🚀 Low-Code Platforms Comparison 2025

1. 📊 Main Comparison Table

Short description: This section provides a comparison of key low-code platforms by main functional and technical criteria.

Criteria / Platform	NextGen	Mendix	OutSystems	Creatio	MS Power Platform	Appian	Kissflow	Betty Blocks	Quick Base	Zoho Creator	Pega	Salesforce Platform
Architecture 🏗️	Modular, microservices, on-prem/cloud	Microservices	Microservices	Modular	Modular	Modular	Modular	Modular	Modular	Modular	Modular	Modular
Visual Modeling 🎨	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Process Automation 🤖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Integrations 🔗	REST, SOAP, any queues, API	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	100+ connectors	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP	REST, SOAP
Security 🛡️	Audit, MFA, roles	Audit, SSO, MFA	Audit, SSO, MFA	Audit, SSO, MFA	SSO, Azure AD	Audit, SSO, MFA	SSO, audit	SSO, audit	SSO, audit	SSO, audit	SSO, audit	SSO, audit
BI & Analytics 📈	Built-in, KPI	Built-in, BI	BI, Power BI	BI, analytics	Power BI	BI	BI	BI	BI	BI	BI	Einstein, BI
AI/ML 🤖🧠	Built-in, external models	AI, ML	AI, ML	AI, ML	AI Builder	AI, ML	ML	ML	ML	ML	AI, ML	Einstein AI
DevOps, CI/CD ⚙️	CI/CD, DevOps	CI/CD	CI/CD	CI/CD	CI/CD	CI/CD	-	-	-	-	CI/CD	CI/CD
Scalability 📈	High	High	High	High	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High
Mobility 📱	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile	Web/mobile
Modularity/Marketplace 🧩	-	App Store	Forge	Marketplace	AppSource	AppMarket	Marketplace	Marketplace	Marketplace	Marketplace	Marketplace	AppExchange
User Types 👥	Business, IT, citizen dev	Business, IT	Business, IT	Business, IT	Citizen dev	Business, IT	Citizen dev	Citizen dev	Citizen dev	Citizen dev	Enterprise	Business, IT
Localization 🌍	Multilingual	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Application Areas 🏢	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal	Universal

Data Layer / DB Support 🗄	MS SQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, MySQL, DB2, cloud DBs, cache	MS SQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, MySQL, SAP HANA	MS SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL	MS SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL	Dataverse, Azure SQL, connectors	MS SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL	Google Cloud SQL, MS SQL, MySQL	MS SQL, PostgreSQL, MySQL	MS SQL, Oracle, MySQL, cloud	Zoho, MySQL, external DBs	Oracle, MS SQL, PostgreSQL, MySQL	Salesforce, Heroku, external DBs
Price 💰	Individual	From $1,000/mo	From $4,000/mo	From $25,000/year	$5–40/user/mo	$90/user/mo	From $1,500/mo	From $1,200/mo	From $600/mo	From $10/user/mo	From $80,000/year	From $25/user/mo
Solution Ownership 👑	Customer	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider	Provider
Licensing 🧵	Buyout, open arch.	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription

Key Points:

- NextGen - maximum flexibility, individual ownership model, open architecture, direct DB access, suitable for high-load enterprise.

- Enterprise platforms (Mendix, OutSystems, Creatio, Appian, Pega, Salesforce) - market leaders, rich marketplace, subscription licenses, focus on visual modeling.

- SMB and citizen-dev platforms (Kissflow, Betty Blocks, Quick Base, Zoho Creator) - quick start, visual management, more limitations in depth and scale.

2. 🔌 Integration Depth & API Support Comparison

Short description: This section compares the platforms' capabilities for integration with external systems, API support, and ready-made connectors.

Platform	REST API Support 🔄	SOAP API 🍃	Webhooks 🪝	Ready-made Connectors 🧩	External Service Integration 🌐	SDK/Custom API 🛠	Event-driven Integration ⚡	ESB Integration 🚌	Key Features ✨
NextGen	✔ (full CRUD, open spec)	✔	✔	✔ (adapters for ERP, CRM, BI, IoT, plugins)	✔ (REST, SOAP, files, queues)	✔ (SDK, custom API)	✔ (event bus, trigger)	✔	Any integration, adapter development, open API
Mendix	✔	✔	✔	✔ (SAP, Salesforce, Oracle, MS Dynamics)	✔ (200+ integrations)	✔ (Java, JS)	✔	✔	Large connector library
OutSystems	✔	✔	✔	✔ (SAP, Salesforce, Oracle, BI)	✔ (200+ connectors)	✔ (C#, JS)	✔	✔	Drag&drop API, wide integrations
Creatio	✔	✔	✔	✔ (ERP, CRM, telephony, BI)	✔ (100+ ready)	✔ (.NET, JS)	✔	✔	Integration builder, RPA

Platform									Key Points
MS Power Platform	✓ (OData)	✓	✓	✓ (1000+ connectors)	✓ (Azure, Teams, Office)	✓ (Custom Connector)	✓ (Power Automate)	✓	Best SaaS support, premium connectors
Appian	✓	✓	✓	✓ (SAP, Oracle, Salesforce, BI)	✓ (60+ ready, RPA)	✓ (Java, JS)	✓	✓	Strong BPM integration
Kissflow	✓	-	✓	✓ (Google, MS, Slack)	✓ (Zapier, Make)	-	-	-	SaaS focus, simple scenarios
Betty Blocks	✓	-	✓	✓ (Slack, Google, BI)	✓ (Zapier, webhooks)	✓ (JS blocks)	-	-	Citizen dev, not enterprise
Quick Base	✓	-	✓	✓ (Google, MS, BI)	✓ (Pipelines, webhooks)	✓ (API SDK)	-	-	Fast, SMB, less enterprise
Zoho Creator	✓	-	✓	✓ (Zoho apps, Google)	✓ (Zapier, webhooks)	✓ (Deluge)	-	-	Easy, Zoho-oriented
Pega	✓	✓	✓	✓ (SAP, Oracle, Salesforce, BI, RPA)	✓ (RPA, RDA)	✓ (Java, API)	✓ (event hub)	✓	Flexible for large, RPA
Salesforce Platform	✓ (REST, GraphQL, Bulk)	✓	✓	✓ (AppExchange, thousands of solutions)	✓ (MuleSoft, API)	✓ (Apex, Lightning)	✓ (trigger, streaming)	✓ (MuleSoft)	Cloud integration leader

Key Points:

- NextGen: maximum flexibility, any corporate/custom integrations, no API limitations.

- Mendix/OutSystems/Creatio/Appian/Pega/Salesforce: rich marketplace, event-driven & ESB support, enterprise integration.

- Power Platform: SaaS connector leader, but premium is paid.

- SMB/citizen-dev: quick start, focus on Zapier, Make, webhooks, less depth.

3. 🗄 Database Features

Short description: Comparison of platforms' database capabilities, scalability, SQL support, and migrations.

Platform	DBMS 🗄	Scalability 📈	Caching 🧊	NoSQL/Big Data 🗃	Direct SQL 📝	ORM/Visual Models 🖼	Migrations 🔄	Transactions 🔄	Key Features ✨
NextGen	MS SQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, MySQL, DB2, cloud, NoSQL on request	✓ (multi-tenant, sharding)	✓ (in-memory, Redis)	(custom)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Flexible architecture, direct access, any DB, high-load
Mendix	MS SQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SAP HANA, MySQL	✓	✓	No	Partial	✓	✓	✓	ORM, visual designer, limited

Platform	Databases								Key Features
									manual SQL
OutSyste ms	MS SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL	✓	✓	No	Partial	✓	✓	✓	Entity Designer, migration automation
Creatio	MS SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL	✓	✓	No	Limited	✓	✓	✓	ORM, no direct SQL for business users
MS Power Platform	Dataverse, MS SQL, Azure SQL	✓	✓	CosmosDB (limited)	No	✓	✓	Limited	No direct SQL, all via Dataverse
Appian	MS SQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL	✓	✓	No	Limited	✓	✓	✓	ORM/visual interface
Kissflow	Google SQL, MS SQL, MySQL	Medium	✓	No	No	No	No	No	API only, no direct SQL
Betty Blocks	MS SQL, PostgreSQL, MySQL	Medium	-	No	No	✓	✓	No	Visual-oriented
Quick Base	MS SQL, Oracle, MySQL	Medium	✓	No	No	✓	✓	No	No SQL access, API only
Zoho Creator	Zoho, MySQL, external via connector s	Medium	✓	No	No	✓	✓	No	Mainly Zoho tables
Pega	Oracle, MS SQL, PostgreSQL, DB2	✓ (clustering)	✓	Hadoop, Cassandra (extensions)	No	✓	✓	✓	For enterprise, Big Data via extensions
Salesforce Platform	Salesforce, Heroku, external	✓ (multi-tenant)	✓	Big Objects (limited)	No	✓	✓	✓	External only via API, no SQL

Key Points:

- NextGen: maximum flexibility, any corporate DBs and custom drivers, direct SQL, high-load support, auto migrations, in-memory caching.

- Enterprise platforms: ORM and visual models, usually no direct SQL (only via platform), NoSQL limited.

- SMB/citizen-dev: visual tables, less depth, no direct SQL, all via API.

4. ⚡ Performance, ETL, BI Integration

Short description: Assessment of platform performance, BI integration, and ETL support.

Platform	Performance (load) ⚡	ETL (built-in/integration) 🔄	BI Integration / Export 📊	Key Features ✨
NextGen	Enterprise-grade, high-load, sharding, HA	✓ Built-in, any external (Talend, SSIS, custom), direct SQL/file	✓ Built-in dashboards, Power BI, Tableau, ODBC/JDBC, direct access	Real-time, any pipelines, high-load analytics

Mendix	High, auto-scaling	External ETL (Data Hub, Talend, Boomi)	REST/OData, Power BI, Tableau, ODBC	For complex ETL - external tools
OutSystems	High, auto-scaling	External ETL (Integration Studio, Talend)	REST/OData, Power BI, Tableau	Event streaming, scalability
Creatio	High, schema optimization	ETL integration (Data Integration, Talend)	REST/OData, Power BI, Excel, built-in	Streaming loads, analytical marts
MS Power Platform	Depends on Dataverse/Azure	Power Query, Dataflows, Azure Data Factory	Power BI, Excel, OData, CSV	For big data - Azure DWH/ETL
Appian	Enterprise-level, auto-scaling	Appian RPA, Talend, Informatica	Power BI, Tableau, REST, built-in	Event-based data sync, large loads
Kissflow	Medium, cloud	None, only via Zapier, Google Studio	Google Data Studio, CSV/XLS	For SMB, latency with mass ops
Betty Blocks	Medium	None, only Zapier/webhooks, CSV	CSV, Google Data Studio	BI only via external services
Quick Base	Medium, SMB	Quick Base Sync, webhooks, CSV	Tableau, Power BI, CSV	Speed only for simple tasks
Zoho Creator	Medium, Zoho Cloud	Zoho DataPrep, Zapier, API, CSV	Zoho Analytics, Google Data Studio	Zoho integration, suitable for medium data
Pega	High, clusters, event	Data Flows, Integration Designer, Talend	Built-in, Power BI, Excel, REST	Streaming ETL, analytical marts
Salesforce Platform	High, multi-tenant	MuleSoft, Talend, Data Loader	Einstein Analytics, Tableau, Power BI, OData	Stream ETL, real-time BI, Bulk API

Key Points:

– NextGen: enterprise-level performance, any ETL pipelines, direct export/data access, real-time and BI support via any tools.

– Enterprise platforms: ETL and BI usually via external solutions, batch and streaming support.

– SMB/citizen-dev: BI and ETL only via simple connectors (Zapier, Make, Google Data Studio, Excel).

5. 💸 TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) Comparison

Short description: Comparison of total cost of ownership, including licenses, implementation, support, and hidden costs.

Platform	License/Subscription 🧾	Implementation & Setup 🛠️	Training & Adoption 🎓	Support & Maintenance 🔔	Scalability 📈	Integrations & Customization 🔗	Hidden Costs 🕵️	Example 3-Year TCO* 💵
NextGen	Individual, optional	Fast, open arch., can be in-house	Minimal (close to classic IT)	By contract, can be in-house	No extra fees, depends on infrastructure	Any, open API, no limits	No vendor lock-in, no extension fees	$ (depends on project, usually lower than enterprise)
Mendix	From $1,000/mo	Requires partner implementation	Training via courses, certification	Subscription support	Platform scales, but cost grows	Paid connectors, customization via partners	Possible vendor lock-in, upgrades	$$$ (significantly higher than NextGen)
OutSystems	From $4,000/mo	Implementation via partners	Paid training, certification	Subscription support	Scaling = subscription growth	Paid extensions, integrations	Vendor lock-in, migration is hard	$$$$

Platform							
Creatio	From $25,000/year	Implementation via partners	Training via Creatio Academy	Subscription support	Scaling = subscription growth	Paid modules, integrations	Vendor lock-in, upgrades	$$$
MS Power Platform	$5–40/user/mo	Quick start, but complex scenarios need experts	Training via Microsoft Learn	Subscription support	Scaling = subscription growth	Premium connectors paid	Licensing complexity, hidden limits	$$–$$$
Appian	$90/user/mo	Implementation via partners	Paid training	Subscription support	Scaling = subscription growth	Paid integrations	Vendor lock-in	$$$$
Kissflow	From $1,500/mo	Fast implementation	Minimal	Subscription support	Medium	Limited integrations	Costs grow with scaling	$$
Betty Blocks	From $1,200/mo	Fast implementation	Minimal	Subscription support	Medium	Limited integrations	Costs grow with scaling	$$
Quick Base	From $600/mo	Fast implementation	Minimal	Subscription support	Medium	Limited integrations	Costs grow with scaling	$–$$
Zoho Creator	From $10/user/mo	Fast implementation	Minimal	Subscription support	Medium	Limited integrations	Costs grow with scaling	$–$$
Pega	From $80,000/year	Implementation via partners	Paid training	Subscription support	Scaling = subscription growth	Paid integrations	Vendor lock-in	$$$$
Salesforce Platform	From $25/user/mo	Implementation via partners	Paid training	Subscription support	Scaling = subscription growth	Paid extensions, integrations	Vendor lock-in, migration is hard	$$$$

* Example 3-Year TCO - approximate estimate, depends on implementation scale, user count, integrations, and customizations.

Key Points:

- **NextGen** - minimal TCO for large implementations due to no subscription, open architecture, in-house support and development, no vendor lock-in.

- **Enterprise platforms** (Mendix, OutSystems, Creatio, Appian, Pega, Salesforce) - high TCO due to subscription, paid extensions, need for partners, and vendor lock-in.

- **SMB/citizen-dev platforms** (Kissflow, Betty Blocks, Quick Base, Zoho Creator) - low entry threshold, but costs grow quickly with scaling.

6. 👥 Internal & External User Licensing

Short description: Comparison of licensing features and costs for internal and external users.

Platform	Internal Users (price) 🏢	External/Guest Users (price) 🌐	Licensing Notes 📝
NextGen	unlimited	No separate licensing	All by contract, often unlimited
Mendix	from $60–$150/user/mo (Standard/Premium)	from $0.50–$2/external user/mo (B2C/B2B)	External users - separate packages

OutSystems	from $150/user/mo (Enterprise)	from $1/external user/mo (B2C/B2B)	External users - separate packages
Creatio	from $25–$50/user/mo	Individual, usually cheaper	By request, depends on scenario
MS Power Platform	from $5–$40/user/mo	from $2/guest user/mo (Power Apps External User)	Via Azure AD B2B, separate licenses
Appian	from $90/user/mo	from $2/external user/mo (B2C/B2B)	External users - separate packages
Kissflow	from $18/user/mo	Individual, usually cheaper	By request
Betty Blocks	from $25/user/mo	Individual, usually cheaper	By request
Quick Base	from $30/user/mo	Individual, usually cheaper	By request
Zoho Creator	from $10/user/mo	from $1/guest user/mo	External users - separate licenses
Pega	from $80,000/year (enterprise)	Individual, usually cheaper	By request
Salesforce Platform	from $25/user/mo	from $2/guest user/mo (Experience Cloud)	External users - separate licenses

Notes:

– Internal users - company employees needing full platform access.

– External/guest users - clients, partners, B2B/B2C, with limited access (e.g., only to portal or specific apps).

– Actual prices may vary by region, volume, contract terms, and additional options (SLA, integrations, storage, etc.).

– NextGen - usually does not limit users or separate external users, all by individual contract.

7. 🏭 Areas of Application for Low-Code Platforms

Platform	Enterprise Apps 🏢	Internal Processes ⚙️	Mobile Apps 📱	Web Portals 🌐	CRM/ERP 💼	BI/Analytics 📊	Integrations 🔗	Citizen Development 👷	Project Complexity Level 🏗️	Key Features ✨
NextGen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	🔴 Simple, Medium & Complex	Universal, high-load, any scenario
Mendix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚪	🟡 Medium, 🔴 Complex	Enterprise focus, visual modeling
OutSystems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚪	🟡 Medium, 🔴 Complex	Enterprise & mobile apps
Creatio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚪	🟡 Medium, 🔴 Complex	CRM/ERP, BPM, analytics
MS Power Platform	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	🟢 Simple, 🟡 Medium	Citizen dev, Microsoft integrations
Appian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚪	🟡 Medium,	BPM, enterpris

									Complexity	Description
									🔴 Complex	e processes
Kissflow	⚪	✓	✓	✓	⚪	⚪	✓	✓	🟢 Simple	SMB, quick start, simple processes
Betty Blocks	⚪	✓	✓	✓	⚪	⚪	✓	✓	🟢 Simple	Citizen dev, visual modeling
Quick Base	⚪	✓	✓	✓	⚪	⚪	✓	✓	🟢 Simple	SMB, simple apps
Zoho Creator	⚪	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	🟢 Simple, 🟡 Medium	Zoho integration, citizen dev
Pega	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚪	🟡 Medium, 🔴 Complex	Large enterprise processes, RPA
Salesforce Platform	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚪	🟡 Medium, 🔴 Complex	CRM, portals, BI, Salesforce ecosystem

Legend:

- ✓ - Platform is well-suited for this scenario

- ⚪ - Limited or not a primary scenario

- 🟢 Simple - prototypes, automation, small apps

- 🟡 Medium - business processes, integrations, corporate portals

- 🔴 Complex - high-load, large-scale, mission-critical systems