Tech Concepts - What Do I Need?

Match your app idea to the technologies you need

Example App Scenarios

Media Platform + Google Drive
Upload, edit, share media from cloud storage

You Need	Why	Services
OAuth	Connect Google account	Google OAuth
External API	Pull files from Drive	Google Drive API
Object Storage	Store edited media	S3, Cloudinary
Database	User accounts, projects	PostgreSQL, Convex
CDN	Fast media delivery	Cloudflare, Vercel

Real-time Chat App
Live messaging with notifications

You Need	Why	Services
WebSocket	Live two-way messaging	Socket.io, Pusher
Database	Store messages, users	PostgreSQL, MongoDB
Auth	User accounts	Auth0, Clerk
Push Notifs	Alert users	Firebase, OneSignal
Rate Limiting	Prevent spam	Upstash, custom

SaaS Subscription Platform
Paid service with billing and dashboards

You Need	Why	Services
Payment API	Subscriptions, billing	Stripe
Webhooks	Payment notifications	Stripe Webhooks
Database	Users, plans, usage	PostgreSQL
Auth + SSO	Enterprise login	Auth0, Clerk
Email API	Receipts, alerts	Resend, SendGrid

Concept Quick Reference

Integration & APIs

REST API	Request data via URLs	Connecting to services
GraphQL	Query exact data needed	Complex data fetching
WebSocket	Two-way live connection	Chat, live updates
Webhook	Service calls YOUR app	Payment events
SDK	Pre-built service code	Using Stripe, AWS
CORS	Cross-site API control	Frontend ' Backend

Auth & Security

OAuth	"Login with Google"	Social login
JWT	Token proving identity	Stateless auth
SSO	One login, many apps	Enterprise
API Keys	Secret access key	Server-to-server
Rate Limit	Prevent abuse/spam	Public APIs
MFA	Extra verification	High security

Data & Storage

SQL DB	Structured + relations	Users, orders, posts
NoSQL DB	Flexible documents	Rapid prototyping
S3/Storage	File/media storage	Images, videos
CDN	Content worldwide	Fast delivery
Cache	Fast temp storage	Session data
ORM	Code-based queries	Type-safe DB

Deployment & Infra

Serverless	Code runs on-demand	APIs, functions
Edge Funcs	Code near users	Fast global
CI/CD	Auto-deploy on push	Pro workflows
Docker	Package app + deps	Consistent envs
DNS	Domain ' server	Custom domains
Env Vars	Secret config	API keys