

‘It Depends’

What Solutions Architects Actually Do

Jericho Arcelao

2025-03-22

License

This work is marked with [CC0 1.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)  

Picture This...



Okay, but do we
actually do?

Money Servers

No, we're not wizards nor therapists...

A Day in the Life (1)

- Your friend walks in, believing they have come up with the next big thing in social media.
 - “We’re gonna be the next TikTok, I just know it!” they say.

What do you say?

A Day in the Life (2)

- Your client gives you a tour of their office. Turns out, their entire database lives on a single server running since 2005.
 - “Well, can we scale with this?” he asks.

What do you say?

A Day in the Life (3)

- An executive from your client just came from a tech conference.
 - “I know what we need! More AI, blockchain, and quantum tech!” he proudly acclaims.

What do you say?

The Formula

Problem + Budget? + Tech? + “It Depends” = 💰 Profit

So You Wanna Architect a Solution?

It depends... we'll figure it out in the cloud 🤪

Hands-on Activity

Let's put what you've learned to the test!

Case Briefer

Imagine this: It's 11 p.m.

You're at your house, trying to submit your assignment before the deadline.

- Your roommate sibling's streaming Netflix
- Dad's outside the room gaming
- Mom's TikTok dance video just buffered for the third time

Your Wi-Fi? Dead. Your family looks at you in contempt.

You're the solutions architect now. **What do you do?**

Case Briefer (cont.)

- Problem: Wi-Fi's slow or down
- Stakeholders: You and your family
- Constraints: PHP 1000 budget, no rewiring the house, 24-hour deadline
- Needs: Streaming, gaming, assignment uploads—all at once

Mechanics

- You have 15 minutes to come up with a solution
 - You must give your solution a witty name. This will be your team name
- Afterwards, each group gets 2 minutes max to present your solution
 - Convince the room (a.k.a. your family) why we should go with your idea
- At the end, we will all vote on whose solution is the best