pre packaged with a number of templates for multiple devices, allowing you to easily create wireframes for programs on these devices a lot faster and more accurately than in other wireframe applications.

However, a downside to Balsamiq is that it isn’t free. While you are offered a free trial, to access the program after this trail you need to pay $9 per month or $89 annually. Although this cost could be considered insignificant for a big business, for the individual this could be too much to pay for solo projects.

**Pigendo**

Unlike Balsamiq, Pigendo is not available as a web application only available as a downloadable application. However Pigendo does support Linux as well as Windows and Mac OS X. One major benefit that Pigendo has over other prototyping tools is that is it free forever. This is very beneficial for individual users as they may not have the money to invest on paid software.

Although it is free, Pigendo does come with some limitations in what it can do and what can be created with it as it is primarily designed to create web page prototypes. It does this extremely well and has a very wide variety of functions and is very accessible even for people new to web design as everything is clearly labeled and easy to use. However if you are looking for a more general prototyping tool then this probably isn’t the right application for you to use.

**Proto.io**

Proto.io is a high fidelity prototyping tool used to create detailed and even interactive prototypes. Proto.io is only available as a downloadable application for Windows and Mac OS X. Proto.io is a general prototyping tool that can be used to develop prototypes for anything, not just websites like Pigendo. With Proto.io being a high fidelity tool, you are able to make your prototypes look close to how you see your application. This allows for more ease of communication with other members of your team or stakeholders about what your application will look and feel like.

However like with Balsamiq, you must pay a monthly or annual fee in order to use the software, although unlike Balsamiq, there are multiple subscription levels that increase in cost. This is because Proto.io only lets you have a limited number of projects saved at once. The lowest bracket allows for only 1 user and 5 projects and costs $24 per month while the highest bracket costs $160 per month but allows for up to 10 users and 30 projects. It is clear from this pricing structure that this software is meant for small to medium sized businesses.