

Customer Pains

Trigger questions

Pains describe anything that annoys your customers before, during, and after trying to get a job done or simply prevents them from getting a job done. Pains also describe risks, that is, potential bad outcomes, related to getting a job done badly or not at all.

Use the following Trigger questions to help you think of different potential customer pains:

1. How do your customers define too costly? Takes a lot of time, costs too much money, or requires substantial efforts?
2. What makes your customers feel bad? What are their frustrations, annoyances, or things that give them a headache?
3. How are current value propositions under performing for your customers? Which features are they missing? Are there performance issues that annoy them or malfunctions they cite?
4. What are the main difficulties and challenges your customers encounter? Do they understand how things work, have difficulties getting certain things done, or resist particular jobs for specific reasons?
5. What negative social consequences do your customers encounter or fear? Are they afraid of a loss of face, power, trust, or status?
6. What risks do your customers fear? Are they afraid of financial, social, or technical risks, or are they asking themselves what could go wrong?
7. What's keeping your customers awake at night? What are their big issues, concerns, and worries?
8. What common mistakes do your customers make? Are they using a solution the wrong way?
9. What barriers are keeping your customers from adopting a value proposition? Are there upfront investment costs, a steep learning curve, or other obstacles preventing adoption?

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