

[Subscribe](#)

[Advertiser Disclosure](#)

We independently select all products and services. If you click through links we provide, we may earn a commission. [Learn More.](#)

ADVISOR BUSINESS

Buildertrend Review 2025: Features, Pros & Cons

Updated: Mar 8, 2024, 6:52am



Written By Amy Nichol Smith
Former Product Review Editor

& 1 other 

Have a question we may not have answered?

 [Ask our editors here](#)

Editorial Note: We earn a commission from partner links on Forbes Advisor. Commissions do not affect our editors' opinions or evaluations.



4.6 Forbes ADVISOR

Starting Price \$449 per month (billed annually)	Client Portal Yes
Integrations QuickBooks, Xero, Gusto, The Home Depot Pro Xtra	

Our Verdict

Buildertrend is a comprehensive construction project management software that helps streamline all aspects of a construction job. It lends itself well to residential construction companies that need software to organize data, contacts and projects. Buildertrend also makes it much easier to facilitate communication between a general contractor, trade partners, vendors, architects, engineers and clients.

In this Buildertrend review, we look at the various features, cost and value for small business owners. We also compare Buildertrend to popular competitors, so you can make an informed decision for your construction company.

Pros

- Built specifically for construction companies
- Easy-to-use scheduling feature
- Client portal available on plans
- Built-in payment processing
- Budget tool on high-tier plans

Cons

- Lengthy setup
- Expensive
- May be difficult to learn
- No free trial

Table of Contents



What Is Buildertrend?

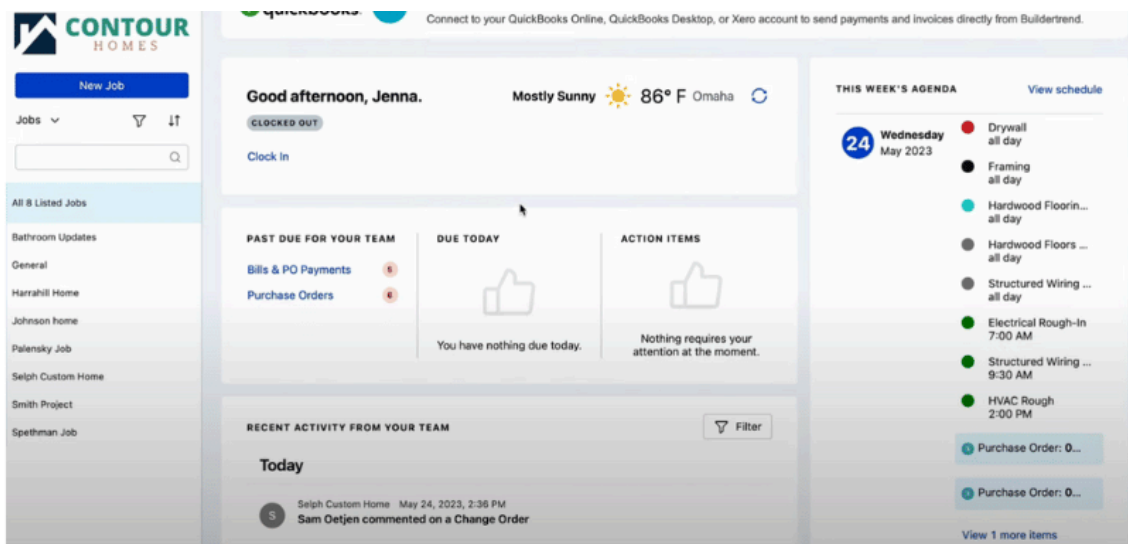
In 2006, three partners joined forces to create Buildertrend, software meant for home builders and remodelers. Over the years, the business has grown from a project management platform to an all-in-one solution for small to medium-sized construction companies.

The platform includes features such as:

- Scheduling tool with multiple views
- Client portal for customers to see works-in-progress, send messages to contractors and pay construction bills
- Feed for daily logs
- Lead management
- Proposal section with templates
- Receipt capture on mobile and browser platforms
- Budgeting feature
- Advanced reporting
- Change orders, purchase orders and requests for information (RFIs) features

At Forbes Advisor, we do our best to test software ourselves with free trials, free plans or signing up for a service for a month or so. Our goal is to get the same experience as a user who wants to test a product or service, so sometimes we choose to only test-drive services via demos.

In the case of Buildertrend, we were able to find clips of help videos and partial demos, and we got a brief demo with a salesperson. However, the salesperson we worked with cut the demo short and moved on to another prospect when we said we weren't interested in signing up for a year to test the service.

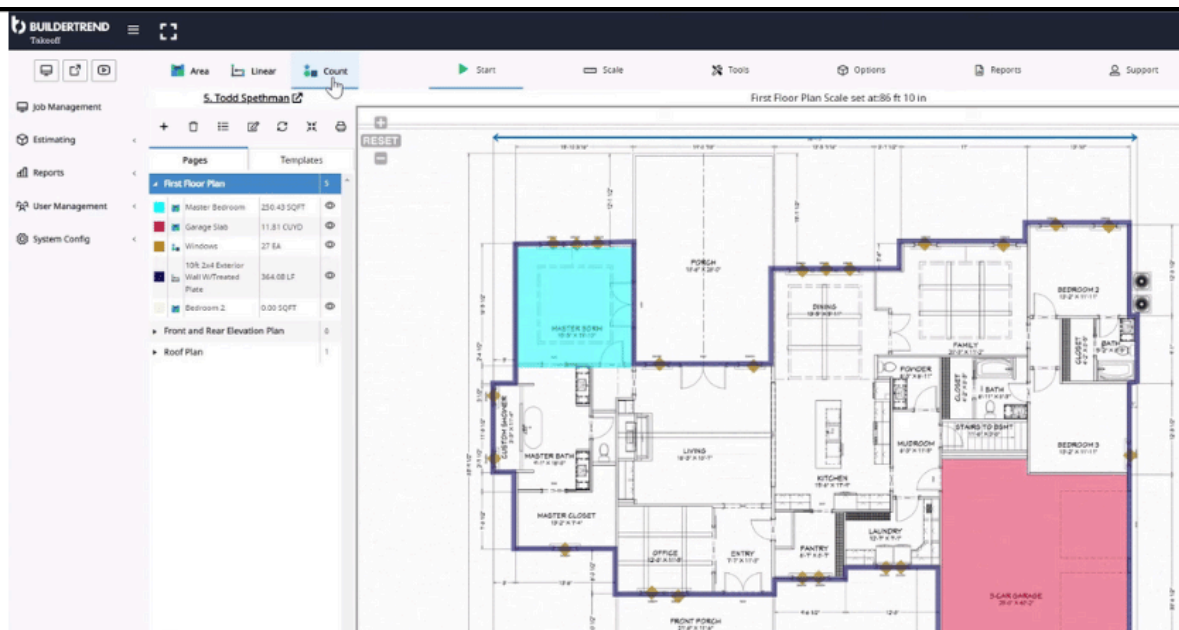
[Subscribe](#)

Forbes ADVISOR

What Sets Buildertrend Apart

If you ask a Buildertrend salesperson what the software's top perks are, you're likely to hear these four things: customer support, training, ease of use and mobile app. We're inclined to agree with most of those. The mobile app is fairly complete; almost anything you can do on the browser-based platform you can now do on the app. It's also fairly intuitive after you get data into Buildertrend.

Most project management software offer a mobile app but not all of them match feature for feature in the app to what's available on the desktop or browser version. This is where Buildertrend shines. Its dev team worked hard to get key features into the app that those in the field would need. So, you can set up a checklist with a photo of what you need for the build site and then annotate the photo all from your phone, for example. There are also selections for clients, proposals and takeoff features.



Forbes ADVISOR

Pros

tag people with the task to complete. The client portal makes it easy for homeowners to see progress photos and communicate with contractors, and they can make payments from the app.

Cons

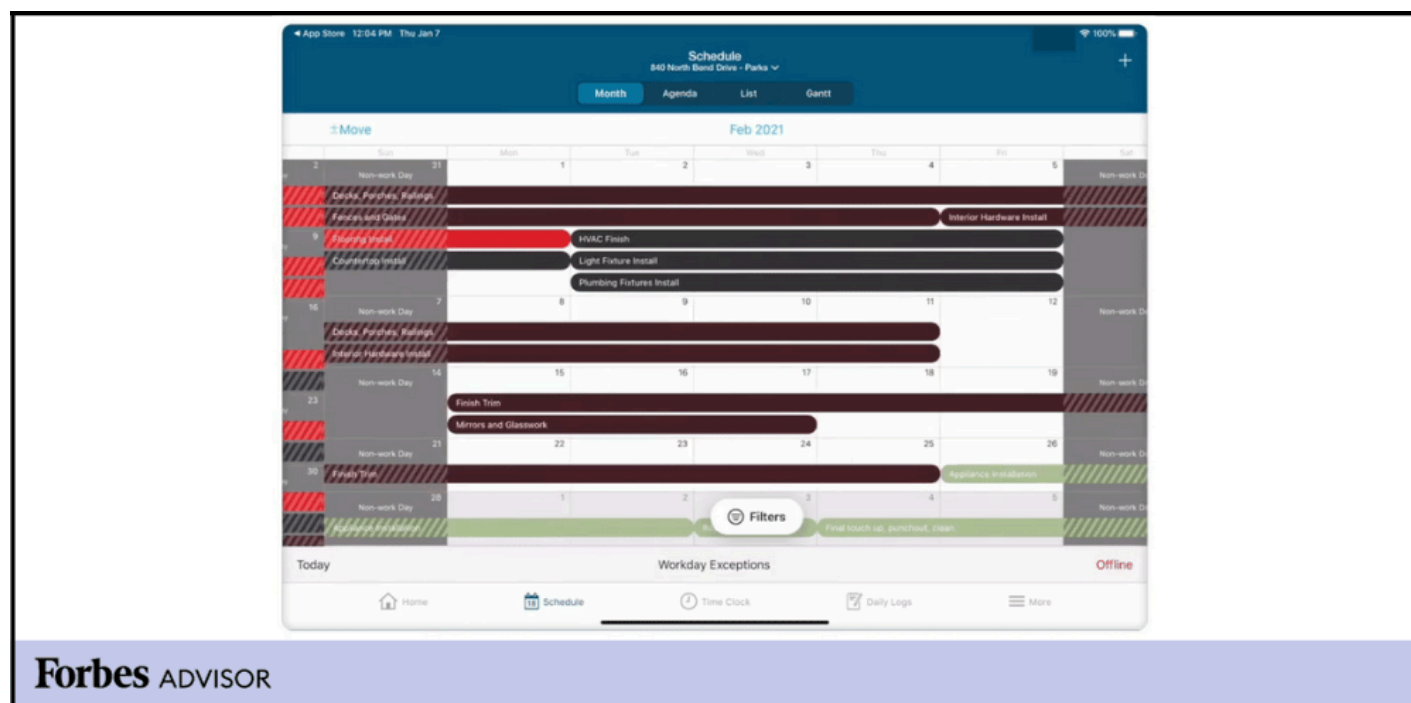
Buildertrend doesn't have the most intuitive interface and it can be difficult to learn at first. This may make it hard to get buy-in from workers and trade partners. There are complaints about needlessly complicated features (such as with the time clock on the iPhone app) and windows that won't resize and no auto-save feature. Perhaps the most difficult part of Buildertrend is getting trade partners and vendors to adopt the app to work with GCs.

Buildertrend Core Features

Buildertrend is ambitious in the core features it offers. The goal of the [best construction project management software](#) is to provide a single platform for general contractors, trade partners, vendors and clients or owners, so having features for scheduling and budgeting helps make that possible. A client portal, integrations with accounting software and a solid mobile app also make it easier to keep construction projects moving.

Scheduling

Similar to most project management apps, Buildertrend lets you create a project schedule with a Gantt-like chart as an overlay on a calendar. You can easily see tasks and how the project progresses from deadline to completion. Add to-dos to schedule the work for trade partners or team members and see when each to-do should finish based on the project schedule.



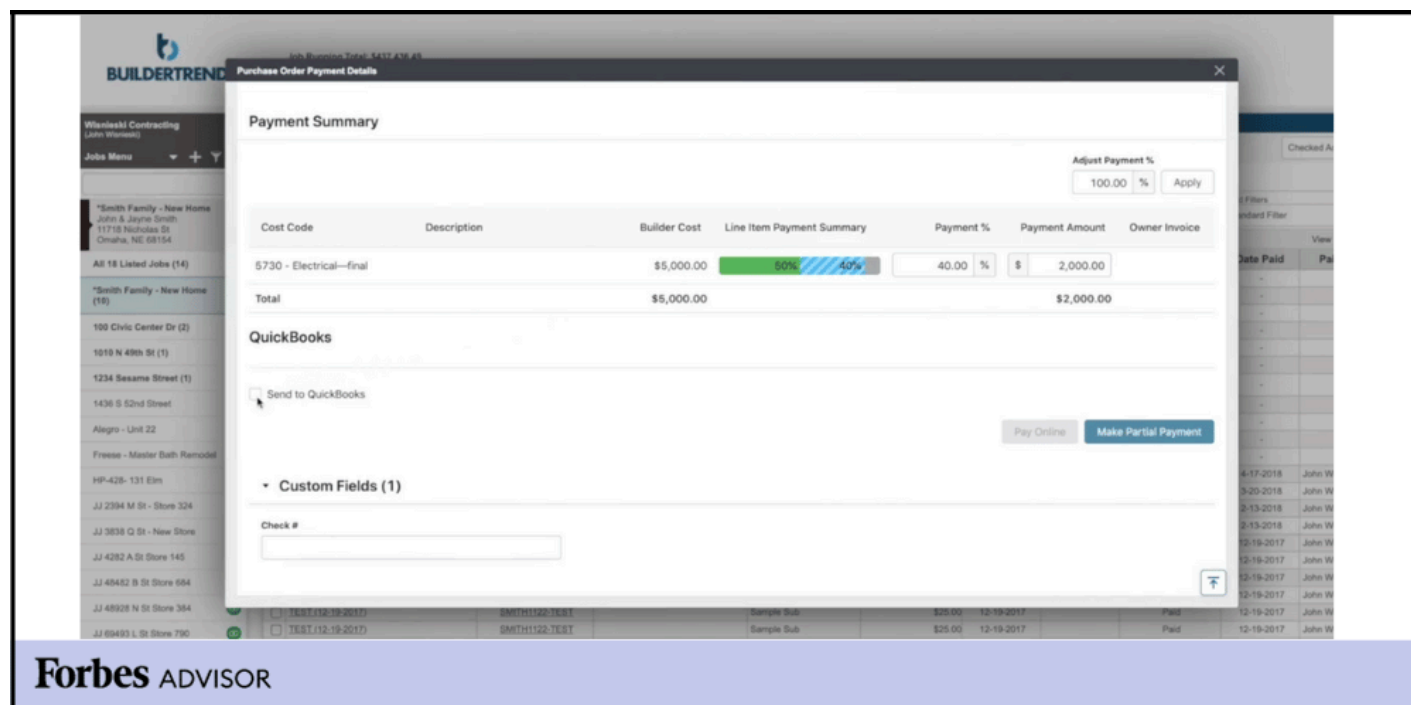
Client Portal

One of the most popular features of Buildertrend is the client portal. We're big fans of how much you can share back and forth between customers or owners and contractors. Communicate through the portal in the app, share progress photos and even take payment via the app. This feature helps eliminate phone calls, emails and meetings because there's a constant flow of communication.

Integrations

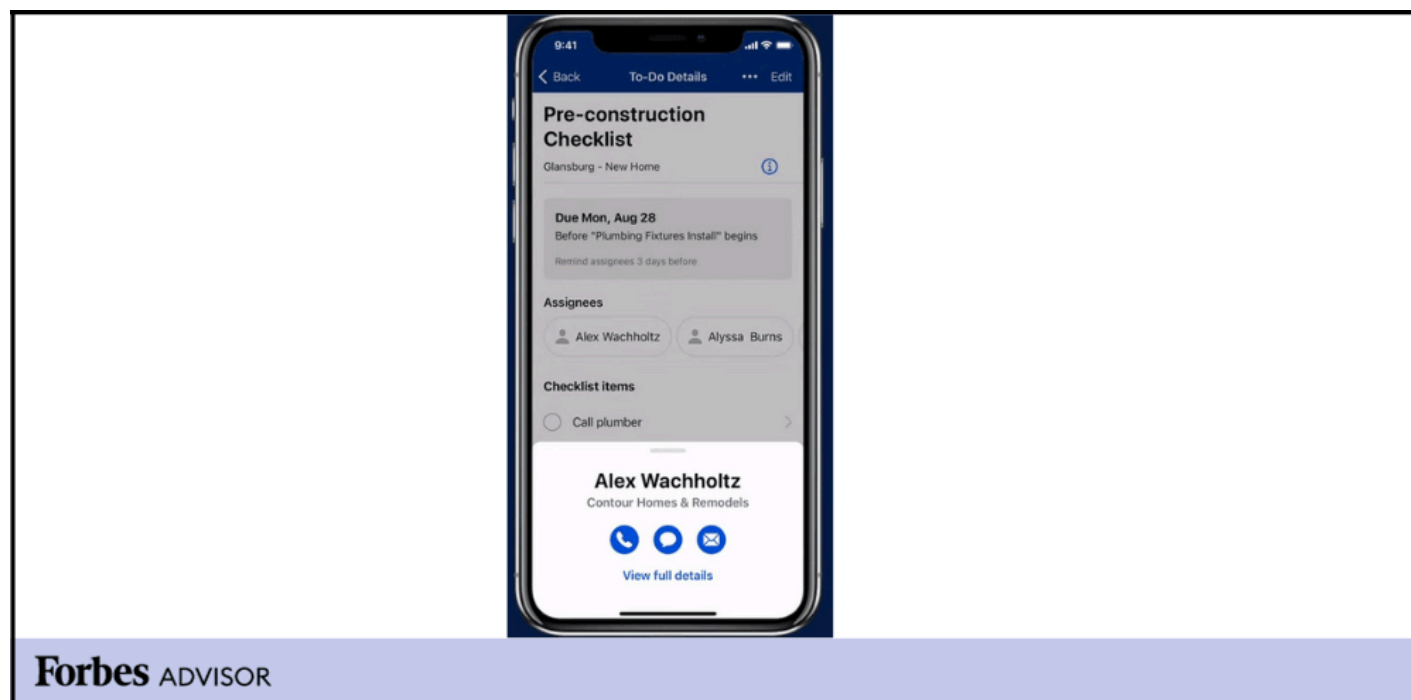
software, so we were happy to see QuickBooks and Xero integrations.

There are also email integrations with Google and Microsoft Outlook and Gusto for payroll and human resources support. Plus a couple of other integrations specifically for construction companies such as estimating software, HubSpot for content management and Salesforce for customer relationship management.



Mobile App

Every project management system worth its salt offers a mobile app, but it's important that the mobile app mirrors the browser-based platform as much as possible. Buildertrend offers both an iOS and Android app that works on a variety of mobile devices. This makes it much easier for workers in the field to communicate on to-dos and via messages to those working in the office. You can do receipt capture, add annotations to photos you take in the app and make checklists easily.



[Subscribe](#)

don't have to use multiple third-party solutions. You can make and accept payments, set up insurance services, create bids and handle purchase orders from Buildertrend's platform.

When you combine Buildertrend's financial tools such as costs, cost estimation, actual vs. budget report and an accounting integration, you have a comprehensive look at each project's budget. In addition to this, you get tools and templates to help with bids and purchase orders.

Buildertrend Pricing and Plans

	Essential	Advanced	Complete
Starting Price (Billed Annually)	\$449 per month	\$719 per month	\$989 per month
Scheduling	✓	✓	✓
Client Portal	✓	✓	✓
Homeowner Payments	✓	✓	✓
Subcontractor Payments	X	✓	✓
Change Orders	X	✓	✓
Budget	X	✓	✓
Purchase Orders	X	✓	✓
RFIs	X	X	✓
Warranties	X	X	✓

[See More](#)

Essential

The most affordable plan from Buildertrend starts at \$449 per month (billed annually). The most important features you gain access to are scheduling and a client portal. You can also set up payment processing to receive payments from homeowners. This plan is most suitable for the smallest business that may be doing a small remodel or an interior design project.

Advanced

The Advanced plan for Buildertrend may be the most popular option for small construction companies because it offers many more features the Essential plan does not. For \$719 per month (billed annually), you can set up payments for trade partners, a feature for sending and managing change orders, access to budgeting tools and you can send in purchase orders with vendors.

Complete

this plan that you can connect Gusto for payroll, which is likely more important for larger GCs.

Buildertrend Setup and Customization

Setting up Buildertrend is similar to most software in that you're going to need to set aside a lot of time to add data. If you have job information, contact information and other data in Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, you can easily import that data in one fell swoop. After creating a job and adding contacts (team members and clients), you can customize roles. You're able to turn on or off a variety of notifications for yourself and other users.

Buildertrend also allows you to brand the platform so it looks like the platform is yours, not Buildertrend's. Simply upload your logo and it's essentially a white-label platform so clients see your branding. Additionally, you have the option to add a login screen to your website to make it easy for clients, vendors and trade partners to log in to their accounts in your Buildertrend platform.

Sub/Vendor

State Zip Code Email * stibbsbuildertrend@gmail.com

Manage Email

Additional Information Notifications Job Access Accounting Trade Agreement

Preferences

- ☒ View owner information
- ☒ Automatically permit access to new jobs
- ☐ Share comments and documents with owner
- ☐ Assign RFIs to other subs/vendors
- ☒ Notify me when 2 or more schedule items conflict (minimum 2).
- ☐ Hold payments to the sub/vendor

Hold Payments Notes

Default payment email address

Certificates

View Assigned Schedule Items Delete Save & New Save

Forbes ADVISOR

Buildertrend Ease of Use

Buildertrend is easy to use once you get to know it. Setup is the most laborious part of using the platform. The notifications in the mobile app and the layout of the dashboard are fairly intuitive. We found that while Buildertrend offers a simple platform, it can be tedious to use sometimes with numerous clicks and screens to perform a task. Additionally, some features are lacking quality-of-life enhancements such as quick refreshes on screen and the auto-save functionality is buggy (often not working at all).

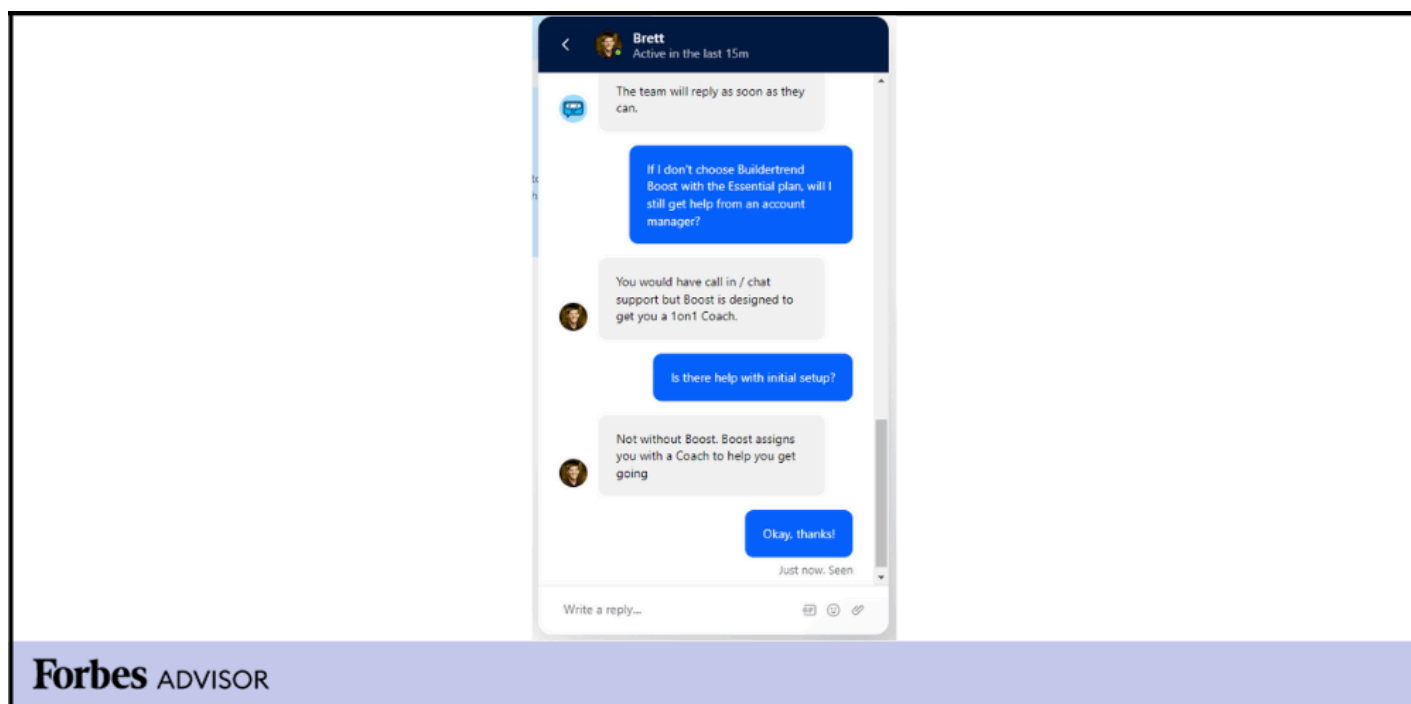
Buildertrend Security

Along with all cloud-based software-as-a-service products, Buildertrend could be vulnerable to outsiders in a couple of ways. Buildertrend does not automatically log out users after idling, so someone visiting a job site or the office could easily access the platform from a device left unlocked. However, Buildertrend does use standard security measures to keep your data safe

Buildertrend Customer Service and Support

Contacting customer support is easy enough but we had a short wait when we tried live chat. Our representative didn't get back to us at all the first time we reached out. The second time it was about a 10-minute wait. The answer to our question was succinct but quickly turned into an opportunity to sell to us.

Support is available by phone, email and live chat, but hours are only 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday. It's worth noting that you won't get bespoke support unless you pay \$100 more per month for it or choose the mid- or high-tier plan for Buildertrend Boost, which gives you a dedicated support agent. In fact, you won't get help with setup beyond support calls, live chat and tutorials.



Additional Features

All the core features of Buildertrend are typically available in any type of project management software. The bulk of the value of Buildertrend is in its additional features that are made for small GCs, specifically for home builders. These features include built-in payment processing, RFI and change order creation and management and selections.

Storage

File storage isn't often considered when choosing a construction project management app but it's important to factor into your decision. Buildertrend doesn't limit your storage overall, so you can upload as many documents, photos and videos as you need. However, you are limited to 50GB per file. This shouldn't present an issue for most small GCs.

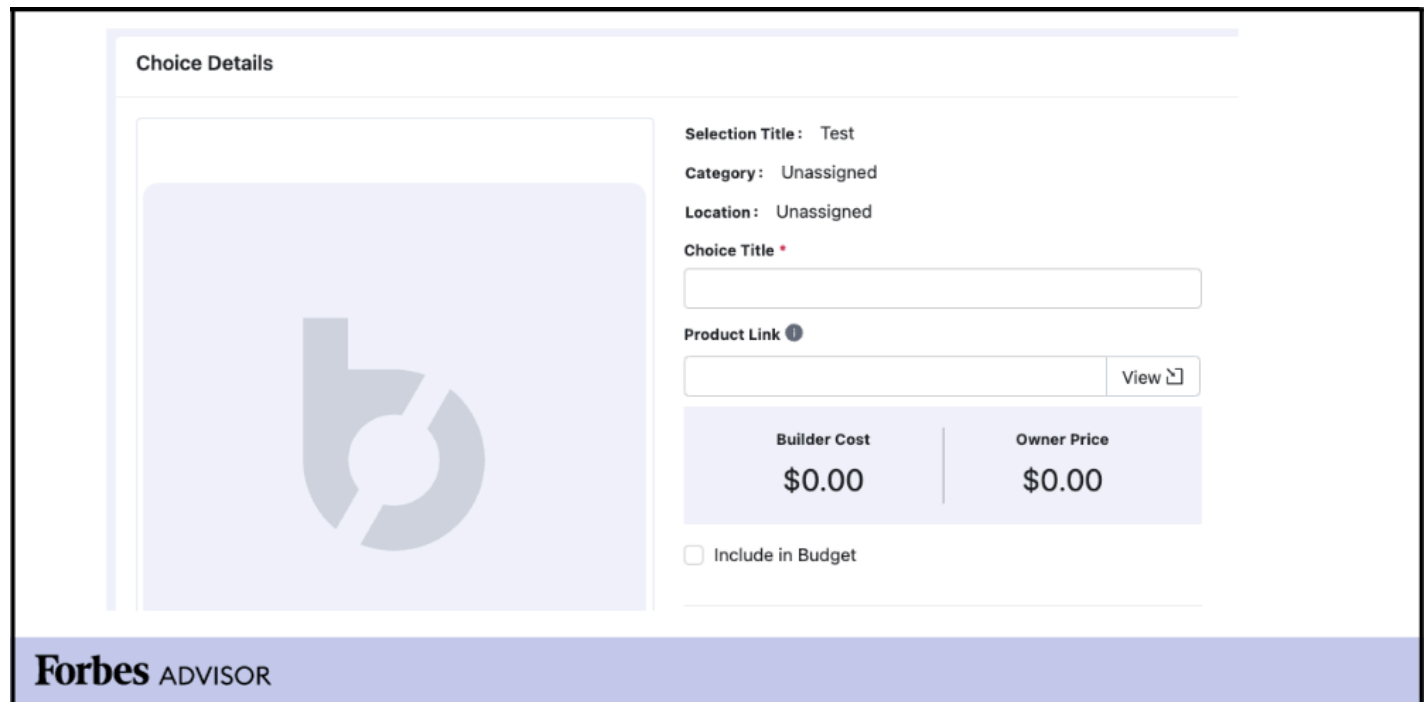
Payments

An uncommon feature of Buildertrend is built-in payment processing. You can take payments from clients through the app, which means you won't have to find a third-party payment processor. According to Buildertrend representatives, the cost of processing is usually 2.95% per transaction for credit and debit cards, a \$15 flat fee for ACH transactions and 3.95% for American Express payments. The payment threshold is \$120,000 daily. While this counts as a pro for most small businesses, the flip side is that you can't stick with your current payment processor.

phone calls, emails and last-minute mentions in meetings, you can manage RFIs in the Buildertrend app. It's a well-organized section that's separate for each job you're running. So, you can easily get clarification from architects, engineers and owners if they're also in the app.

Selections

A big part of any residential construction business's job is working with clients to ensure they've made the right final selections. Buildertrend includes a feature that lets you create options for your customers, so they can choose paint color, wood preference and more, all with the cost differences and images of the products.



Choice Details

Selection Title: Test

Category: Unassigned

Location: Unassigned

Choice Title *

Product Link ⓘ

Builder Cost

\$0.00

Owner Price

\$0.00

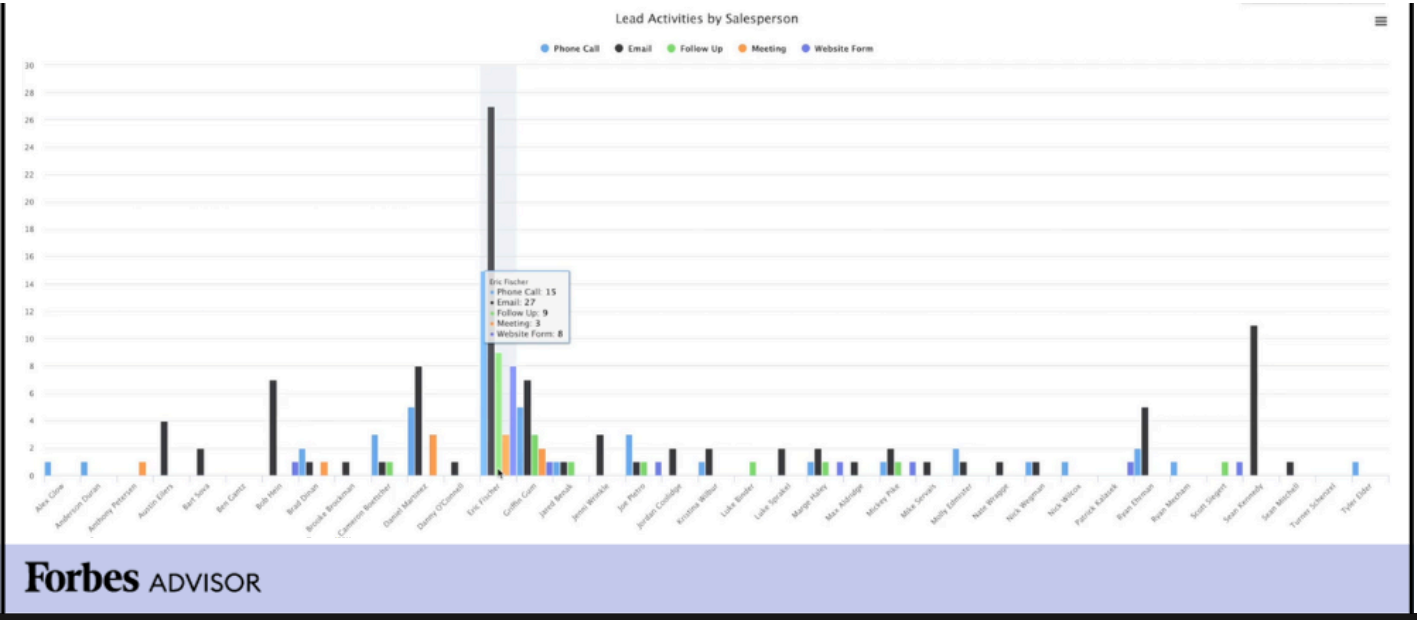
☐ Include in Budget

Forbes ADVISOR

Reporting

Buildertrend includes a variety of reports in three categories: sales, project management and financial. All of these reports are pre-built, so you simply choose one that fits your needs and run it. For example, you can assess to-do counts by job, total company cash flow and get summaries of lead activities by salesperson. However, there are no custom reporting options, so you'd have to export data to an Excel spreadsheet to run a report elsewhere.

Subscribe



Buildertrend Alternatives and How They Compare

	Buildertrend	Leap	Procore	Monday.Com
Rating (Out of 5 Stars)	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
Starting Price (Billed Annually)	\$449 per month	\$249 per month	Custom quote	\$9 per user per month
User Limit	Unlimited	Three	Unlimited	Unlimited
Free Trial	X	X	X	14 days
Scheduling	✓	✓	✓	✓
Client Portal	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mobile App	✓	✓	✓	✓
Budgeting	✓	✓	✓	X
Software Integrations	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reporting	✓	✓	✓	✓

See More

[Subscribe](#)

popular choice. It may be one of the more comprehensive options for home builders, but it's lacking in some categories.

Buildertrend vs. Leap

Leap, formerly known as JobProgress, is similar in its feature set to Buildertrend but there are a few key differences. While Buildertrend offers unlimited users on all plans, Leap limits you to three users for its entry-level plan. However, Leap offers more integrations and pricing starts at \$249 per month, paid annually. There's a one-time \$500 setup fee and you can add more users for \$99 per month. Buildertrend starts at \$449 per month but there's no setup fee and you can have unlimited users.

Buildertrend vs. Procore

Although we can only tell you anecdotally that Procore is the most expensive option in this comparison list, we're confident in saying that it isn't priced for small to medium GCs. From what we understand, Procore is trying to appeal to smaller outfits though. Buildertrend is a much more affordable solution than Procore but if you're looking for a fully customizable construction project management platform, Procore is an ideal choice.

Buildertrend vs. monday.com

One of the most affordable construction project management apps is monday.com but it isn't built specifically for contractors. You would need to customize monday.com to handle change orders, POs, RFIs and bids but it's doable. It starts at \$9 per user per month (billed annually with a three-user minimum), so it's far more affordable than Buildertrend's \$449-per-month starting price.

Featured Partners

Advertisement ⓘ

1

monday.com



Learn More

On Monday's Website

Free version available

Yes

Starting price

From \$10 monthly per user

Integrations

Zoom, LinkedIn, Adobe, Salesforce and more

2

ClickUp



Learn More

On ClickUp's Website

Free version available

Yes, for one member

Starting price

\$7 per member per month (billed annually)

Integrations

Slack, Microsoft Outlook, HubSpot, Salesforce, Timely, Google Drive and more

3

Wrike



Learn More

On Wrike's Website

Free version available

Yes

Starting price

\$10 per user per month

Integrations

Salesforce, Adobe, Miro, Netsuite, QuickBooks, SAP

Who Is Buildertrend Best For?

meetings. It's a near-complete platform that can replace the need for other software such as CRM, time tracking apps, spreadsheets and payment processors.

Our Expert Take

If we were to choose our favorite features of Buildertrend, we'd land on these three: the client portal, the mobile app and the custom branding option. You can easily stay in touch with clients and provide them updates via the customer portal, which is a huge time-saver, reduces phone calls and emails and can help build confidence with your clients. We also really like that your app is custom-branded with your logo—not Buildertrend's.

Buildertrend has updated its mobile app to make it much more convenient for all users: owners, contractors, vendors and trade partners. It's an easy-to-use platform once you get it up and running but it does have some interface design issues (a common complaint from users is that you can't resize windows).

All of the tools in Buildertrend are great for any contractor, but there are some hiccups. It's hard to convince a subcontractor or vendor to agree to download an app to communicate with a GC and some small business owners may decide it isn't worth their time (forcing them to use it for payment may even work against you). Also, to get dedicated help and training, you'll have to pay extra for it.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- + **Can Buildertrend track your location?**
 - + **Who can you assign to schedule items in Buildertrend?**
 - + **How much does it cost to add subcontractors and clients to Buildertrend?**
-

Information provided on Forbes Advisor is for educational purposes only. Your financial situation is unique and the products and services we review may not be right for your circumstances. We do not offer financial advice, advisory or brokerage services, nor do we recommend or advise individuals or to buy or sell particular stocks or securities. Performance information may have changed since the time of publication. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Forbes Advisor adheres to strict editorial integrity standards. To the best of our knowledge, all content is accurate as of the date posted, though offers contained herein may no longer be available. The opinions expressed are the author's alone and have not been provided, approved, or otherwise endorsed by our [partners](#).

 Was this article helpful?

[SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK](#)

Best Of

[Best Project Management Software](#)

[Best Construction Project Management Software](#)

[Best Project Portfolio Management Software](#)

[Best Gantt Chart Software](#)

[Best Project Management Software](#)[Best Enterprise Project Management Software](#)[Best Kanban Software](#)[Best Scrum Software](#)[Best Agile Project Management Software](#)

Reviews

[Asana Review](#)[Trello Review](#)[monday.com Review](#)[Smartsheet Review](#)[Wrike Review](#)[Todoist Review](#)[Basecamp Review](#)[Confluence Review](#)[Airtable Review](#)[ClickUp Review](#)[Motion App Review](#)

Comparisons

[Monday vs. Asana](#)[Clickup vs. Asana](#)[Asana vs. Trello](#)[Asana vs. Jira](#)[Trello vs. Jira](#)[Monday vs. Trello](#)[Clickup vs. Trello](#)[Asana vs. Wrike](#)

Read More

[What Is Project Management](#)

[10 Essential Project Management Skills](#)[SMART Goals: Ultimate Guide](#)[What is a Gantt Chart?](#)[What is a Kanban Board?](#)[What is a RACI Chart?](#)[What is Gap Analysis?](#)[Work Breakdown Structure Guide](#)[Agile vs. Waterfall Methodology](#)[What is a Stakeholder Analysis](#)[What Is An OKR?](#)

Next Up In Project Management

[Best Project Management Software](#)[Top Asana Alternatives](#)[Best Scheduling Apps](#)[monday.com Review: Features, Pros & Cons](#)[Asana Review: Features, Pricing & More](#)[Trello Review: Features, Pricing & More](#)

More from **Forbes** ADVISOR



10 Best SIP Trunk
Providers Of 2025



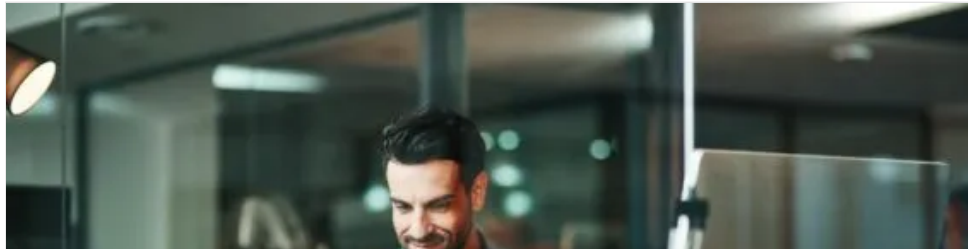
10 Best Website Builders
Of 2025



7 Best Payroll Services For Small Business Of 2025



By Dennis O'Reilly, J.D.



Best Business Software Of 2025



By Brett Day



8 Best Online Bookkeeping Services Of 2025



By Emily McNutt



Best MailChimp Alternatives Of 2025



By Tyler Webb

[Subscribe](#)

[Ad Choices](#)

[Privacy Statement](#)

[Do Not Sell or Share My Personal Information](#)

[Limit the Use of My Sensitive Personal Information](#)

[Privacy Preferences](#)

[Digital Terms of Sale](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Send Us Feedback](#)

[Report a Security Issue](#)

[Jobs At Forbes](#)

[Reprints & Permissions](#)

[Forbes Press Room](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Cookie Preferences](#)