



Ultimate Guide to Choose the **Right ERP** for Your Business

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Introduction

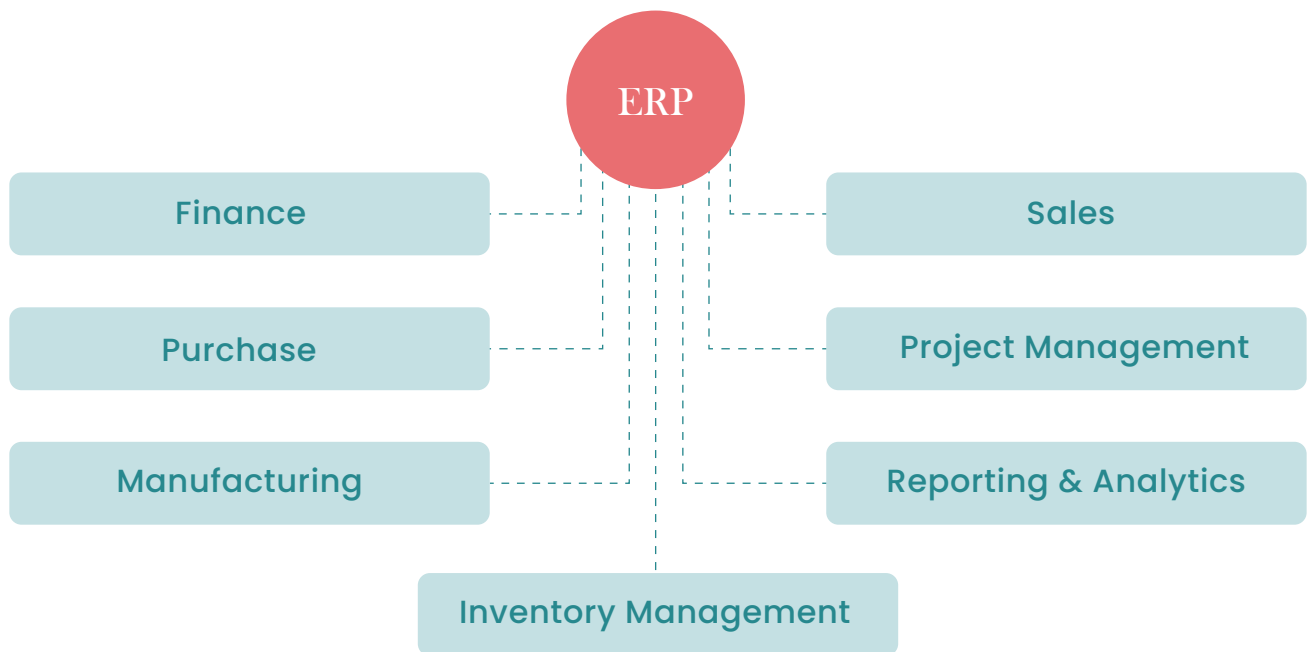
As business houses start climbing the ladders of prosperity, their systems start getting complex. As a result, there will surely come a time when the manual systems will fail to handle the increased number of data, employees, and other elements. This is when it becomes crucial to get help from other options such as software.

Now, the choice of software depends upon several factors, mostly the requirement of the company. There can be some companies that may consider getting individual software for individual departments. On the contrary, some business houses may prefer to get a single ERP software.



ERP- An Overview

Enterprise Resource Planning or ERP is software that many companies prefer to use today in place of different solutions working in silos. The ERP software helps in streamlining different business processes like



So, if you do not wish to get confused with many software options, ERP is the best one for you. The best thing about this software is that it connects all departments and processes of a business under a single unified system that enables the employees to come up with the best possible decisions and solutions.

As ERP solutions help streamline all the departments and services seamlessly, it is quite helpful for businesses of all sizes from small to medium to large enterprises. But also today, many small or startup firms also at times take up ERP solutions so that they can stay ready for the upcoming growth. Currently, this solution is being used in diverse industries such as manufacturing, trading, not for profit, etc.

The features of integrity, adaptability and ERP solutions have made it work amazingly for different companies. In addition, the system offers a centralized system and advanced functionalities to offer a seamless and smoother function for the employees of any company to handle.

When is the Right Time to Implement ERP?

Though ERP is highly beneficial for a business house, there are still many firms who may doubt whether they require ERP or not in their system. If you are not sure yet whether you should have the ERP system incorporated in your company or not, here are some of the signs that may hint you at getting it.



Digital Transformation:

This is the most common reason why most companies prefer to get ERP. ERP implementation is a part of Digital Transformation Initiative within a business that helps in taking the operations of the company to the next level.



Efficiency in Operations:

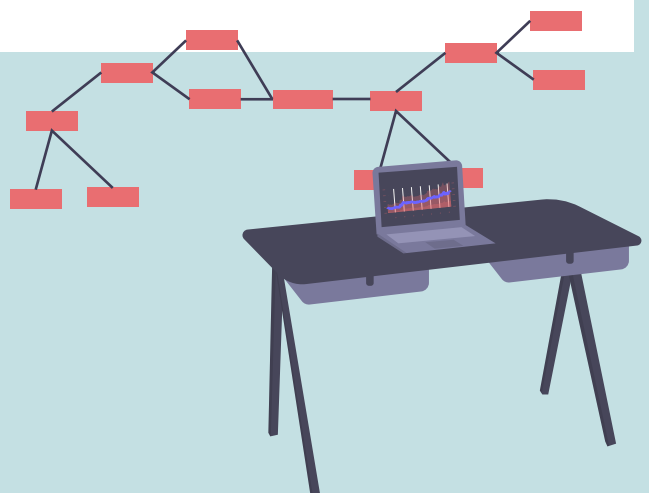
Are you facing a lot of confusion between different departments lately? This is mainly because your system is not streamlined, and the departments are not working in a centralized way. If you want to get this issue sorted out and bring efficiency to the company's operations, it is high time that you should bring ERP into your system.



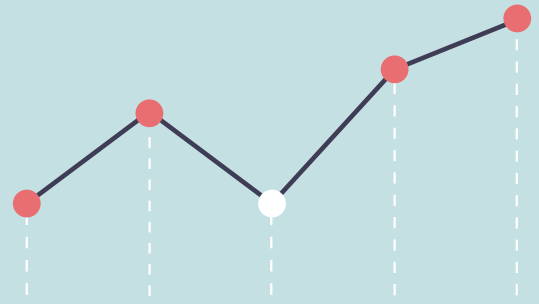
Growth:

If you wish to see your business booming, you will have to introduce systems that make your process simpler and efficient.

Getting an ERP system has become a stepping stone for many companies today. Now most companies are looking forward to upgrading their ERP system to have the modern option to get an even better experience at work.



Strategic Reasons for Implementing Modern ERP



Upgrade Needed:

When your competitors have started using an upgraded version of ERP, you will also need to start using it to compete. But again, getting an ERP upgrade can get expensive at times. So, one of the best ways is to get the modern ERP system that is updated in its features and can help you in working as per the recent modern trends. Also, when you have got Cloud ERP System, you do not have to depend upon the vendor for getting the recent features as the system get recent feature updates automatically and notifies about them to you too.



Usability Issues:

The modern day ERP systems come with clean interface and small navigation to offer an under-friendly experience to the users of the system. Thus, no much time is invested in breaking through the complex designs and the employees can understand the whole working quite conveniently. Hence, getting the modern ERP eases up the task of the employees, enhancing productivity.



Challenges in Reporting:

The earlier ERP version that is ERP 1 .0, had limited features and functioning that were not satisfactory for reporting. The modern ERP offers several advanced features that make reporting much convenient than before.



The Need for Hardware:

For the older form of ERP, hardware was an eminent part of the system to make it work smoothly. The modern cloud based ERP does not require too much investing on hardware that makes operations quite convenient. But at times, hardware cost would be there, only if a business opt for an on premise ERP system. The cloud based systems can work simply on Wi-Fi. Thus, having the modern ERP can also be a much cost-efficient decision.



Maintenance Cost:

Are you worried about the maintenance costs that keep on increasing for your ERP 1.0 model? If yes, then this is high time that you need a replacement for this ERP solution. The modern ERP system is a digital form that requires lesser maintenance and offers much higher efficiency at work.



Conflicting Results:

If you have been using different software options for different departments, you have high chance of having conflicting results. When such situations happen, it can get quite difficult to balance company reporting and other factors. Getting the modern ERP will help establish integration in the system, thus maintaining a seamless system flow in the company.



Global Growth:

As your company grows, you will require better systems and tools to handle a higher level of tasks. Modern ERP solution offers the flexibility of opting for either on premise or on cloud deployment option as per your requirements. If your company is growing, you should make sure that you have the latest systems to keep your working efficiency.



Compliance Complications:

With each passing year, new compliances are coming up in different sectors and departments. Global cloud ERP needs to have compliance certificates to manage and host data as per country's law so that your data remains safe. Modern cloud ERP applications are complied with these regulations to operate in countries without any trouble.



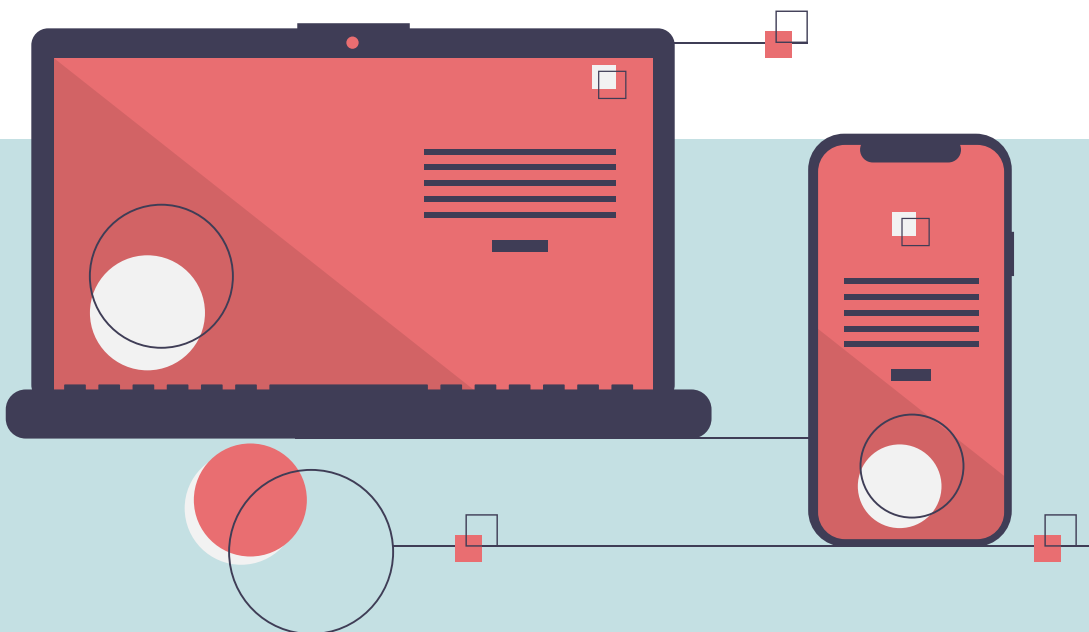
Increase in Demand:

When there is increasing demand, it is quite obvious that you need to make changes in your infrastructure to meet up such demands. On the other hand, if you cannot meet up the demands, it will surely hamper the reputation and recognition of your company. Hence, one of the best ways is to replace your traditional ERP system with the modern ERP to efficiently meet up with the latest demands and get ready with the upcoming demands.



Getting Bigger:

You cannot rely upon your older systems if your company is growing efficiently. To have better control over your financial information and policies, it is required that you get a system that is the latest and offers the most efficient and seamless results. No doubt, currently, the modern ERP is the best solution in such a case.



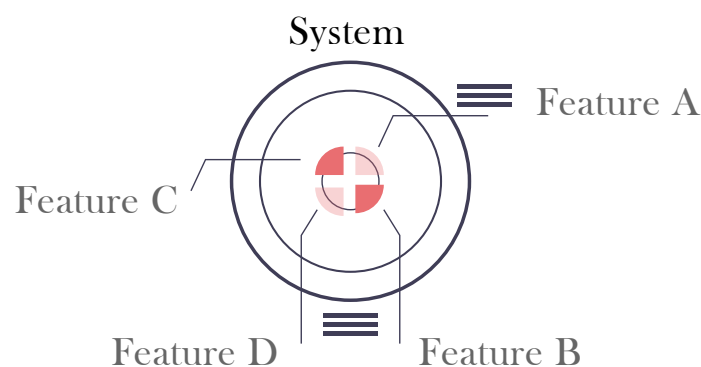
How to Choose the Right ERP for Your Business?

When you understand the need for a modern ERP system, selecting the best option from many available is again a challenging task. So, how do you know which is the best ERP that will suit your business? Here are some of the factors that you can consider while choosing the best ERP for your business.

The Features and Functionality:

One of the major mistakes that many companies make while choosing the ERP system is looking for the best system in the market. They often forget that it is not about getting the best system; rather, it is about getting the ERP system that suits your business functions. Hence, while selecting the system, you should make sure to go through the systems' features. In addition, make sure to get a system that matches the requirements of the company

For example, if you require a system that can handle most of your financial tasks, check a system that can offer features of account modules, general ledgers, account receivables, account schedules, account payables, and similar options. Similarly, if you are looking for a system that can help the supply chain, you can check out features such as supply chain management and inventory.

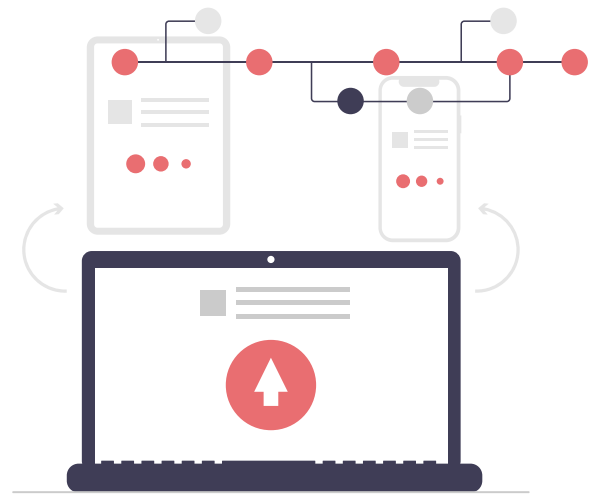


Thus, one of the best ways is to compare different features and functionalities of the ERP systems and then consider the one that offers you the best suitability according to your company's requirements.

Better Integrations:

Even today, about 59% of companies complain that they are not getting a centralized result even after using the most advanced ERP systems. This happens again due to the wrong selection of the ERP system. Just getting the best system of the most advanced system is not going to help. You will require a compatible system with other software systems that you are using in your company for your work. Not all ERP systems are integrated well with different software systems available for different working.

If you wish to have the best experience, the idea is to match up the systems most efficiently. If it is feasible, you can make certain changes in the other systems you are using. But you should always try first to get an ERP system that integrates well with different software systems you are using in the company or you would like to use in the future. You may have to spend some time searching for the right one, but it will be a worthy search after all.



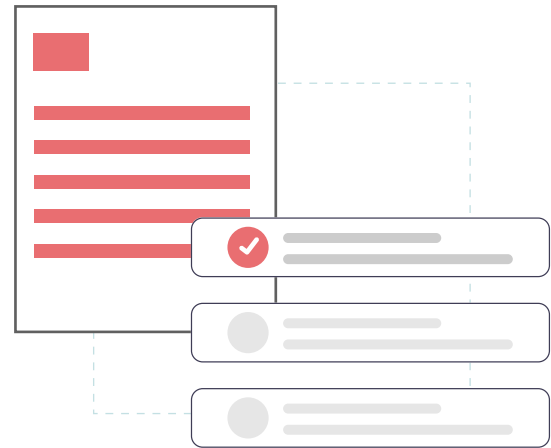
Check Background

While selecting the right ERP system based on its suitability, you should not trust any random system you are coming across. You should also consider the reputation of the company in the market. Check out the company that the ERP system belongs to. If you have been using other systems from the same company, you may have a trust factor in this company. But if it is a new company, you may doubt whether this will be a good investment or not.

Again, even if it is a known company, the system doesn't need to be a great one like many other systems of the same company. So, what are you going to do in such a case?

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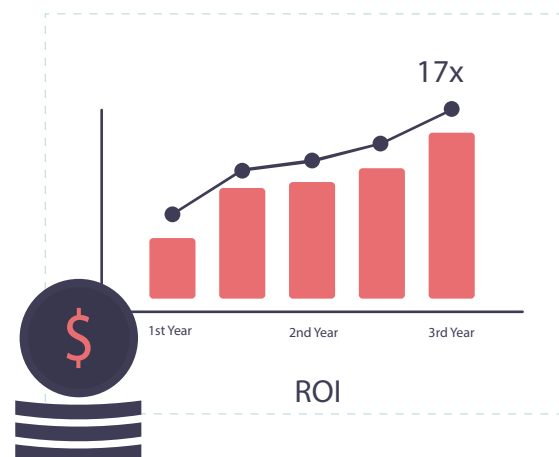


The Investment/Budget

While you are trying to get an ERP system for your company, there are several factors that you should check in terms of the cost. First, check out the cost of the system, along with the cost of implementing the system and the cost of extra resources that you may require. It is a wrong conception that only the expensive ERP systems are going to be the best ones. As mentioned, it all depends upon whether the system suits you or not.

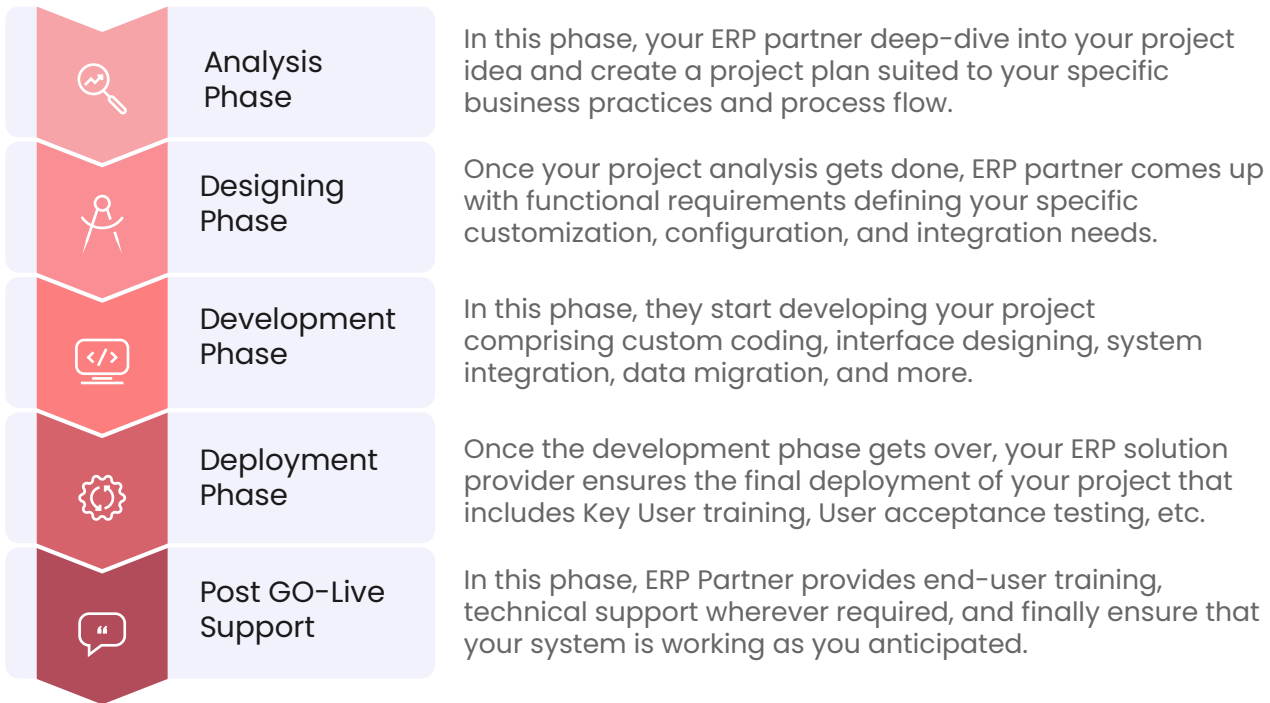
Most commonly, the cost of the system depends upon the number of features that the system is offering. Hence, you should check carefully the features that the software is offering. There can be several times when the system may have several such features that you do not require in the regular functioning of your company.

It is important to understand that spending on ERP system is an investment that can offer you long term returns. So, there is no point in investing such a high cost and getting this system in such a case. Thus, compare a few systems well and then get the one that is offering the right features so that you can invest in the right system.



The Process of Implementation

Another factor that you should not ignore while choosing the right ERP for your business is implementing the system. The process of implementation consists of five eminent steps and these are:



You may come across several systems that may offer several tricky features that may look fascinating and important for the company from different angles. In actuality, when you analyze them, they are not that crucial for the business's working. These systems offer such features so that the company can take up the training facility of the system that will require an extra implementation cost. Also, you have to invest more time in such systems.

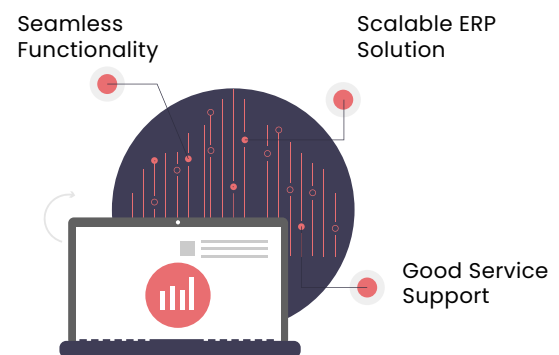
Of course, this does not mean that you should not go for the ERP systems offering training features. There are so many ERP systems that offer features that are very much appropriate for the company. Furthermore, it is not always necessary that the employees of a company will be friendly with the working of any ERP system they are using. Hence, in such a case, if you think that the ERP system that you are taking on board is perfect for your business, there is no harm in investing in the training module for the ERP system..

In such a case, always go for a system that has a proper training system which includes a detailed training plan and also have an experienced team guiding in making you understand each and every process of the application. When your company's employees get training from the system, the chances of making errors at the initial stage of working with the system reduces. Also, the time consumption reduces as the employees are trained, and they do not have to spend time understanding the features and working of the system

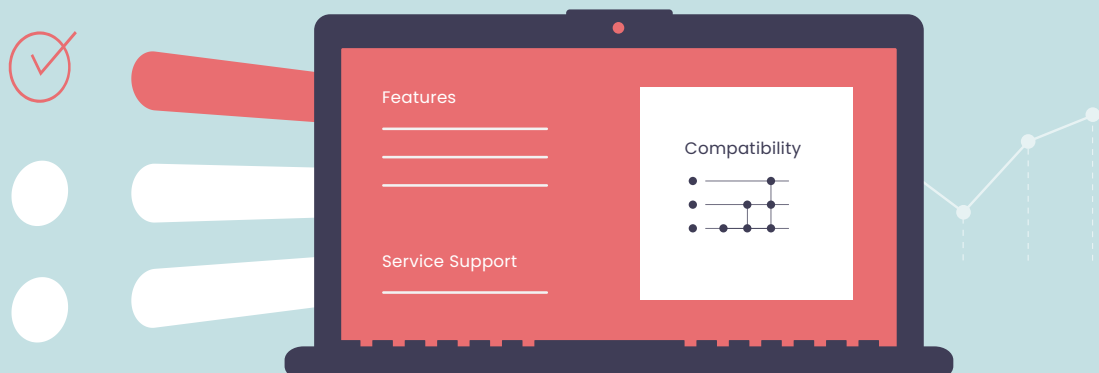
The Aspects of the Future

As time flies by, your company should also grow. Of course, if the company is growing smoothly and is functioning seamlessly, the ERP system has a major role to play in it. So, it is never wrong to say that having an ERP system will be a long-term investment for your company.

This is why you should get a system that suits your business the most. But while doing so, you should also check the aspects that you will offer an assurance of the future. Check out the expected updates of the system that would help your business in the future also.



Also, you should check the customer support service of the company and the system. You may require the support system in several cases, such as when the system is not working properly or when you have some other issues with it. If you do not get proper support from the system, there is no point in getting such a system and welcoming trouble for you. Hence, look for a system known for good support for the services they are offering.





Things to Consider While Choosing Modern ERP System

This is a major question while you are choosing an ERP system for your business. After you have decided on which system to use, you should check whether the modern ERP system you have chosen is meeting your expectations or not.

Security

The very first thing to expect from your chosen system is security. Of course, in modern times, data is the most crucial element of any business house. Hence, when your ERP system is dealing with data, you should make sure that it is keeping them safe also. Having a cloud-based ERP system will ensure that your data is secure, and you do not have to worry about them getting leaked to competitor firms.

A Complete Service:

If you have selected the ERP system depending upon the requirements of the business house, you can be sure that the system will offer you a sense of completeness. This means the system will integrate well with the on-premise systems and the applications that are available for the functioning of your business. Apart from this, you should expect ease of using the system so that the employees do not have to get into trouble each time while using the system each time. Finally, when selecting the right ERP, you will expect a smooth and seamless working of the system.



Globalization:

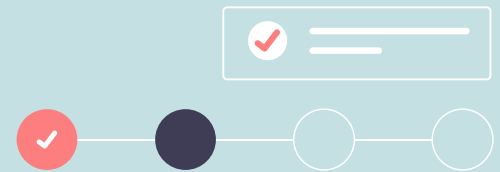
While your business is operating on national grounds, it is not necessary that you will be limited to the national borders only. It may always happen that your business may grow up so high that you start dealing globally. In such a case, you will require a system that helps you even when you have expanded your business across the borders. Of course, you will have a plan ready beforehand about your global expansion shortly. Hence, you need to get a system that can match up your requirements by that time. If you have done this, you will continue to get a seamless result even when you have globalized.

Insightful:

The modern ERP is not just about helping you in data management and operations. The best part of the modern ERP system is that it is also engaging and insightful. If you have made the right selection, you can always expect reports and analyses driven by different insights. Also, such insights and reports shall be engaging so that the users can use such information in the right way for the development of the business. The selection of a perfect modern ERP offers support in operations and business growth because it has Business Intelligence Tool built in within so that you can get real time insights on the business performance and take corrective actions if necessary.

The ERP system has become one of the best and useful options for companies in different sectors. While the system is mainly for the large and medium firms, today, there are also many small business houses or even startup companies preferring to take up the system beforehand, estimating their growth in the coming years. Choosing the right ERP system surely helps you have a much smoother and convenient functioning so that you have an efficient result and higher productivity. Overall, choosing the right ERP system surely offers you a higher edge over your competitors so that you stay intact in the market and keep on growing.

Steps for Successful ERP Implementation



While ERP has turned up to be an eminent part of a business house, this does mean that the business houses can implement any random ERP system for the purpose. Here are the 7 ideal practices that any business house can carry out in order to get the right ERP system.

1. Project Team Selection

Before starting to think about the right ERP system, you should think of the right project team that you need to have to work upon the system. A good team with BU Heads across departments and project lead for handling the project helps in smoother implementation.



Requirements

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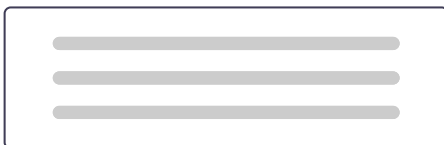
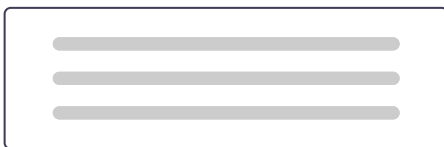
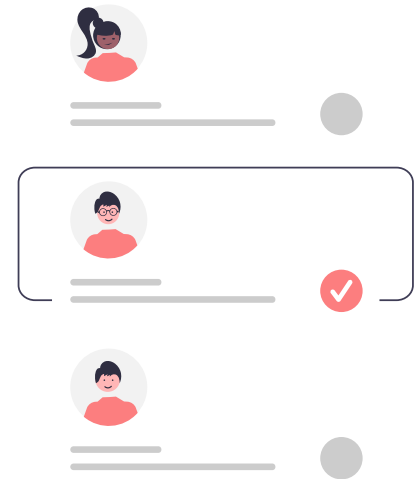
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2. Clear Requirements

Apart from having a proper team, the company should be clear in terms of its requirements. Every detail should be well-documented to have the goals set absolutely clear. It is based on these requirements that a proper ERP solution will be decided upon.

3. ERP Partner Selection

Now, when the project team and the requirements are thought about, it is time to select the right ERP partner. You should make sure to make the right selection based on factors such as industry expertise, customer success stories, responsiveness, product team, Post Go Live Support Plan, price quote, etc. One of the golden rules is to search for a few of the best vendors, compare them and then get the one that suits the requirement and feasibility of the company the most.



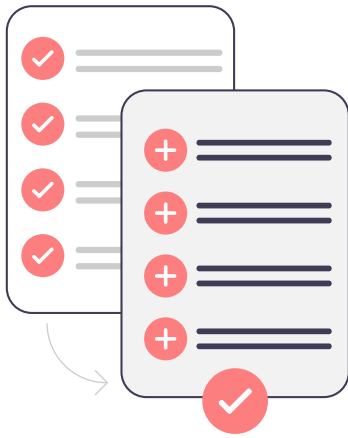
4. Feedback

After making use of the system, make sure to get feedback from the users to understand whether the system is working well for the task or not. If the end users are not satisfied with the system, the purpose of achieving the goal will not be accomplished. During User Acceptance Testing Phase, detailed feedback sessions get arranged so that the end users are comfortable in using the system before going live with it. Hence, it is essential to get a feedback from the users.

5. Clean Data

Whether it is about the feedback or any other data, everything should be kept clean and smooth for options such as the migration process.





6. Change Management Plans

The market trends are rapidly changing that pushes the companies also to make changes in their vision and project plans to survive in the current trend.

The modern ERP system should be such that can accept such change management and can work according to it.

7. Proper Training

It is important to get a system that also enables training so that your employees can get proper training and support and can make use of the system in the right way. It is always a better idea to consider a system that offer a training module for the team. Devote some time for the training of the employees before making them start working with the system.



Depending upon your requirements and implementations, you can decide whether you wish to have an on premise ERP system or a cloud based option.



Selecting the Right ERP System



As mentioned above, selecting the right ERP system will require a good amount of research and implementation of different steps. You need to understand the requirements of your business and according to that you can get the right system for you. Here are some of the ways how you can check out the right ERP service provider that is perfect for you.



Know the Requirements

The very first thing that you need to do is to find out the requirements in all the departments of the company. One of the best thing to do is to designate a team to do so efficiently.



Prioritizing Requirements

Next, when you have got a list of requirements, you need to start prioritizing the ones that you should have and the ones that you can have next.



Indulge the Upper Management

Nothing can get finalized without the approval of the upper management. Hence, it is important to indulge the upper management in understanding the benefits of getting the right ERP system.



Check Integration

It is also important to check whether the ERP system that you are thinking of integrates well with the current system or not. . It is also important to indulge the upper management so that you can understand about any plans of future systems that the management is planning to have and you can check whether the ERP system integrates well with the future systems or not.



Check Scalability:

The business will grow rapidly when the operations and other elements improve. Hence, it is an eminent part to check whether the new ERP system that you wish to implement is scalable or not.



Set a Budget:

Of course, you cannot pour any amount of money that the ERP vendor asks you for. You need to do a bit of research and then come up with a valid budget that should include the system implementation, training, and other costs.



Compare before Deciding:

One of the reasons to research and set up a budget is that you can have a knowledge of the cost that you have to invest on the ERP system annually. Now, you can calculate the cost of ownership, ROI, and other details to have a better picture. Get quotes from different vendors and then compare then to get the right option that is suitable as per the budget that has been decided upon.

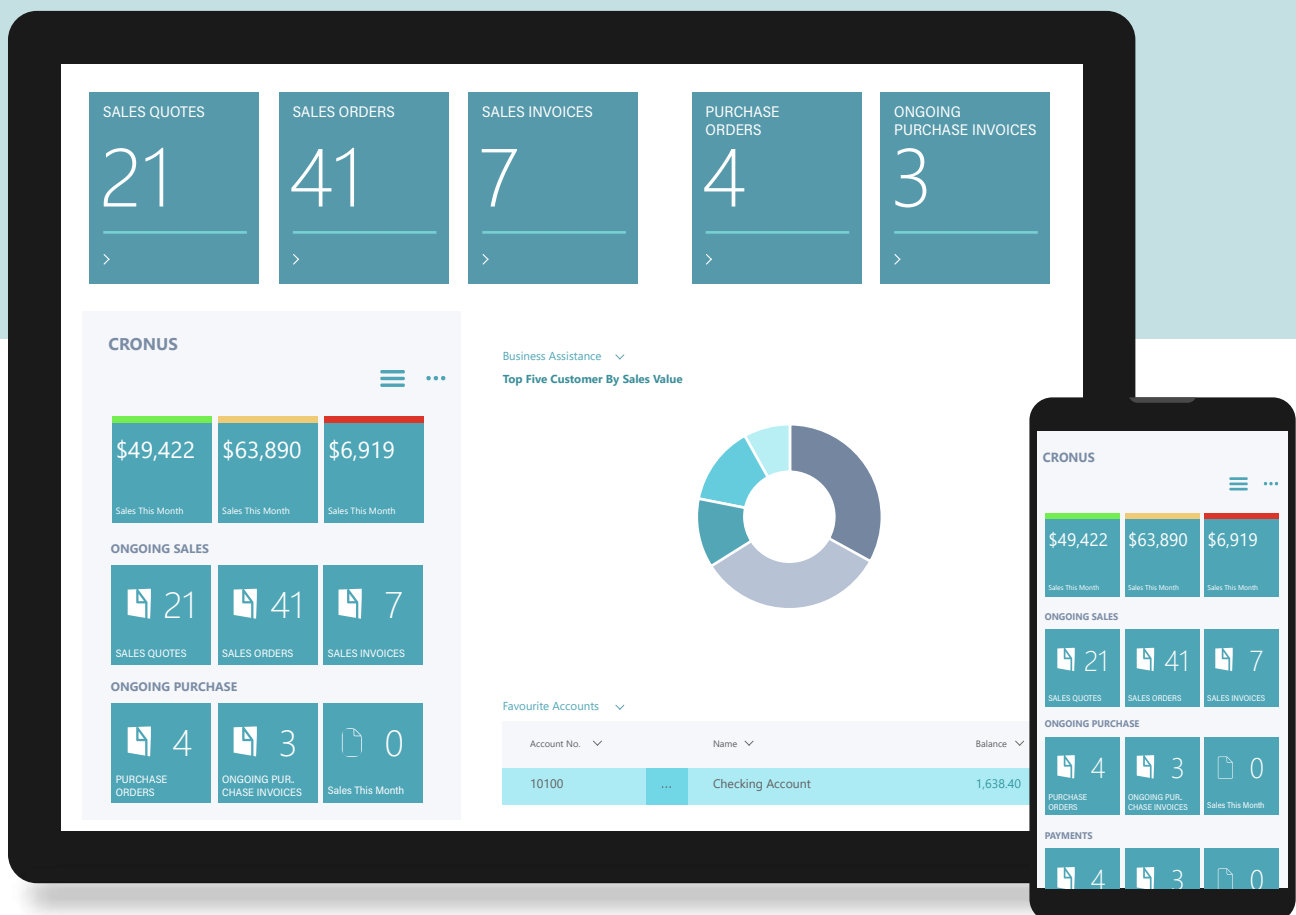


Pick up the Best:

Finally, when you have come up to the final stage, you should pick up an ERP system that suits your organization in the best possible way. The solution should be such that is capable of helping the team in achieving the goal that your company has decided upon. Always check out the demo or the trial version of the system so that you can gain confidence about the system before you have finally invested in it. Also, make sure that you always invest in a system that has got a proper customer support system so that you can get in touch with them whenever there is any kind of trouble with the system.

Choosing the right ERP for your business can be a tedious task. But the whole procedure can become much easier if you are following the right ways of how to implement ERP in your business and how to choose the right system for your business.

You need to think about the requirements of your business house, the goals that you have set for your business, and also the amount that you can invest in getting a new system for your company. A little bit of research and following the principle steps can surely ensure you in making the right decisions about selecting the right **ERP** system for your business.



Your Business. Our Expertise

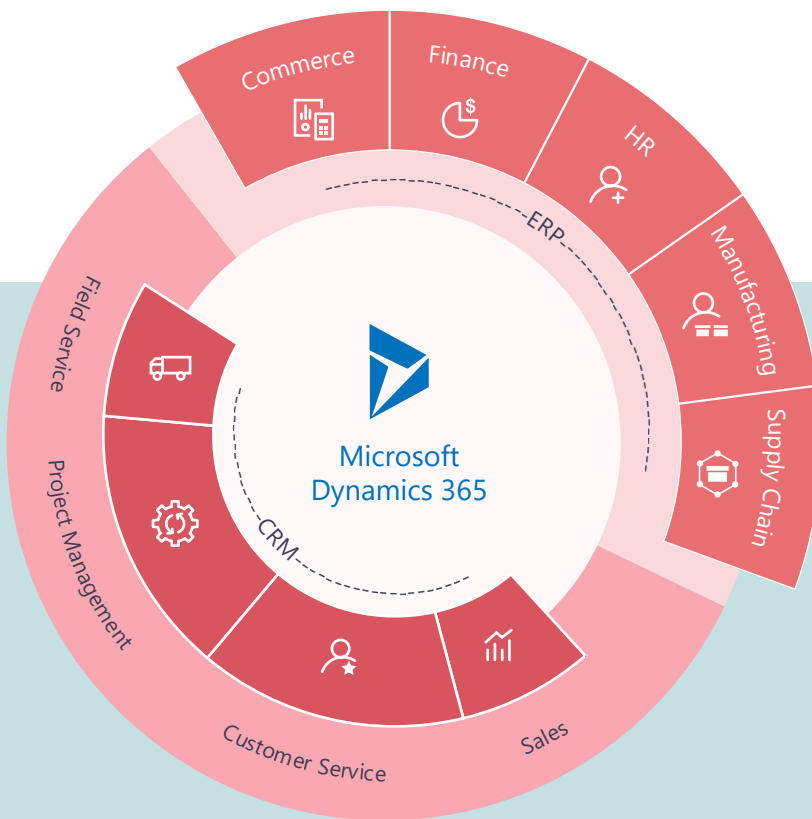
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