WORKSHEET

Preparing for Your Code Audit

Code audits come in all shapes and sizes. Depending on your team's needs, there's a specific level of detail and formality. An extremely thorough report with granular insights may help a development team, but it will be useless for a non-technical board of directors.

Think about your application, your code base, and your team. Answering these questions will help you discover what kind of code audit you need and how to prepare with your team to get the most useful results.

1. Identify Your Goals

Do you have a clear idea of the goal for your audit? Great! Write it down. If not, think about what motivated you to want an audit in the first place...

> **Example:** We are about to scale up our engineering team and customer base. We need to assess our codebase ahead of adding new architecture.

Your turn:

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2. Assess Your Audiences

Who is the target audience of the deliverable? Are they all technically-savvy?

Example: The entire C-suite who have no programming knowledge will read this, but it'll also be passed to the existing dev team, who hope to use it as an improvement checklist.

Your turn:

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3. Decide What Details Will Be Useful

How will you be using the implementation instructions? What format will be the most helpful?

> **Example:** My programmers will be responsible for resolving each issue before we scale up, so walk us through every problem you see with as much context as possible.

Your turn:

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4. Choose a Helpful Level of Thoroughness

How in-depth do you need or want your code audit to be? What level of thoroughness will best meet your goals?

Example: We need to understand the overall health of the codebase so we can decide our next steps.

Example: We want a detailed checklist of next steps for our lead programmers to use for planning our next six months of work.

Your turn:

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5. Opt for Special Considerations

Are there any particular aspects of your code or application you have questions about or you want special attention paid to?

Example: The authorization system's code is really hard to work with already. Plus, the dashboard on our existing application runs slowly.

Your turn:

A customized code audit is designed to meet your team's specific needs. There is no use getting an extremely detailed report if no one has time to review it. These answers should help you understand your needs, and articulate them to the agency conducting your code audit.

Get in touch with your code audit questions.