

# Forming Teams

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CS 346: Application  
Development

# What does a team look like?

Rules for team formation:

- 4 people
- You must all be in the same sections.
- Everyone must attend in-person.

You also must form teams by the end of week 02.

Team composition has a HUGE impact on your course experience.  
Some tips for success?

# Tip 1: Find unity

- Define a shared mission
  - It's really motivating to work on something that you find interesting.
  - Aim for a team where everyone is invested in the project idea.
    - e.g., we all like running or music or reading...
    - e.g., we all find backend development interesting and want to build X.
- Make your goals known
  - If you have person goals, then state these up-front!
    - e.g., I want to become a front-end developer.
- Look for people that you will get-along with
  - You're going to spend a lot of time together, so you should enjoy it.
  - Bring in your friends, but don't miss opportunities to meet new people!

## Tip 2: Learn to work as a team

- Communicate!
  - Don't be embarrassed if you get stuck. Ask for help.
  - Work together to solve problems.
- Have regular meetings
  - At least twice per week.
  - In-person is best but online can work.
- Attend class
  - Lectures are actually important and help with shared understanding.
  - Bring problems that your team can't address to the instructor.

## Tip 3: Plan around your final goals

- We will use an iterative development model, and you will adjust your plans after each sprint.
- However, you should still have a high-level plan with objectives!
  - Consider the impact of what you are designing.
    - e.g., how will this affect Feature X (that we haven't started yet)?
    - e.g., what risky feature might we want to think about now?
    - e.g., what shouldn't we delay doing?
  - Prioritize risky and/or difficult things early.
  - Don't just do what I suggest, think about how you can best deliver your features over the complete project.

# Your goal - find a team this week!

You are expected to find your own team.

- Talk to people in class!
- Invite your friends to the course!
- Use the “Search for teammates” [Piazza post](#).

Finally, ask us if you want to switch sections. We may be able to move people around if there's enough space.

<https://student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/~cs346/1261/course/getting-started/form-a-project-team/>