

Improve how your teams build custom software with VMware Tanzu Labs

Pair with our experts in development, design, and product management to nurture new ways of working

“Rather than give us a fish, [Tanzu Labs] taught us how to fish. They taught us new ways of doing things for ourselves and making it our own. And we’re passing that along to new talent who want to come innovate with us.”

John Swieringa
COO
Dish Network

Cloud native skill gaps

In VMware’s 2021 Executive Pulse Survey, 40% of executives polled reported that a lack of cloud native framework adoption is an obstacle to migrating apps to the cloud and developing net-new cloud native apps.

- 40% of execs say: Developers lack the technical skills to manage containers and Kubernetes
- 40% of execs say: Development teams have yet to embrace cloud native frameworks
- 37% of execs say: Operations teams have yet to embrace cloud native frameworks

-VMware Executive Pulse Survey, April 2022

In your journey to becoming a modern, digital-first business, choosing the right technology is only one piece of the puzzle. More often than not, projects fail not because of technical choices but because of how teams work and approach development. To create a remarkable digital experience, organizations must revolutionize how they approach software development.

VMware Tanzu Labs works side by side with your team remotely or in person to transfer the knowledge and skills your teams need to develop exceptional software and deliver lasting business value.

We’ll help you foster a resilient, sustainable culture built around modern development practices. Learn methodologies that put your users first, encourage iterative development, and establish automated build pipelines so you can push new code to production quickly and reliably.

Empower your teams. Deliver value forever.

Tanzu Labs (formerly Pivotal Labs) has a 30-year history of doing things differently. [Sharing knowledge is foundational to our practice](#) and helps our clients fundamentally change the way they build software.

Drive business outcomes

Training is directly integrated into how our consultants deliver your engagement. **Employee time is spent delivering working software while learning.**

Learn the best tools and practices for your business and team. **Cut through the endless noise of technology and methodologies.**

Enact real cultural change

Upskill and enable your teams to **continue delivering awesome software after our engagement ends.**

Learn modern techniques and technologies that help **attract and retain top development talent.**

More ways to learn

- VMware Tanzu Learning: Get a year of training and certification in Spring or VMware Tanzu with our Tanzu Learning subscriptions for [developers](#) and [operators](#).
- [Tanzu Developer Center](#): This free resource has guides, workshops, and learning paths for developers and Kubernetes platform operators, including a collection of lean, agile, and user-centered practices used by Tanzu Labs.
- [KubeAcademy](#): Choose from more than 30 free, on-demand courses on the fundamentals of Kubernetes taught by the experts.

Empower your teams while building great software with VMware Tanzu Labs

Learn how companies like Hyundai AutoEver, Liberty Mutual, TheHome Depot, Steelcase, Sparkassen-Finanzportal, BT, DBS, and Shields Health Solutions paired with VMware Tanzu Labs to empower their teams and build exceptional software: tanzu.vmware.com/customers.

Contact your VMware account team or reach us at tanzu.vmware.com/labs.

What you'll learn: I do, we do, you do

We assemble a balanced team of engineering, design, and product management to bring various skills and perspectives to your project, ensuring that your teams learn valuable skills and a proven approach at every stage of the software development process.

Although pair programming is associated with engineering, our practitioners also use the principles of pairing for product management and design to provide a holistic approach to knowledge transfer across these disciplines.

Role	Learning and key skills
<p>For developers: Tanzu Labs developers use extreme programming (XP) and cloud native development practices. We pair with your developers to write quality code, developing apps to take full advantage of cloud technology.</p> <p>Learn more</p>	<p>Extreme programming (XP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pair programming • Test-driven development • Short iterations • Continuous integration/Continuous deployment <p>Cloud native architecture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15-factor patterns • SWIFT methodology • Application architecture • API-first development • Domain-driven design • Path-to-production analysis • Portfolio rationalization
<p>For designers: Tanzu Labs designers combine the best ideas from user-centered design, design thinking, and lean. We pair with your designers to develop a design practice that focuses on identifying user pains, solving them most effectively and ensuring an optimal path to production.</p> <p>Learn more</p>	<p>User-centered design (UCD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User interviews • Ethnographic studies • Persona definition • Service blueprints • Prototype creation
<p>For product managers: Tanzu Labs product managers pair with your teams to provide the tools, patterns, and methods that lay the foundation for a healthy, sustainable, lean, and agile product development practice.</p> <p>Learn more</p>	<p>Lean product management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product vision and strategy • Minimum viable product definition • Lean experiments • Identify and test assumption • Data-driven decision

<p>For operations teams: Directly connect your operations to the success of your applications and learn how to operate your platform as a product. We work side by side with platform operators to transfer skills and foster DevOps and DevSecOps practices that derisk business investments and support a frictionless developer experience.</p> <p>Learn more</p>	<p>Platform as a product</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Day 2 operations• End-to-end automation• Site reliability engineering practices• Developer onboarding• Internal marketing of the platform
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Frequently Asked Questions

Are there any minimum skill requirements to have our team pair with Tanzu Labs during an engagement?

The only requirement for knowledge transfer during your Tanzu Labs engagement is that your organization has an internal team that has the desire and ability to pair with Tanzu Labs practitioners full time for the length of the engagement. If appropriate, teams can prepare for an upcoming engagement by working through optional learning paths published to the VMware Tanzu Developer Center, including [Foundation of Modern App Practices](#) and [Building a Kubernetes Runtime](#). If your engagement will include use of Spring or VMware Tanzu products, you can prepare with on-demand coursework for [developers](#) or [operators](#). If your goal is to reskill employees with no prior experience in software, we can work with you to create a custom training plan that may involve our training team or a partner to develop and deliver training bootcamps covering the fundamentals of engineering, product management, or design. This allows the time your team spends with our consultants to have the greatest impact.

We've adopted the SAFe framework. How will your way of working impact our existing process?

Tanzu Labs helps organizations ensure that SAFe's processes are always congruent with agile principles and practices. We help optimize autonomy (which agile teams require) and connection (to meet strategic goals). And we help customers instrument the work done under SAFe to ensure that it provides measurable business value.

[Learn more about how our approach compliments SAFe.](#)

How do you scale enablement for larger teams or entire organizations?

Tanzu Labs has a long history of helping organizations establish and scale modern software development teams using the model that best fits the client's goals. We can leverage various models to scale modern software development and enablement across your organization, from scaling an existing team to seeding new teams with an innovation lab model to focusing first on net-new capabilities and reskilling.

Our decades of experience includes working with customers such as [Ford Motors](#), [U.S. Army](#), [Duke Energy](#), [Volkswagen](#), Allstate, and Humana to implement large programs to enable and scale agile development practices.

Regardless of the model used, we focus on the same fundamental principles in every engagement:

- Define hard goals and measure them
- Plan just enough to start and let the work help inform the strategy.
- Build skills by pairing and doing work together
- Boost productivity with automation and proven methods to reduce friction

We're already a qualified team of cloud native developers. Will we learn anything new?

Yes, even experienced development teams familiar with cloud native practices will benefit from our disciplined approach and the perspective we bring from working with hundreds of clients. Even the VMware Tanzu R&D organization continues to hone their skills in extreme programming, lean product management, and user-centered design. Working with Tanzu Labs is a catalyst for taking your team's skills to the next level.

Is it possible to work with Tanzu Labs without the enablement and skill transfer?

Although enablement is part of how we usually deliver projects, we can put more or less emphasis on enablement depending on your organization's needs. The only requirement is that you have a product or project owner who can work with the Tanzu Labs team to define the goals for the engagement and work with us to make decisions as needed.

Start your organizational transformation today!

Together, we'll pair with your teams to transfer modern, cloud native practices across disciplines while we work on your critical applications and business challenges.

Contact your VMware account team or reach out to us at

tanzu.vmware.com/labs.