

## DEVELOPER'S CHECKLIST

# PLANNING YOUR SITE REDESIGN

### IT'S ABOUT TIME

A site rebuild takes time. Figuring out exactly how much time and planning around it is critical for everything from resource allocation to setting and managing expectations within the organization. Unfortunately, sometimes you can't really know how long something will take until you dig into it.

During our recent redesign and rebuild of Acquia.com, some aspects of the project took longer than initially anticipated. Based on this experience, we created a checklist to help you prepare for similar situations in your own rebuild. Asking yourself these questions at the outset should save you a lot of time down the road.

#### ARE WE PREPARED TO UNRAVEL LEGACY CODE?

When a site has been around for years with multiple developers working on it, the underlying structure can reflect a surprising range of choices and approaches. Make sure to build in time to sort out the peculiarities of legacy code.

#### ARE DESIGN AND DEV WORKING TOGETHER?

Ideally, designers design with development in mind. That's not always the case, however. For this reason, it's important to set up cross-functional teams that can point out where certain designs will be challenging to implement and make suggestions for alternatives that respect both the design direction and development time.

#### DO WE UNDERSTAND THE SCOPE OF OUR CONTENT AUDIT?

The sheer quantity of content that we had to migrate – over 2,600 structured pages worth – posed a major challenge. With a site this content-heavy, the time required for an audit should not be underestimated. You will uncover things that need a migration plan all their own that can quickly go beyond what you initially mapped out.

YES

NO

## YOU GOT THIS

Knowing what to expect when rebuilding a site can spare you a lot of headaches. We wrote an e-book about our recent rebuild. It covers what we did, what you should look out for and how to make sure things go as smoothly as possible.

**GET THE E-BOOK**