



A LOW-CODE EBOOK

# 7 Ways to Identify the Best Low-Code Application Development Solution

Businesses like yours are constantly seeking ways to streamline their operations, drive new revenue streams, and keep up with the latest innovations. Yet, until recently, this required businesses to make a substantial investment in IT development. **Enter low-code application platforms (LCAPs)**, the democratizing force shaping the way businesses quickly create applications and highly customized automation workflows and driving the hyperautomation trend.

In this ebook, we'll explore the **opportunities that low-code application development solutions bring to the enterprise realm** and how to make the most of them.



# Uncover new freedom to innovate

The rise of low-code application development solutions has been nothing short of meteoric, thanks to their ability to empower both non-technical staff and time-crunched development teams, to create applications or integrations through graphical user interfaces, rather than coding.

Choosing the right solution directly impacts the efficiency, adaptability, and scalability of your digital initiatives. But, as more businesses turn to these solutions, they can often find the numerous vendors in the market overwhelming, each offering their unique take on low-code app development.

With the low-code revolution in full swing, it's vital to understand the key considerations to ensure that the solution you deploy is not only up to the job, but can also help your organization easily and quickly navigate future projects.

In this ebook, we take a deep dive into low-code apps to learn how to harness their potential for your business and identify seven components a robust low-code solution should offer, along with strategic tips to navigate the nuances of vendor selection.

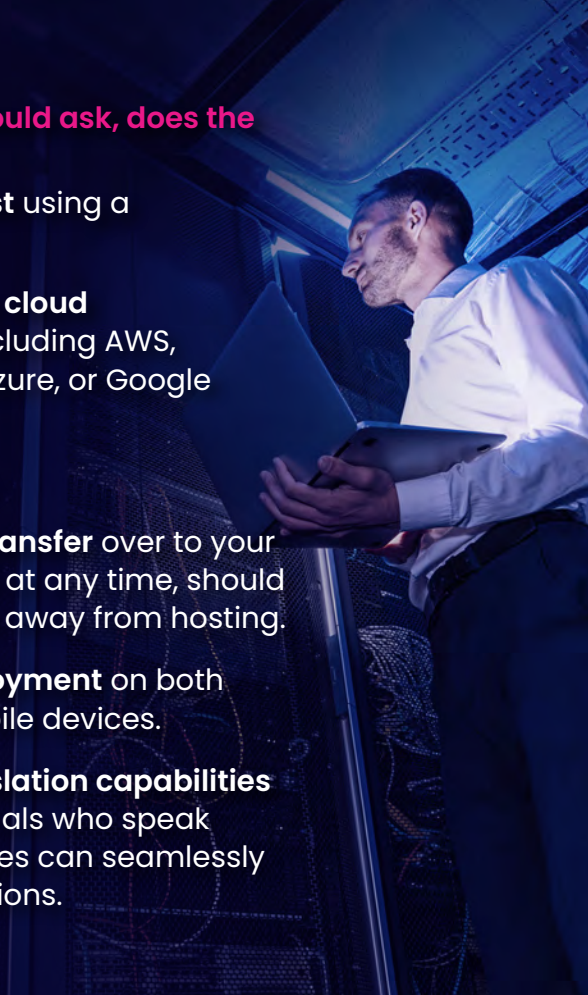
## 1

# Flexible infrastructure

Low-code application development solutions offer distinct advantages when it comes to infrastructure flexibility and scalability. These solutions ensure that the applications you develop are deployable across a variety of cloud-based infrastructure services and on-premise—so you don't get locked into a vendor environment. While the IT industry trend is moving toward an outsourced infrastructure model, you should always have the ability to scale and control where your application lives and how users access it.

Here's what you should ask, does the solution provide:

- › **Ability to self-host** using a private cloud.
- › **Ability to use any cloud infrastructure**, including AWS, AWS GovCloud, Azure, or Google Cloud Platform.
- › **Hosting services.**
- › **Ability to easily transfer** over to your own environment at any time, should you wish to move away from hosting.
- › **Application deployment** on both desktop and mobile devices.
- › **Multilingual translation capabilities** to ensure individuals who speak different languages can seamlessly use your applications.



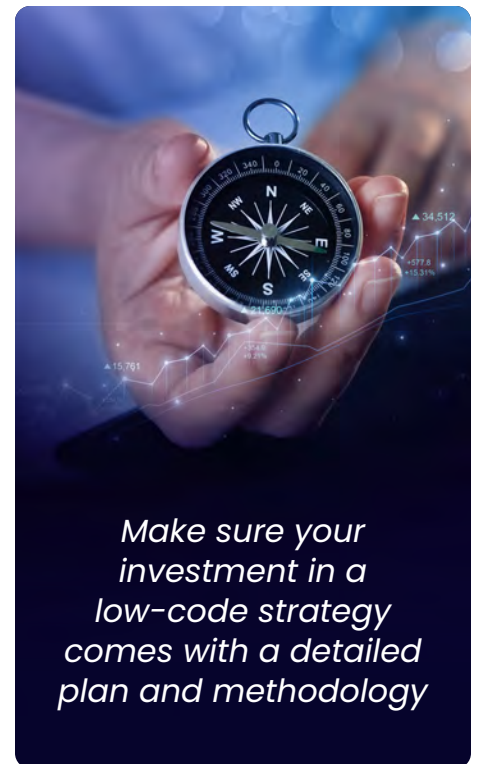
## 2

# Planning and methodology

To gain value from your low-code solution, you'll need an implementation strategy to make your investment pay off. The very best providers will help you forge a detailed plan and methodology.

**The vendor should provide:**

- › **A published methodology and plan** for low-code application development.
- › **Training** for methodology, reporting, workflows, security, integration UI/UX, data modeling, APIs, and business logic.
- › **Support and resources** to become proficient in the solution in under 60 days.
- › **A professional services organization** to accelerate your time to value and mentor your team on best practices.



*Make sure your investment in a low-code strategy comes with a detailed plan and methodology*

## 3

## Real Integration

The web is full of microservices and all types of new data sources. A best-in-class low-code solution will provide the flexibility to connect to hundreds of different systems, through a variety of methods that address an extensive range of integration challenges and use cases. This will allow you to immediately make full use of pre-built connectors to popular applications, databases, and systems, both in the cloud and on-premise, letting you seamlessly and quickly integrate without the need to painstakingly code the connection.

### Best-in-class integration means:

- › **Ability to quickly connect** to hundreds of different systems with pre-existing connectors.
- › Plus, ability to **build custom integrations** to connect to any system or data source.
- › Integration occurs **both in the cloud or on-premise**—your choice.
- › **A user-friendly interface** to design integration processes, data mapping, and transformations without requiring deep coding expertise.
- › **Full cross-platform CRUD** (Create, Read, Update and Delete), along with live data integrations.



## 4

## Access to your data at all times

Data is one of the most vital assets your business owns, and leading vendors know just how important it is for you to be able to access that data on demand. The top vendors will provide full access to your data at all times.

Verify you can access your application's exact table structure via a commonly accepted method, such as a REST API.

### Leading vendors will:

- › Have an **on-premise offering**.
- › Let you manage your data through **commonly accepted methods**, rather than a proprietary user interface.
- › Ensure you maintain ownership of and have access to **all the data**, without additional costs.



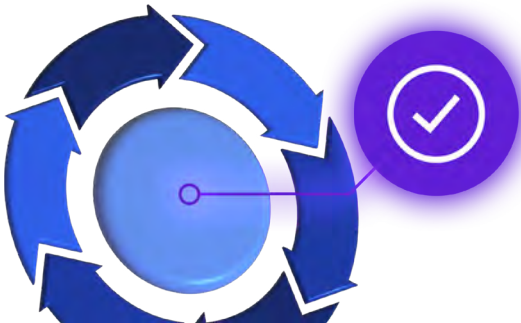
# 5

## True lifecycle management from day one

A robust low-code solution will help ensure a smooth launch with a process for enterprise-grade lifecycle management. This includes having robust environments for development, testing, and production. When the auditors come, you will be up to the task.

### Important capabilities to require:

- › **Having development, QA, and production** environments with seamless transfer is critical to ensuring a smooth launch.
- › **Iteration is the key to value in low-code**, and a leading low-code application development solution will let you easily and constantly improve your apps without risking your production environment. If something does go wrong, you'll be able to roll back with ease.
- › A lifecycle **release management process** that tracks requirements, change management, release notes, and product development status ensures visibility and transparency. Release management and a highly disciplined development process ensures a successful project.
- › **Visibility** into audit logs of releases and code changes.
- › **Access** to advanced logging and user security controls.



# 6

## Think big *and* act big

Low-code solutions can help businesses not just think big, but act big. The very best solutions have revolutionized the way businesses operate, enabling them to compete more effectively in the market and scale their operations without incurring significant overhead costs. To take full advantage of the added power a low-code solution can bring to your organization, it's crucial to ensure your solution of choice lets you build any app, not just one or two types.

### Tips for identifying the right solution:

- › The vendor should demo deep capabilities across many industries with **at least 10 different types of apps** and use cases, especially showcasing apps that can meet your current requirements.
- › A low-code solution should **empower anyone in your organization to build secure, compliant applications** for rapid scalability.



## 7

## Transparent, predictable pricing model

The pricing model of any low-code solution should be predictable, transparent, and support the growth of your digital transformation efforts. Leading vendors will incentivize you to expand your use of the solution in line with your digital transformation strategy.

**When assessing pricing models, leading low-code application development solutions give you a clear understanding of:**

- › What components pricing is based on and **what exactly are you paying for**.
- › Whether they charge by **simultaneous or concurrent users**.
- › **Your price**—even if you're unsure of user numbers.
- › **Additional charges**, if any, for additional applications.
- › Will your **pricing change** every six months? Every year?
- › As certain apps become popular, you may have unexpected hits to your budget. How will you **drive adoption** when the budget is not available for more users?

# Next steps to get started

Now that you are armed and ready to supercharge your low-code app development, meet Vinyl: our award-winning enterprise low-code application development solution that makes it easy to build scalable, end-to-end apps that are easily integrated with new and existing systems.

Vinyl empowers anyone to create fully integrated, bi-directional applications in weeks. Powerful enough for full stack developers, yet intuitive enough for citizen developers or business technologists, Vinyl empowers anyone to create secure apps that run on any device, automate any business process, and integrate any data source without coding.

It's time to transform the way you think about technology and data. Automate your business processes with modernized solutions today, using Vinyl, a best-in-class low-code application solution designed for companies to solve complex business problems at scale.

Learn more about Jitterbit's low-code application development offering, Vinyl.

[jitterbit.com/product/vinyl](https://jitterbit.com/product/vinyl)

## About Jitterbit

Jitterbit empowers business transformation with low-code enterprise solutions for integration and application development. Jitterbit combines and simplifies the power of iPaaS, APIM, EDI, and LCAP to amplify the value of on-premise, cloud-based, and SaaS systems and accelerate the digital journey. Organizations around the globe rely on Jitterbit's experience and expertise to help them automate critical business processes and build applications to futureproof their business.

Learn more at [jitterbit.com](https://jitterbit.com) or follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

