

IT architecture roles

Business architect vs. enterprise architect vs. solution architect vs. technical architect

Business architect (BA)	Enterprise architect (EA)	Solution architect (SA)	Technical architect (TA)
<p>Technology focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Strategy focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Key competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Enterprise-wide view of the business, processes, and capabilities✓ Aligns strategic goals and objectives with products, services and resources✓ Ability to apply architectural principles to business solutions✓ Enables technologies and governance in support of capabilities <p>Daily use cases</p> <p>Encapsulate the current maturity of the business capabilities and manage essential transformations to continually increase maturity in alignment with strategic goals.</p> <p>Define the strategic, core, and support processes of functional and organizational entities.</p>	<p>Technology focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Strategy focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Key competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Master of EA Frameworks (for example, TOGAF, Zachman Framework)✓ Uncovers operational gaps✓ Analyzes information through data models and architecture diagrams✓ Communicates the value of new IT strategies and keeps stakeholders informed of ongoing initiatives <p>Daily use cases</p> <p>Streamline the application landscape for optimal performance. Decommission redundancies and reduce costs.</p> <p>Understand where data interdependencies live across the IT landscape. Identify and avoid tech risks.</p>	<p>Technology focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Strategy focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Key competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Coordinates ongoing activities✓ Translates the design concept to IT operations✓ Defines a best-fit solution for existing problems✓ Ensures technological risks are accounted for and solutions meet necessary requirements <p>Daily use cases</p> <p>Plan transformations on time – whether it's for your cloud migration, external audits, or beyond.</p> <p>Communicate how applications support business capabilities in terms of functional fit, technical fit, and risk.</p>	<p>Technology focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Strategy focus</p> <p>Min. Max.</p> <p>Key competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ High level of in-depth expertise (for example, Python, Java)✓ Provides recommendations to address potential threats✓ Implements technical processes to roll out solutions✓ Delivers fully functional products in a timely manner for the end user <p>Daily use cases</p> <p>Realize a 360-degree view inside DevOps containers to accelerate release cycles.</p> <p>Create process for rapid development, intelligent personalization, and seamless exploration across all solutions</p>
<p>→ Integration between business architecture and enterprise architecture</p> <p>BAs provide direction on operationalizing the organization's business strategy, including the systems, processes and data required. EAs provide a roadmap of organizational redesign and change consistent with BA's direction and the overall strategic vision.</p> <p>→ Integration between enterprise and solution architecture</p> <p>The relationship between EAs and SAs mirrors the relationship between technological strategy and its effective implementation. EAs focus more on the strategic portion, whereas SAs take specific problems and propose a solution to support the vision.</p> <p>→ Integration between solution and technical architecture</p> <p>Technical architects translate the proposed solution of the solution architects into an integrated system and provide in-depth technological insight on matters like hardware and software specifics.</p>			
<p>What makes these roles critical for organizational transformation?</p> <p>All four positions define business goals and design an information technology roadmap. This roadmap creates a bridge between context and concept. Whether an organization needs all four types of architects depends on the company size and the complexity of its infrastructure.</p>			

How to become a BA

- Learn the fundamentals of IT and business process modeling
- Gain experience in planning and executing business and IT initiatives
- Act as liaison between conveying what the business needs to IT and technical constraints to the business

How to become a EA

- Learn the fundamentals of IT, business operations, and software architecture
- Earn certifications such as TOGAF, FEAC, LeanIX Practitioner
- Leverage managerial skills to lead, advise, or collaborate with different departments

How to become a SA

- Learn the fundamentals of software architecture, computer science
- Acquire the ability to translate abstract problems into concrete solutions that can be executed to drive business outcomes.
- Communicate initiatives in a way that both business and technology professionals can understand

How to become a TA

- Learn the fundamentals of software development, computer science
- Gain an understanding of full-stack development for a broader knowledge of technical operations
- Use interpersonal skills to work alongside nontechnical business colleagues. Project manage workload of technical teams