TRADIE WEB GUYS

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where successful tradies grow

Tools to Help Your Business Work Remotely

The outbreak of the Coronavirus has forced individuals to limit social interaction and reduce exposure with other people.

As business owners, this means we may have to take into consideration measures such as enabling our team to work remotely, making our client meetings remote and even carrying out projects without usual supervision.

Thankfully, we live in a world where technology can provide us with a lot of flexibility and opportunity in this space.

I have been running a remote business for 8 years. My team is located all over the world as are our clients and our audience at The Site Shed.

In this document, I'm going to share with you some tools that you can implement to help your team operate efficiently and effectively, from remote locations.

It's worth noting that implementing these tools can potentially save you a lot of time and money in the long-run with things like office expenses, staffing costs and rental spaces.

I'm predicting that once this pandemic passes, many organisations will be operating a more remote team, with lower costs, resulting in a higher profit margin.

Of course, for this to happen, processes are required and management is essential.

P.S I've noted my most recommended choices for each.

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Tradiematepro Digital Marketing Expert

Team Chat

Whilst we're all used to phone calls and text messages, neither of them offers the ability to collaborate with multiple team members efficiently. There are however tools that do facilitate such collaboration. Here are some.

Apple Chat
Free

All parties need to have Apple devices.

Facebook Messenger
Free

Need a Facebook account.

Google Hangouts
Free

Need a Google account (either Gmail, or G Suite).

WhatsApp
Free

Group chat and calls.

Slack
Paid Per User

Excellent integrations and blends project management and communications.

RECOMMENDED

Remote Meetings

There are some great products that enable us to hold remote meetings with both our team and our clients.

Google Hangouts
Free

Need a Google account (either Gmail, or G Suite)

Apple Facetime
Free

All parties need to have Apple devices

Skype
Free and Paid

Zoom Meetings
Free and Paid

RECOMMENDED
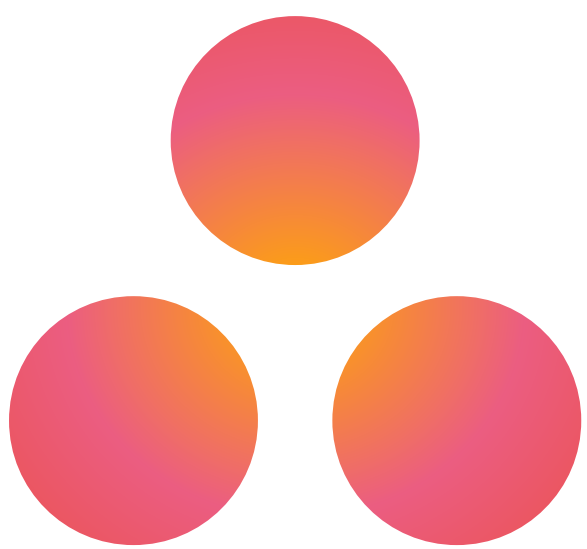
GoToMeeting
Paid

Project & Task Management

In order for your team to be made accountable to their responsibilities, you'll need to have their tasks documented in a project management system. There are literally dozens of these tools, however here are a few of my favourites.
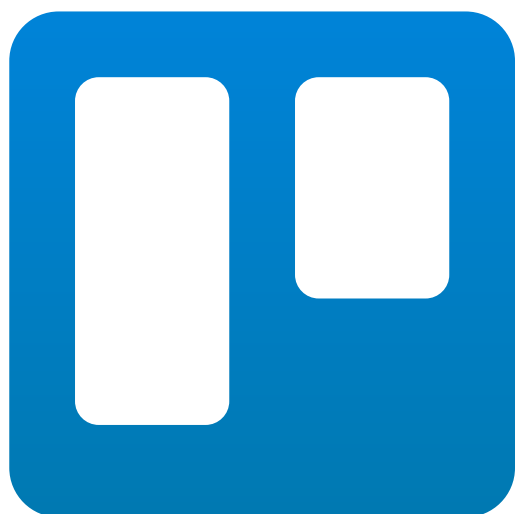
ClickUp
Free and Paid

By far my favourite PM software

RECOMMENDED

Asana
Free and Paid

Excellent integrations. Been around a long time

Trello
Free and Paid

Kanban style (board) PM

Proposal and Contracts Acceptance Software

With clients all over the world, it's impossible to meet with them face-to-face to get a signature. You can navigate this issue with software that enables you to send out contracts and proposals remotely and have them approved without going anywhere.

DocuSign
Free and Paid

DocHub
Free and Paid

RECOMMENDED

HelloSign
Free and Paid

Document Management

Accessing documents that are located on any one specific device is a disaster waiting to happen. Cloud storage is a fantastic way to mitigate this situation, putting all of your document at your fingertips via any device (phones, tablets, computers, etc)

Google Drive
Free and Paid

Available with a Google Account (Gmail, or G Suite)

RECOMMENDED

Dropbox
Free and Paid

Microsoft OneDrive
Free and Paid

Requires a Microsoft License

Closing Statement

I certainly don't want to down play the current situation, however, I can guarantee you one thing.

"Companies and individuals that take this crisis as an opportunity to implement processes and make positive changes will not only endure the situation, they'll emerge from it in leaps and bounds, leaving their competition in their wake".

Forced downtime creates an incredible opportunity for business owners to capitalise on things they've been struggling to find time to do until now.

You can either watch Netflix or get things done. 90% of people will watch Netflix but if you're reading this, you're likely a '10 percenter'.

We'll see, I guess.

Resources

Tradie Web Guys

Websites and marketing for trade based businesses

The Site Shed Podcast

Industry-leading business podcast for tradies and contractors

The Site Shed Facebook Group

Private Facebook community with almost 6,000 global members

Tradiematepro Coaching Program

One-on-One Personalised Remote Coaching for Tradies