

Web Developer Hiring Checklist for Small Businesses in Victoria & Vancouver Island

Hiring a web developer doesn't have to be overwhelming. Use this checklist to ensure you cover every step and find a trusted professional who understands your local market.

Define Your Goals

- Clarify the purpose of your website (informational, lead generation, online store, etc.).
- Identify must-have features (contact form, gallery, blog, booking system) and optional features.
- Consider your brand's look and feel, including colours, fonts and tone.

Set Your Budget

- Determine how much you can invest in a website now and plan for maintenance later.
- Factor in domain registration, hosting and any third-party tools.
- Think about whether you need copywriting, photography or SEO services.

Research Potential Developers

- Ask local business owners for recommendations.
- Search for "web developer Victoria BC" or "Vancouver Island web developer" and review portfolios.
- Check testimonials and ratings on Google, LinkedIn or directories.

Evaluate Experience and Portfolio

- Review examples of websites the developer has built for similar businesses.
- Check that their sites are mobile responsive and easy to navigate.
- Look for evidence of SEO knowledge and fast load times.

Interview Developers

- Ask about their design and development process.
- Discuss timelines, milestones and communication methods.
- Clarify what's included in the quote (design, development, revisions, SEO).

- Ensure they offer maintenance or support after launch.

Compare Proposals

- Review the scope, timeline and price of each proposal.
- Beware of quotes that seem too low or too high; make sure they reflect your requirements.
- Choose a developer who understands your goals and can communicate clearly.

Check References

- Contact previous clients to ask about their experience.
- Look up online reviews or case studies.

Plan for Maintenance

- Ask about maintenance packages, security updates and backups.
- Request training or documentation so you can update content.

Finalise the Contract

- Ensure the contract outlines the scope of work, timeline, payment schedule and deliverables.
- Confirm ownership of the website, domain and content.

After Launch

- Review the website thoroughly before going live.
- Collect feedback from customers and make adjustments as needed.
- Monitor site analytics to track performance and ROI.

Keep this checklist handy as you interview developers and compare proposals. When you're ready to get started, [contact Blue Fin Web Design](#) for friendly, local expertise.