

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article: What kinds of tools should your practice consider?

Thinking about investing in some tools for your practice? Good for you! You're already off to a great start.

And, because every business is different—with different needs, employees, and goals—it's important that you take the time to think both thoughtfully and critically about where your practice's hard-earned money is best spent. To help you do this, we've rounded up a list of questions to ask yourself before making those purchasing decisions.

- 1. In what areas do we currently need help?
- 2. In what areas do our employees seem to have to waste a lot of precious time and manpower?
- 3. What areas can we see needing support in the near future?
- 4. Are we using software that is out of date?
- 5. Are we optimizing all of the functions of the tools and programs we already use?
- 6. Have we spoken with all staff members to get their take on our effectiveness and areas of improvement?
- 7. What can we realistically budget for new resources?
- 8. Have we prioritized our list of needs, understanding that we can't solve everything at once?
- 9. Starting with the highest priority, have we done thorough market research to understand the products/services available and gathered a general cost associated with each?
- 10. Have we decided which tool is the best fit for our most prioritized need?
- 11. Have we netted out how much time and money we could save by enlisting the solution and compared that against its cost?
- 12. Have we brought our proposed solution to our staff's attention, asking for their valuable insights?



- 13. Do we deem that our desired solution will be somewhat easy to integrate into our office procedures?
- 14. Will we be able to offer proper training or consultation to our employees around the new tool?
- 15. Do we feel like investing in this resource will have a positive impact on the morale, efficiency, and bottom line of the practice?

If you've been able to properly answer all of the questions above, then you are more than ready to invest in that new tool—so go for it!