Top Tech Tools for Lawyers: Trends and Innovation in Law Practice Technology

Legal technology has grown exponentially over the last decade, but has your law firm changed with the technological times? Is your firm still using the same software solutions? Are you missing a chance to do more in less time, get more billable hours, and increase client satisfaction?

Don’t overlook an opportunity to boost your efficiency and profitability because you haven’t updated your tech or explored the latest trends. Today’s tools can help your firm achieve more through automation and collaboration.

Key tech trends for the legal industry

Each year, new legal trends give law firms the opportunity to examine how they manage their practices. While some trends may be a flash in the pan, the ones with true value remake the landscape and shift from being “trends” to best practices.

Here are some trends we’ve identified with true staying power:

- Investment in software
- Connectivity via web, mobile, and cloud solutions
- Automation of time-consuming manual tasks
- Easy, in-depth analytics
- Expanded data security and privacy
- AI-powered tools

Tech tools that law firms should be leveraging in 2023

With these trends in mind, a few things are clear:

- Law firms should invest in a robust tech stack
- Tools should be designed for the ways that lawyers work
- Opportunities to make data-driven decisions that improve efficiency and client satisfaction should always be embraced

Not sure where to start? Look for solutions that support the following activities.

Mobile-friendly time and expense tracking

No one in 2023 still pictures work *only* in the office behind a desk.

Modern solutions need to be as flexible as you are. Your hours are being put in far beyond that traditional office setting, and the accuracy of your time and expense tracking relies on a solution that meets you where you are, literally.

A time-tracking feature helps you keep an accurate record of your billable hours sitting behind their computer or using a mobile device on the go. With an easy-to-use timer, you can track time in real-time or enter it manually, and allocate time spent on tasks to specific matters and clients.

Just as important, though, is integrated expense tracking, allowing you to log all relevant expenses and assign them to the corresponding matters or clients, ensuring your business expenses are organized, accessible, and comprehensible.

How to Create a Paperless Document Management Workflow for Your Law Firm

To provide your clients with the best value possible, consider setting up paperless
document management workflows.

Don’t know where to start? Consider this your step-by-step map to creating a more efficient, eco-friendly law firm.

Download our free guide to create a paperless document management workflow for your law firm today!
Get your free guide

Automated billing

Ask yourself: what could you and your colleagues do with the hours that you spend consumed with administrative work? Logic dictates that the quicker you bill, the quicker your clients pay, but precious minutes spent producing invoices means less time spent on revenue generating activities.

Automation can also change your billing practices for the better by eliminating some of the chances for human error and mistakes to creep in.

For example, TimeSolv simplifies the invoicing process by generating professional-looking invoices with just a few clicks. You can customize invoice templates, apply discounts or write-offs, and send invoices directly to clients via email so the experience for the client is seamless, but frees up your time.

With TimeSolv’s integrated payment processing, you can also accept online payments securely, a service that most of your clients have come to expect.

Reporting

Everything measured improves. You can’t be sure where your firm’s business is going if you don’t have a grip on the numbers.

Understanding your law firm’s performance is essential for making informed business decisions. That’s why better time and expense reporting software means better business, and effectively running your firm comes down to the ability to see the whole picture.

Reporting tools should give you insights into key metrics such as billable hours, collections, matter budgets, and profitability. Look for a solution that empowers you to easily monitor your firm’s financial health and identify areas for improvement in the way that works best for you.

Document management

Efficient document management is crucial for law firms dealing with vast amounts of legal documents.

Document management tools allow you to organize, search, and share documents—without compromising the security of confidential information. Document management tools also facilitate a more efficient workplace. With version control and document collaboration capabilities, you can streamline workflows and collaborate seamlessly with your team.

Project management

The work of managing multiple cases and matters simultaneously requires effective project management. By having a centralized platform for project management, you can enhance communication, track progress, and ensure timely completion of tasks.

While many project management tools exist in the marketplace, law firms should prioritize software designed for the legal industry.

A legal-specific software with project management functionalities allows law firms to integrate time-tracking, billing, document sharing, and payments with their project management. This will enable firms to track matters efficiently without adding unnecessary steps to operational processes or juggling multiple tools.

Prepare for the future of law practice technology

As technology marches on, you will need tools that keep up with the demands of your practice and the industry. Beyond the trends listed above, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning algorithms are already being integrated into legal tech solutions to automate repetitive tasks, improve legal research, and enhance contract analysis.

Cloud-based solutions will continue becoming more prevalent, offering lawyers flexible and secure access to their data and the ability to input time from anywhere.

Cybersecurity will always be a top priority, as law firms handle sensitive client information and are responsible for protecting that data.

Stay ahead of the curve with TimeSolv

TimeSolv is a leading option for legal time tracking and billing that can enhance your firm's capacity and accuracy, freeing up time for your practice–and your profits–to grow. TimeSolv has provided the best web-based billing solution for attorneys and other professionals for two decades, but that doesn't mean that it's not looking forward and innovating to meet the changing needs of your practice. With its intuitive interface and powerful features, TimeSolv simplifies time tracking, expense tracking, invoicing, reporting, document management, and project management.

Embracing technology is no longer an option for lawyers; it is necessary to thrive in today's competitive legal landscape.

TimeSolv's comprehensive suite of features makes it a valuable tool for your firm to keep up and increase efficiency, accuracy, and client satisfaction. By incorporating TimeSolv into your practice, your firm can stay firmly on top of the trends and optimize time and expense tracking, invoicing, reporting, document management, and project management.

Stay connected, ahead of the curve, and leverage the power of flexible tech tools like TimeSolv to optimize your law practice and increase your profitability. Start now with a free trial.

How to Create a Paperless Document Management Workflow for Your Law Firm

To provide your clients with the best value possible, consider setting up paperless
document management workflows.

Don't know where to start? Consider this your step-by-step map to creating a more efficient, eco-friendly law firm.

Download our free guide to create a paperless document management workflow for your law firm today!

Get your free guide