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Four Questions to Ask when Choosing Warehouse Management Software by [Ethan Mudgett](#)

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Warehouse managers constantly find ways to make things better, keep track of things, and keep costs to the barest minimum possible. All these are easier said than done, especially on limited company resources. Yet every problem has a solution, and technology holds the answer.

To get things done, modern businesses rely on efficient warehouse management software systems or WMS for short. These are designed to help businesses control how materials are moved around and stored within a warehouse as well as accomplish related processes like picking, shipping, and receiving. Before choosing an appropriate WMS solution for your business, perhaps you can start by asking yourself four of the most basic questions warehouse managers typically need to consider.

Why do I need one? The answer depends on determining what problems-if any-your company's warehouse is having, especially if it's indeed directly affecting the company's bottom line. If you can identify those problems and see how they affect the overall performance of your warehouse, you can decide if getting warehouse management software will solve those problems.

Do I really need one? This is largely a question of priorities, depending on your job responsibilities or your company's short-term and long-term goals. The two best ways to answer that is to decide if getting one now will truly accomplish those goals, or if putting it off will not drastically change how things go in the short or long run.

What must it do for me? If you're able to answer the previous question, this should be easy for you. Enumerate each need and decide how the warehouse software can meet them, so much the better if they can specifically solve lingering problems.

Can I get my bosses to approve it? You might need to show upper management what's in it for the entire company to get the right warehouse software. Aside from pointing out the obvious benefits, you can show quantifiable metrics such as return materials authorization (RMA) costs, warehouse utilization, and first-in-first-out (FIFO) cost of goods sold.

All in all, you need to ask yourself how acquiring the right kind of warehouse management software will truly help your company, and how you can convince the powers-that-be of the merits of getting one. All that may seem daunting at first, especially if it is your first time to do it. But by recognizing these things early on, you can both better decide and better prepare for that eventuality. Learn more about this topic by visiting [inventoryops.com](http://inventoryops.com).

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