**🚀 App Overview: "SalonLink" *(just a placeholder name)***

**🎯 Goal:**

To digitally empower salon and barber shops by solving booking inefficiencies, improving customer retention, and enabling effective time and service management.

**👤 User Roles:**

1. **Customer (End User)**
2. **Barber (under a salon)**
3. **Salon Owner/Admin**

**📱 Key Features (Mobile App MVP – Phase 1):**

**🔹 Customer-Facing Features:**

* User registration/login (mobile/email-based)
* Browse/search nearby salons (using location services)
* View salon profiles with:
  + Salon info, photos, address, ratings
  + List of barbers with individual profiles
* View barber profiles with:
  + Personal info, portfolio (photos/videos), ratings
  + Services offered with prices & durations
  + Availability calendar (real-time synced)
* Book an appointment:
  + Choose service → View available slots → Book
  + Appointment confirmation (after barber accepts)
* Notifications:
  + Booking confirmation
  + Reminder 10 minutes before the slot
* Booking history & feedback

**🔹 Barber Features:**

* Profile creation & updates
* Upload photos/videos of recent work
* Service management (Add/Edit/Delete with duration)
* Set working hours & manage availability
* Accept/reject appointment requests
* View upcoming bookings

**🔹 Salon Admin Features:**

* Register salon on the platform
* Add barbers under the salon
* Edit salon details (address, logo, etc.)
* Monitor bookings for all barbers

**📊 Additional (Phase 2+ Ideas):**

* Loyalty program for repeat users
* Ratings/reviews
* Analytics dashboard (most booked services, peak hours)
* In-app payments (via Razorpay/Stripe)
* Waitlist management if all slots are full

**⚙️ Technical Architecture:**

**1. Frontend (Mobile App):**

* Flutter (cross-platform Android/iOS)
* Alternatives: React Native (also a solid choice)

**2. Backend:**

* Node.js with Express / Django / FastAPI
* REST APIs (or GraphQL)

**3. Database:**

* MongoDB (NoSQL, flexible for dynamic profiles)
* Or PostgreSQL (for relational stability)

**4. Authentication:**

* Firebase Auth (mobile number/email login)
* Or Auth0 for advanced auth options

**5. Notifications:**

* Firebase Cloud Messaging (FCM)

**6. Location Services:**

* Google Maps API for nearby salons
* Geo-location filtering

**📈 Development Roadmap:**

**🔹 Phase 1: Core MVP**

* Customer booking with slot-based barber selection
* Salon & barber registration
* Notification setup

**🔹 Phase 2: Enhancements**

* Ratings, reviews, and service analytics
* Payment integration
* Calendar sync with Google/Apple calendars

**🔹 Phase 3: Business Dashboard**

* Admin web panel for salon owners
* Analytics, customer trends, etc.