GUIDE 01 / 06

Web applications *explained simply.*

What a web application is, when it is worth it and how a project with Ergon Code works – without jargon.

01 What is it about?

A web application is a program that runs in your web browser – the same place where you open websites (for example Chrome, Safari or Edge).

Unlike an ordinary website it does not just show information: you work with it. You sign in, enter data, manage orders or download invoices. Nothing needs to be installed – a link and a password are enough, on a computer as well as on a phone.

> AN EVERYDAY COMPARISON
>
> *A website is like a shop window: you look in. A web application is like the shop itself: you walk in, get served and get something done.*

02 Typical examples

- A client portal where your customers see their orders, documents and invoices themselves
- A booking or appointment system
- An internal tool for orders, stock or staff
- An online platform you rent out to other businesses (the technical term is SaaS)
- An overview of your most important figures (a dashboard)

03 Do I need this?

It is worth thinking about when …

- ✓ Your team keeps the same data in several spreadsheets.
- ✓ Customers phone or email to ask about a status they could look up themselves.
- ✓ Off-the-shelf software only half fits the way you work, and you build workarounds around it.
- ✓ You want to offer a business idea as an online service.

04 What you get

01

Everything from one source

The visible interface and the invisible foundation are built together – with automated tests and documentation, so the application can still be looked after in years to come.

02

Areas for your customers

If you like, a client portal of your own where your customers see invoices, contracts and the progress of their orders.

03

Connected to your software

Payment providers, accounting, Microsoft 365 or existing systems are connected, so nothing has to be typed in twice.

04

Security and data protection

Secure sign-in (also with a second factor or passkey), clear rules on who may see what, and data protection under the GDPR.

05 How it works

1 **Getting to know you**

Together we work out which problem the application should solve and how we measure success. You receive a fixed price or a transparent estimate.

2 **Design**

You get a clickable draft and try it out before a single line is programmed. Changes cost least at this stage.

3 **Development**

Built in short stages. You follow progress in the client portal and approve each milestone.

4 **Handover**

Go-live and an introduction for your team. A maintenance contract can take care of everything after that.

06 What you contribute

- → A contact person with some time for questions and approvals
- → Your processes and examples: forms, lists, screenshots
- → Access to software that should be connected
- → Honest feedback on the drafts – the earlier, the cheaper

07 Frequently asked questions

What does a web application cost?

It depends on the scope. After our first conversation you receive, in writing and before work starts, a fixed price or a transparent hourly estimate. Large projects can be split into stages.

How long does it take?

A focused client portal takes weeks rather than months; a large platform takes months. You receive a schedule with milestones in advance.

Do I own the software afterwards?

Yes. Once paid in full, you receive the exclusive rights of use to everything developed individually for you – including the source code.

Where does the application run?

On a server you rent from a provider of your choice – happy to recommend one, for example in Germany. Ergon Code sets everything up but does not rent out servers itself.

08 Mini glossary

Browser	The program you open websites with, e.g. Chrome or Safari.
Server	A computer in a data centre where the application runs around the clock.
Database	The organised storage for all of the application's data.
Two-factor sign-in	Besides the password, a code from your phone is required.
GDPR	The EU General Data Protection Regulation.

About Ergon Code

Ergon Code is a web and mobile development studio from Bochum, Germany. Behind it is Obih Uchenna John: from the first conversation through development to maintenance, you talk to the same person.

Every project gets its own client portal. There you see progress, milestones, contracts and invoices in one place – in the browser and in the Ergon app.

Fixed price
or a transparent estimate

24 h
response time on enquiries

GDPR
privacy from the first line

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Let's talk.

Briefly describe what you have in mind. Within 24 hours you get an honest, no-obligation assessment – even if the answer is that you don't need something.

→ ergon-code.dev/en/contact hello@ergon-code.dev

Scan for the contact form