CT Studios

FREE GUIDE

A software project in six steps

What happens at each step of building a website, shop or app, what you should see, and what to ask.

Use it: When you're planning a project, comparing quotes, or already in one and unsure where it stands.

Most projects follow the same six steps, whoever builds them. Knowing them helps you ask the right question at the right time, and notice early when a step has been skipped.

The six steps

1 Ideation

Your goals become a concept and a realistic first milestone.

- What problem are we solving first, and for whom?
- What is in the first release, and what waits?

> **GOOD LOOKS LIKE**
> A short written scope and a first milestone you could explain to someone else.

> **WHAT WE DO**
> We turn your goals into a concept and a realistic first milestone.

2 Design

You see and click through the screens before anything is built. Changing a design is quick; changing built software is slow.

- Can I click through it on my phone?
- How many rounds of changes are included?

> **GOOD LOOKS LIKE**
> A clickable prototype you have tried and approved.

> **WHAT WE DO**
> Your interface is designed in Figma and tested as a clickable prototype before any code.

3 Implementation

The product is built, piece by piece.

- When will I see the first working part?
- Where can I try the latest version?

> **GOOD LOOKS LIKE**
> Working previews you can open as it grows, not one big reveal at the end.

> **WHAT WE DO**
> We build it and publish working previews to your client portal as it grows.

4 Testing

Mistakes found here cost minutes. Found by your customers, they cost trust.

- Who tests it, and how?
- How do I report a problem, and how fast is it fixed?

> **GOOD LOOKS LIKE**
> Someone other than the person who built a change checks it before you do.

> **WHAT WE DO**
> Every change is tested against what you agreed, before it reaches you.

5 Deployment

The software goes live for real users, and updates keep reaching them safely.

- How are updates released, and can a bad one be undone?
- Whose name are the domain and hosting in?

> **GOOD LOOKS LIKE**
> A repeatable way to release updates, and the domain and accounts in your name.

> **WHAT WE DO**
> An automated pipeline keeps your application up to date.

6 Support

Real users find things nobody planned for. New ideas follow.

- What's covered after launch, and for how long?
- How do I ask for a new feature, and how is it priced?

GOOD LOOKS LIKE

A written support period, and a simple way to request and price new work.

WHAT WE DO

Maintenance, and a fast route to new features. Steps one to five are the stages each request moves through in your portal.

Use these questions with any developer. If you'd like to talk your project through, step by step, we're happy to.

www.ctstudios.co.ke/book

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