

Estimating History

MANUAL ESTIMATION (PRE-DIGITAL ERA)

Estimators relied on pen, paper, and calculators to manually measure quantities and calculate costs. This method was time-consuming and prone to errors.

SPREADSHEET-BASED ESTIMATING (1980S-1990S)

The introduction of spreadsheet software, like Excel, allowed estimators to automate calculations and create templates for recurring tasks.

DESKTOP ESTIMATING SOFTWARE (1990S-2000S)

Estimators began using desktop software tailored for construction, offering more specialised tools for cost estimation and take-offs.

2D DIGITAL TAKE-OFF TOOLS (EARLY 2000S)

Digital take-off tools allowed estimators to measure directly from electronic blueprints, increasing accuracy and efficiency for 2D projects.

3D BIM INTEGRATION (2010S)

The adoption of Building Information Modelling (BIM) allowed for 3D take-offs and more accurate quantity estimations by integrating design models with estimating software.

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