

Food delivery app development guide [features, process, cost, business models]



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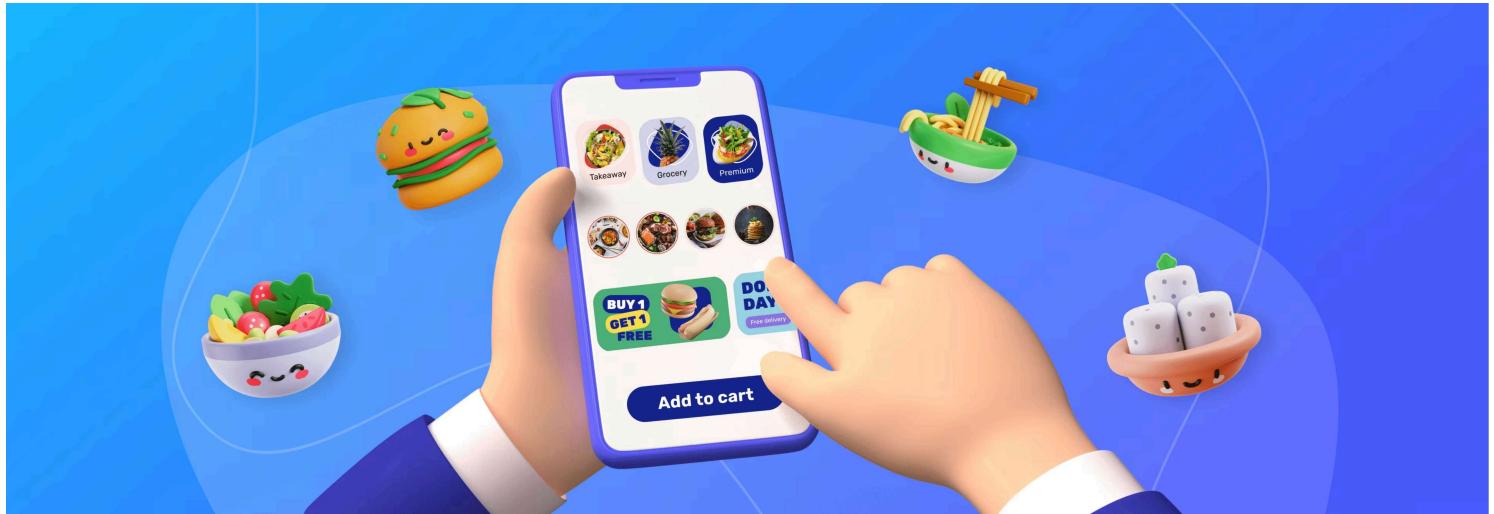


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Consumers increasingly demand convenience and variety, food delivery app development is now a major trend. With the rise of mobile technology, users have more ways to access meals and groceries. Gone are the days of sifting through menus or waiting for delivery drivers to arrive. Instead, today's users expect seamless experiences delivered right to their doors.

According to Statista, the revenue in the online food delivery market in the United States is projected to reach \$353.30 billion in 2024. In fact, recent studies show that a staggering 70% of consumers ordered delivery last month (data from early 2024), highlighting a significant shift in consumer behavior. This growing demand presents a unique opportunity for entrepreneurs and developers to meet consumer needs by building profitable food delivery platforms.

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nent, such as building costs, time to market, essential features, and valuable
nent tips. So, let's dive in and discover what it takes to create a standout food delivery
captures the hearts (and stomachs) of consumers!

Creating a food delivery app is a profitable idea

delivery app market is rapidly growing and diverse, providing ample opportunities for
. Here are three compelling reasons why developing a food delivery app can be a
e venture:

sing demand for convenience. According to a report by [Grand View Research](#), the
line food delivery market was valued at \$221.65 billion in 2022 and is projected to
at a CAGR of 10.3% from 2023 to 2030. This growth indicates a strong and rising
for food delivery services, driven by the desire for convenience and accessibility. In
86% of individuals have used food delivery apps, and 53% consider delivery and
essential to their lifestyles.

e user base. Food delivery services appeal to a wide range of demographics. Notably,
[U.S. consumers use online food delivery services at least once a week](#), with the figure
64% among millennials. This diverse user base presents a significant opportunity for
innovative food delivery solutions that cater to varying preferences and dietary

expansion opportunities. [ResearchGate](#) indicates that even with big players in the
a, and the UK, the global food delivery industry is still open to new companies.
such as Asia Pacific, which accounts for over [40.78% of revenue](#), are experiencing
xanization and changing lifestyles that drive demand for food delivery apps.
ally, emerging markets in the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America are beginning to
od delivery services, further expanding the global landscape.

ferences shifting towards convenience and a growing appetite for diverse food
there has never been a better time to build a food delivery app. This expanding market
r fresh ideas and innovative products, making it essential to understand the various
models available to create a successful food delivery app. In the next section, let's
ow to develop a food delivery app by examining the different business models you
ot!

Delivery app development: business models

are several types of online food delivery apps depending on the business model.

Restaurant delivery

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food delivery app

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Bottom line

Food delivery app develo
FAQ



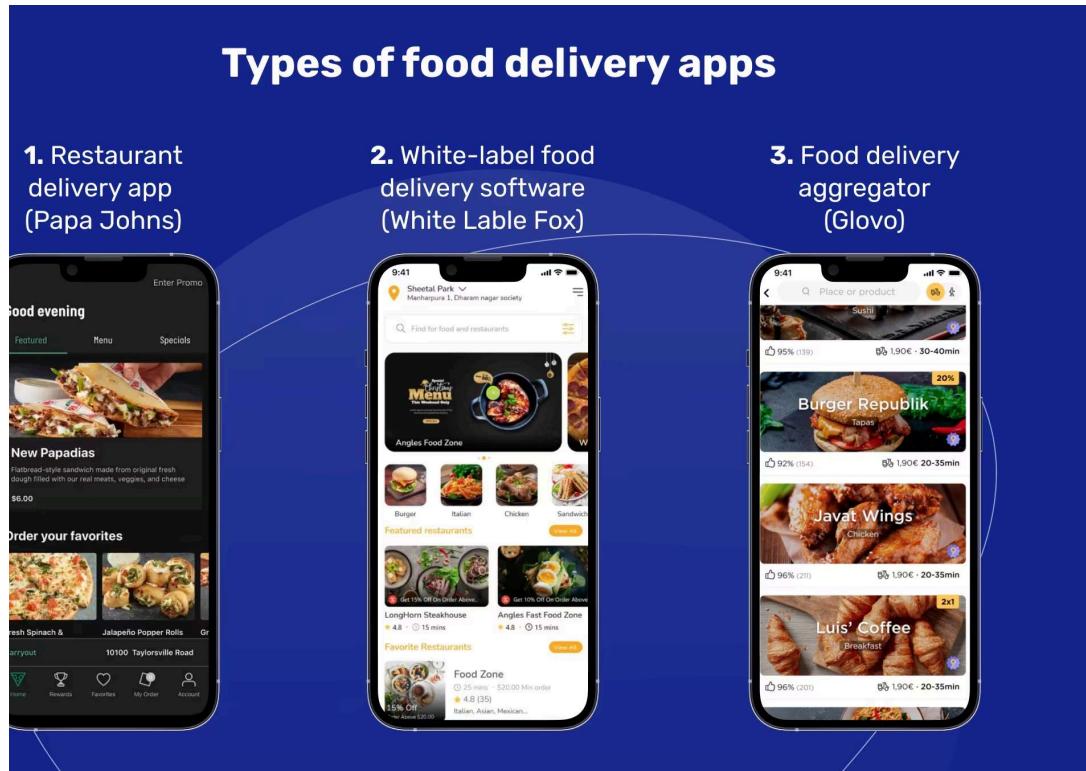
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on development and support, and hiring drivers. To get started, many restaurant and partners create a business plan with AI, helping them efficiently outline logistics, estimate and plan customer acquisition.

a mobile app is a more suitable option for large restaurant and store chains. For example, [Domino's](#) generates over 70% of sales via digital ordering channels including their mobile apps.

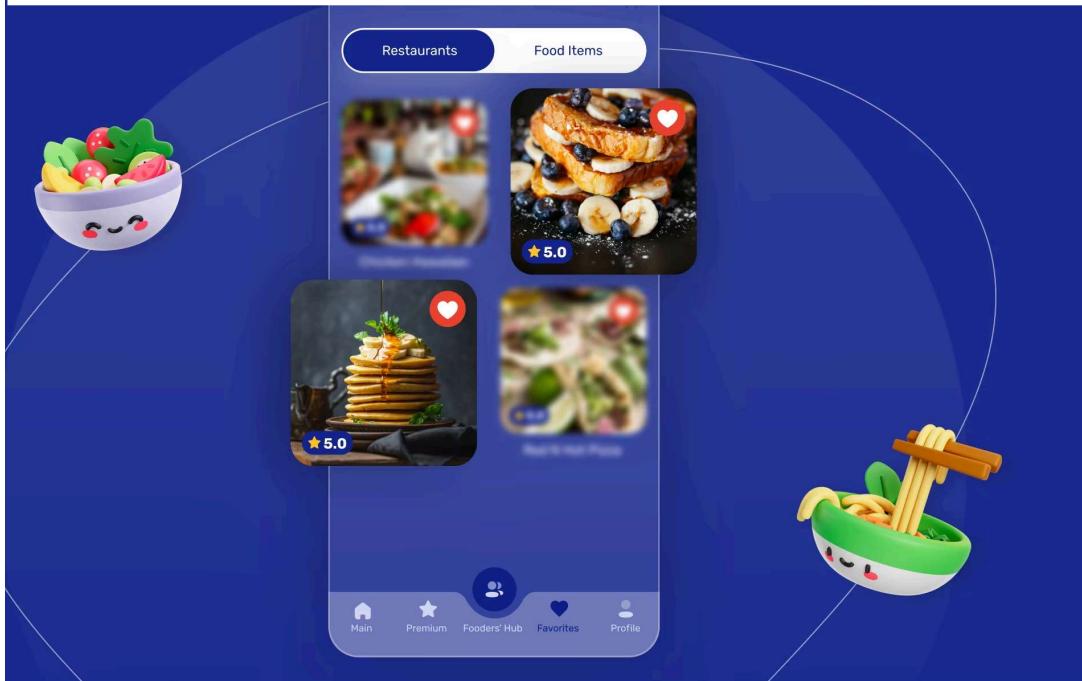


e-label food delivery software

This business model means that you don't need to have your restaurant, but rather to become a third-party provider that specializes in developing food delivery apps, supplying third parties with a white-label or out-of-the-box solution. It means an app builder that is customized for both food and restaurant businesses.

Food delivery aggregator

For example, Glovo or Uber Eats – these are food delivery aggregators. So, if you are looking to build an app that provides on-demand food delivery services from different restaurants, it is better to go with this model. What is beneficial about this model is that you are able to extend it to other goods like groceries delivery. Cookies help us deliver our services. By using our services, you agree to our use of cookies.



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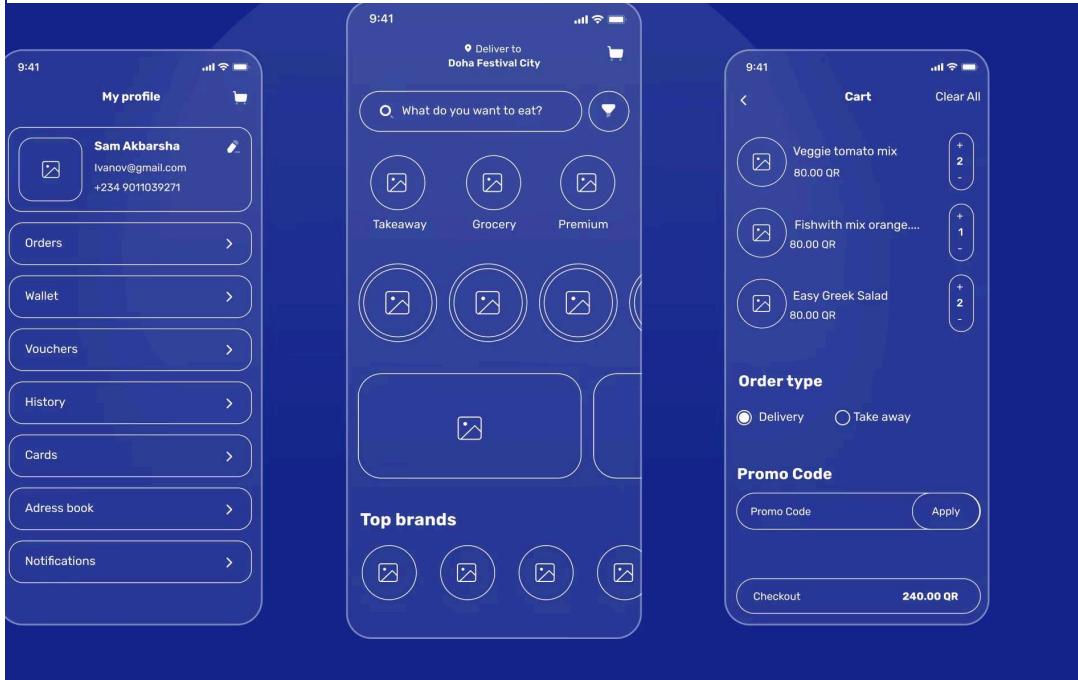
How to make a food delivery app: must-have features

We have listed some basic features for food delivery app development including the ability of a user mobile app, courier app, restaurant and admin applications. There are also features that may not be must-have ones, but could dramatically improve user experience.

At, we provide free consultations so that you can get a feature list for the first MVP and a detailed cost breakdown to develop your own food delivery app. [Contact us](#) to schedule a consultation.

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Mobile app

Sign-up and login. Actually, signing up can be optional for customers to use a food delivery application. But if you need this feature, for the first MVP it can be implemented as a standard sign-up / login by entering an email or a phone number. Further, it may be extended to a Social Media sign-up option for faster onboarding. This could provide users with various registration pathways among which the incorporation of an email verifier, which adds an extra layer of security and ensures the validity of user information through email verification tactics.

User profile management. Users should be able to manage their profiles so that they can save their delivery information for future orders.

Search food aggregators: Catalog of restaurants. The customer app should allow users easily browse through a list of available food items and make their selections. To enhance the navigation, you can add a search bar, categories, and filters. For example, restaurants can be filtered by cuisine (fast food, Mediterranean, Asian, vegan, etc.), average check, distance or delivery time, rating, and so on.

Restaurant menu. On the restaurant menu screen, the meals are better to be divided into categories: breakfast, side dishes, main course, soups, desserts, beverages, etc. Don't forget that images are extremely important here. Other information to be shown on the menu includes price, ingredients, grams, and calories. As an extra feature here, you can allow users to customize their orders by adding or removing ingredients.

Check-out. The checkout process is the final step of the order: the restaurant sends the order to the delivery person, who then delivers it to the customer. Furthermore, it shows the estimated delivery time or an option to customize delivery time, delivery

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Payment. Payment can be made directly through the delivery app via Apple & Google Pay, PayPal, debit, and credit cards, or there may be an option to pay with cash if that's thin your strategy. For the MVP you should add one or two payment options that are most relevant to the region where your delivery app will be used.

Courier tracking. Customers should have the ability to track their current orders in real-time, so they know exactly when they will arrive and have a piece of mind. You can make a delivery status update or let users track their orders on a map. As well, you may want allow users to view their past orders here, access payment information, and contact the courier.

Push notifications. With push notifications, you can inform users about their order's status or send special offers, make meal recommendations, and more. Mobile app notifications are a powerful marketing tool that can boost user engagement if it is done correctly and personalized.

Customer support. Customer support is important to handle user inquiries and problems. This can be done through different channels like phone, email, messengers, or via in-app chat.

Courier mobile app

Registration and profile management. Unlike customers, couriers have to complete registration with all the necessary information for safety operations. A standard set of data includes personal and contact information, personal ID, and driver's license. It may be a good idea to have an identity verification (integration with a camera is required) and terms and conditions for couriers.

Courier management. One of the most important features of a courier app. It has to be highly intuitive to keep the courier's attention on the most important things related to the order: delivery time, pick-up or drop-off locations, and the ability to get in touch with a restaurant and a customer. Of course, it should also provide all the order information including customer contact details, order number, details, and payment details. Couriers could also be able to view other orders in one place sorted by statuses like completed, pending, delayed, and so on.

Routing and navigation. Routing functionality is critical for couriers and it should be the easiest possible to use. It can also help to reduce delivery times and costs. Cookies help us deliver our services. By using our services, you agree to our use of cookies.





Planning (for aggregators). Couriers can schedule their working hours in advance. To save time and money, you can integrate a calendar API like Google Calendar into your food delivery app.

Rider app

Menu management. With this functionality, restaurants can keep their menus up-to-date. Thus, restaurant managers should be able to add, delete, and edit all the fields of their menu items. It is a great option to give restaurants the ability to announce special offers and discounts.

Courier management. Allow restaurants to view and manage incoming orders, including marking them as confirmed or canceled, in progress, ready for pickup, and completed. From here, restaurant workers should also have access to all order details: items and their quantity, customer's comments, customer's and courier's contact details, delivery time, payment information, and so on.

Reporting & analytics. Provide restaurants with detailed reports and analytics on their revenue, sales, deliveries, customers, etc., to help them better understand and improve their business operations. You can also provide data for each item separately, including average cooking time, delivery time, and customer feedback. To facilitate this, you can use PDF forms to collect and present this data in a structured and easily accessible manner.

Functionality

When planning to build a food delivery aggregator app, the administrator's functionality may require a separate web or mobile interface. However, if you're looking to create a food app for your restaurant/chain of restaurants, features of a restaurant app and admin panel are reasonable to be developed in a single app.

Restaurant management for food delivery aggregators. If you are developing a GrubHub-like food delivery app, then you should include a dashboard to manage partner restaurants. From this screen, admins should be able to add/delete partners, review and approve changes, contact restaurant managers, and have access to legal information and payments.

Courier Management. This functionality of this part should include access to the courier's contact and personal information, working conditions and schedule, productivity tracking, rating, and salary payouts. It can also have an in-built messenger to contact couriers. Here, you might also need tools to manage couriers' schedules and delivery areas to optimize delivery.

Analytics. Data and analytics are critical for any business to track its operations and growth, as well as spot optimization will be. [Cookies](#) help us deliver our services. By using our services, you agree to our use of cookies.





How to build a food delivery app: step by step process

Really close to the main question: how to create a food delivery app that brings successful food delivery mobile app development can be a complex and time-consuming process. Further, we will walk you through the entire food delivery app development process, from idea to launch.

Discovery phase

First step of a project discovery phase is to understand the client's business and the landscape. At this stage, we schedule a discovery meeting with a client to learn more about their idea and requirements. Further, we perform a market analysis to understand the competition, identify unmet needs in the market, and get the sense of the target audience.

Once the landscape is understood, it's time to start developing a food delivery app that can address user needs. This involves creating a product roadmap and wireframes that detail how the app will function. These wireframes are then used to develop a prototype of the app.

Once the prototype is complete, it's time to validate the concept with potential users. This can be done through user testing or focus groups. Once feedback has been collected and analyzed, it's time to move on to food delivery app development.

At this point, we believe that a properly performed discovery phase can develop the most efficient MVP feature list. It means that based on the performed discovery and analysis, you can identify what features are of the top priority to meet your user needs, and not to exceed the development budget. Learn more how to make it right in this article.

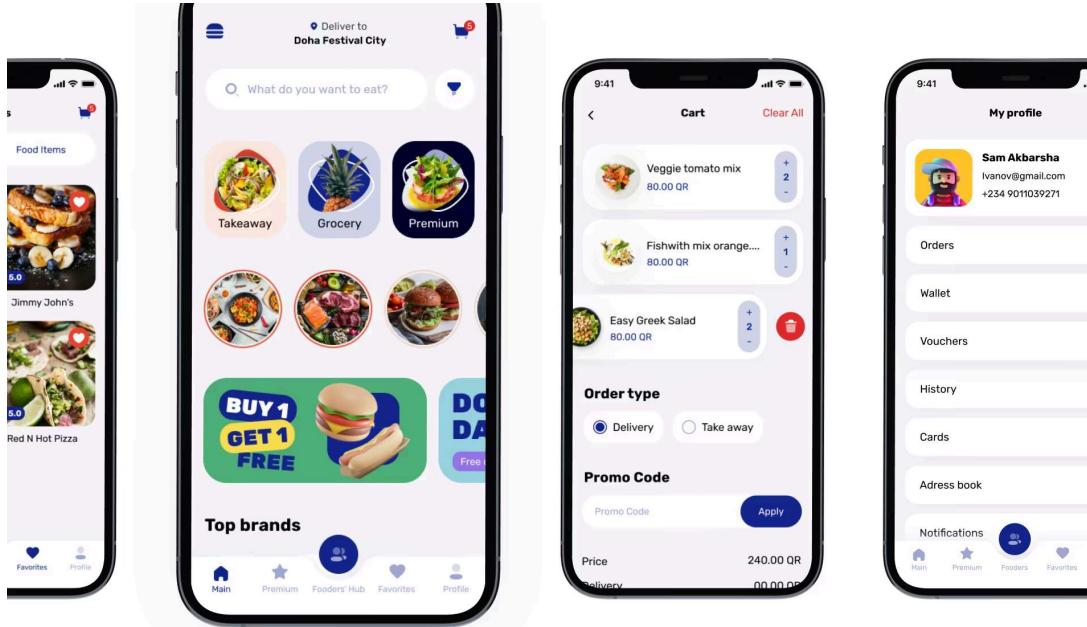
Development phase

Development for startups is the best approach to launch a new product. MVP helps to reduce business risks and enter the market in the most effective way.

The first and most important step in developing a successful food delivery app. You need to make sure that your app idea is clear, concise, and easy to understand. The design should also be visually appealing and user-friendly. For expert assistance in creating an engaging user experience, consider our UI/UX design services. We specialize in conducting user research, crafting intuitive wireframes, and designing engaging interfaces that facilitate a smooth onboarding process and enhance user retention.

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design is complete, it's time to start coding the app. This is a crucial phase in a food delivery app, as it involves translating the design into a functional product. This can be done either by yourself or with the help of a specialized development agency like [Solveit](#). A dedicated development team of professionals can bring you a piece of mind here, as such agencies usually handle everything from idea to launch and support. Plus, you get expert advice and high-quality services while you can keep the focus on business and growth.

Before launching your food delivery app, it's essential to test it on as many devices as possible. This will help you identify any bugs or glitches so they can be fixed before going live.

lunch

Everything is ready, it's time to hit the "publish" button! To make it happen frictionlessly, we would make sure the food delivery app meets store requirements. Just in case: Solveit takes care of store publishing as well, so our customers do not worry about this step either.

Finally, promote your food delivery app well so people know it exists and can download it from their preferred app store.

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to monitor performance is to track key metrics such as the number of downloads, of active users, retention rate, and engagement. You can use embedded analytics Google Analytics or Flurry to track these metrics.

important to get feedback from users through reviews and ratings on app stores, as through in-app feedback forms or surveys. This will give you insights into what users don't like about your food delivery app and what they would like to see changed or

Port, updates, enhancements

ing feedback from users to determine, developers working on food delivery mobile development typically release updates and enhancements on a regular basis. Updates include new features, bug fixes, new content, or improved design.

ccessful product that users love and stick to, the ability to perform flawlessly is one of important criteria. That is why we advise to regularly check and improve mobile app enhance.

Creating and after-launch growth tips

Now the app development process is successfully completed. But it's not the end you need marketing tactics and growth tips to gain your market advantage from the be successful in the long run.

ring our step-by-step guide, you understand that creating a unique food delivery app a distinct approach.

get to identify key partnerships and strategize fundamental activities, resource n, and value proposition. Then collaborate with your product development team to ie the essential components of your food delivery app promotion strategy.

Product development team for a startup: structures, roles and beyond

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ts you should focus on while developing a food delivery app promotion strategy.

engagement. Key teams. Cookies help us deliver our services. By using our services, you agree to our use of cookies.





uring and PR.

Restaurant partnerships. Forge partnerships with restaurants by offering incentives, including a diverse selection on your food delivery app.

driven insights. Utilize data to refine strategies based on user behavior.

Potential growth. How likely is it that the new delivery app will supplement or replace existing customer revenue (whether indoor or outdoor seating).

These insights will drive your app's marketing and growth strategy, securing your position in the market.

How much does it cost to build a food delivery app?

The cost of developing a food delivery app can range significantly, typically falling between \$10,000 and \$100,000 or more, depending on the features you want to include and the platforms you wish to support (iOS, Android, Web).

Basic MVP (Minimum Viable Product): Starting around **\$20,000** for a basic MVP app with essential features.

Medium Complexity: Ranges from **\$40,000 to \$80,000** for apps with a more extensive feature set and improved functionality.

Advanced Solution: Typically starts at **\$80,000 and can exceed \$100,000** for a comprehensive solution with advanced features and multiple integrations.

Several factors influence these costs, including the app's complexity, the chosen technology stack, and the development approach, which we will explore below.

Factors influencing food delivery app development cost and time-to-market

Complexity. Cost-to-build and time to get your product to the market will strongly depend on the complexity of the app: number of features and integrations. A simple food delivery app can be developed in around 8 weeks (2 months), whereas a more complex app takes from 12 to 18 months (3 to 6 months) and longer.

Tech Stack. The tech stack also plays a role in determining the cost and time to develop a food delivery app. If you already have a team of developers experienced in building mobile apps, then they will likely be able to use their existing skillsets and knowledge to build a food delivery app relatively quickly. However, if you need to hire new developers or outsource the work, then this will obviously add to both the cost and development time.

Technology, framework, and tools used to reinvent your

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front, as these approaches require more planning and coordination than waterfall or agile project management techniques.

I recommend starting with the MVP development services to validate the product on the market, set up monetization and gradually add features based on the user needs and feedback.

How much does it cost to make an app?

[Read article](#)

How to create a food delivery app [Solveit experience]

In this section, let's look at our comprehensive approach to enhancing a food delivery app, detailing the steps we took and the results we achieved.

Challenge

We started with a food and grocery delivery app that included basic features such as a search function, filters, restaurants and menus, cart management, checkout, payment options, and tracking. However, the app's user interface was inconvenient and difficult to navigate, leading to lost customers and revenue. They sought our expertise to redesign the app to improve user experience and increase engagement.

We conducted a comprehensive discovery phase to understand user needs and analyze competitors, guiding the development of a new interface design.

Discovery Phase

Requirements Gathering and Analysis. We gathered insights into client needs and user expectations through stakeholder discussions and user feedback. This allowed us to clearly define the requirements for the mobile app design and outline the key functionalities.

Technical Specifications. We created a detailed backlog, developed user stories, and defined use cases to define how users would interact with the app.

UI/UX Design. We developed a UI kit that encompassed color schemes, typography, and interface components, including buttons and icons. Wireframes were created to visually represent the app's structure and user flow. [Cookies help us deliver our services. By using our services, you agree to our use of cookies.](#)



r understanding of users' expectations that were previously overlooked and detailed stories for various scenarios.

on of a UI Kit and clickable prototype to facilitate design validation.

iced user experience with a faster search process, easier order management, and streamlined checkout.

ication architecture and integrations were described to ensure seamless functionality.



Online

t, we have the expertise in top-notch food delivery app development that meets your needs and requirements. Whether you want a simple app with basic features or an advanced delivery app with all the bells and whistles, we can create it for you.

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create a food delivery app?

To create a profitable food delivery app you can follow the next steps:

1. Ensure your food delivery app idea is viable.

2. Choose a suitable development approach.

3. Define your food app delivery business model.

4. Identify necessary app features.

5. Develop an MVP version, test, and launch.

6. Monitor app performance, gather feedback, and make improvements.

How much does it cost to develop a food delivery app?

The cost to develop a food delivery app generally ranges from \$20,000 to over \$80,000, depending on complexity and features. A simple MVP starts around \$20,000, while more advanced apps typically range from \$40,000 to \$80,000. Comprehensive solutions with additional features often begin at \$80,000. Various factors, including the tech stack and development approach, influence these costs.

How do food delivery apps make money?

Food delivery apps generate revenue through various sources:

Commission per order: they earn a percentage-based commission from restaurants for each order placed through the app.

Delivery charges: apps may impose delivery fees, especially for orders below a minimum threshold.

Featured listings: restaurants can pay for featured listings to gain prominence on the app.

Expedited delivery charges: offering expedited or preferred delivery during busy hours for a premium fee.

Branded ads: businesses pay for advertising within the app to reach a wider audience.

Online payments: processing payments directly in the app saves time and may also reduce transaction fees.

How can I make my food delivery app successful?

To ensure the success of your food delivery app development, consider the following key factors:

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Delivery time. Prioritize timely deliveries to promptly address customer cravings.

And social media. Create a user-friendly app optimized for search engines and able on social media.

Discounts and offers. Attract customers with regular discounts and special promotions.

Inventive menu. Stand out by offering unique and inventive food choices.

Engaging app experience. Build an interactive app that simplifies ordering and delivery.

Convenient delivery options. Provide convenient choices like varied delivery and easy pickup.

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