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Top Choices for IT Project Management Software

By Ryan Goodrich

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Communicating with a team of any size can be something of a challenge, especially if many members of your team are remote. Sharing the wrong file can result in hours of lost time. Forgetting to include members on a mailing list can result in miscommunication and degrade the quality of work your team creates. The rise in remote teams and necessity for communication makes project management [software](#) especially important. Here is a list of the top choices for the [best project management tools](#) to help keep you on top of objectives, milestones and tasks.

Active Collab

Easy-to-use features are the main appeal of using ActiveCollab. Project leaders can utilize this software to set milestones for the team, add team members, assign tasks and receive email updates on project accomplishments. Team members can provide real-time updates to the team, as well as to any contractors or clients, through the system, much like Facebook status updates.

Assembla

Assembla is best described as a ticketing system in which teams are assigned tasks via tickets. It has something of a learning curve at the start due to its unique workflow, but with time users become raving fans. Communication happens through the use of functions similar to online forums, except with the project manager in control of how it is used.

Basecamp

The developing studio behind Basecamp has the firm belief that less is more, a mantra which they fulfill exceptionally. Rather than having to manage mailing lists, Basecamp enables you to simply post to the project. Any posts made are then emailed to all team members. Team members can post directly to Basecamp and create an engaged discussion, thus eliminating the need for email tracking. The software also offers [extensive file sharing](#) to ensure everyone is up to date on the latest project documentation.

Central Desktop

Central [Desktop](#) allows team members to work anywhere an internet connection can be found. This [cloud-based](#) online project management software effectively eliminates the usual clutter found on computers and helps your team remain organized and engaged in a project. The software offers a time tracker, real-time web conferencing, a built-in instant messenger and instant document editing, among other features.

Confluence

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If your project requires the use of wikis, then Confluence will be your best friend. While it isn't designed as a Wikipedia style of software, online project management reviews give this application good marks for many of the features common to ensuring effective project management. This includes content creation for all users, intelligent searches and discussion. Confluence is quite unlike any other project management software due to its focus on documentation and information sharing. For big projects, this software makes an ideal solution for keeping documentation organized.

Producteev

This application acts essentially as a to-do list. It alerts users about updates via email, IM or smartphone. Team leaders can create virtual workspaces and include collaborators to create tasks and assignments, establish deadlines and generate productivity reports. The solution offered here is quite unique and simply helps project managers keep track of task assignments and progress being made on them.

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