The Best Legal Billing Software for Large Firms in 2025

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Running a large law firm is a balancing act with many moving pieces—especially when it comes to law firm billing. This is where legal billing software comes in.

Legal billing software streamlines many essential billing tasks for law firms—like tracking billable hours and expenses, creating invoices, and managing payment collections. For large law firms, legal billing software is especially important for saving time, ensuring compliant billing processes, and driving profitability while managing many clients and cases at the same time.

In the following blog post, we'll explore how to find the best legal billing software for large firms like yours. We'll cover the benefits and key features of billing software for law firms and provide tips for selecting the right software for your firm. To help you evaluate your options, we'll also review some of the pros and cons of some of the top legal billing software options for large law firms today.

Does your firm struggle with clunky billing and collections processes? Clio's legal billing software makes it easier for law firms to quickly and securely send bills in a way that's easier for clients—which means that firms get paid faster.

What is legal billing software?

Legal billing software helps law firms manage the multi-faceted process of billing legal clients more effectively and efficiently. This type of software streamlines and assists with billing and collections tasks like tracking time, invoicing, reviewing bills, client accounting compliance, processing payments, financial reporting, and more.

Top legal billing software for large firms

When it comes to selecting legal billing software for your firm, there are a number of options to consider. The best choice for your large law firm will ultimately depend on your firm's size, practice areas, and unique needs.

If your firm is considering adopting legal billing software or making a switch, it's worth exploring some of the more popular options. To help with this process, we've rounded up some of the best legal billing software for large firms available today:

Clio

Clio's cloud-based legal practice management software offers a comprehensive solution that's secure, efficient, and scalable—making it a practical, innovative choice for thousands of mid-sized and large firms. Clio Manage's legal time and billing software offers an extensive suite of features designed to simplify the legal process in a way that's user-friendly and convenient for legal clients—and efficient and effective for firms.

Pros:

- **It enhances productivity.** Clio integrates seamlessly into mid-sized and large firms' tech stack, allowing teams to boost billing productivity by automating manual tasks and capturing accurate time entries. And, when combined with Clio's online payment processing functionality, Clio Payments, it's quick and straightforward to collect payments online or in person via Clio's mobile app.
- Mid-sized firms using Clio Payments have a median payment collection waiting period of nine days, compared to 20 days for those not using online payments. – *2024 Legal Trends for Mid-Sized Law Firms.*
- **It's scalable.** Clio's simple and transparent pricing offers flexible plan options that allow firms to choose plans to fit the features and number of users they need—making it easy to scale depending on the firm's needs.
- **It's secure.** Backed by Clio's industry-leading security features and protocols, Clio's cloud-based billing software empowers firms to send bills securely electronically via a client portal and collect payments online through secure click-to-pay links.
- **It enriches a tech stack.** Using Clio's legal billing features alongside other Clio offerings—such as Clio Manage's practice management features, and Clio Grow's client intake features—in addition top integrations with popular practice management tools (there are currently over 100 apps available in the Clio App Directory plus an open API allowing custom builds) unlocks more streamlined workflows and time savings.
- **Solves for more than just billing.** On-top of time tracking and billing, Clio also has features to support robust case management, task management, calendar rules, client communication features, and more.

Cons:

Geographic restrictions. Clio Payments and some integrations are only available in certain countries. While Clio Payments works well for UK firms, certain specialist integrations or payment processing features may not be currently available.

PracticePanther

Pitched at firms of all sizes, but most suited to small to mid-sized firms, PracticePanther is a cloud-based legal practice management platform that bundles billing, time tracking, document management, client communications and reporting into one package.

Pros:

- **All-in-one platform:** Combines billing, case management, document storage and CRM tools, allowing users to ditch their patchwork of apps and keep everything under one roof.
- Customisable invoices: Supports branded invoices, different billing rates, and templates for different case types.

Cons:

- **Not ideal for large firms**: While it claims to scale, some large firms may find the automation and CRM features a bit basic or lacking on customisation compared to heavyweight enterprise systems.

Insight Legal

Designed with UK law firms in mind, Insight Legal brings together accounts, case management and billing into one tidy package. While suitable for firms of all sizes its flexible deployment options make it a good fit for larger practice juggling multiple departments.

Pros:

- **Compliance made easier:** Built to keep firms on the right side of SRA rules and other regulatory requirements, with real-time checks and alerts.
- **Automated billing & time recording:** Captures billable hours and expenses with no fuss, and spits out detailed, itemised invoices to ensure every minute is accounted for.

Cons:

- **Integrations could be broader:** Plays nicely with Outlook and some banking systems, but users after deep integrations with a wider range of tools may find it limiting.

Xero

Xero is a cloud-based accounting and legal billing software with real-time reporting and automation features. While it's a popular choice for small to medium-sized practices, Xero is increasingly used by larger UK firms looking for a flexible, scalable solution.

Pros:

- **Deep integration with UK banks and third-party apps:** With integrations covering everything from CRM to payroll and document management, users can build a tech stack to suit their needs.
- **Built-in compliance:** Bundled features like MTD (Making Tax Digital) for VAT, keep HMRC without resorting to endless spreadsheets.

Xero also integrates directly into Clio. Learn more here.

Hoxro

Hoxro is an all-in-one legal case and billing management platform designed for law firms that want to keep everything from matter management to billing, document handling and compliance in one box. It's especially suited for professionals in larger firms who are tired of juggling multiple systems.

Pros:

- **Strong document management:** Create, edit and store documents, facilitated with time-saving mail merge and automation features.
- **Real-time collaboration:** Instantly communicate with team members, co-edit documents, and monitor matter progress without leaving the platform.

Cons:

- **Size and scale:** Hoxro is a smaller name in legal tech, so big firms with complex global operations might wonder if it can keep up as they grow.

MyCase

MyCase helps law firms streamline their admin by tracking time, automating invoices, managing client communications, and handling online payments. While popular with firms of all sizes, the platform is especially suited for large UK firms juggling multiple solicitors and complex billing requirements.

Pros:

- **Effortless time tracking:** Auto-start timers for calls, emails and calendar events make billing simple and accurate.
- **Seamless integrations:** Syncs with major platforms including QuickBooks, Outlook and Google Workspace.

Cons:

- **Not UK-specific:** MyCase is built with a US focus, so some compliance tools, templates and workflows may need tweaking to fit a UK practice.

Smokeball

Smokeball is aimed at solicitors, partners, and firm administrators who want to streamline billing, track every billable minute, and get paid faster. Smokeball automates time tracking, supports every billing format, and integrates with accounting tools like Xero and QuickBooks.

Pros:

- **Client portal:** Allows clients to see outstanding balances, download invoices, and pay online, eliminating the need to resend invoices.
- **Powerful reporting and insights:** Allows partners to keep tabs on firm profitability, outstanding accounts, and time allocation.

Cons:

- **Hybrid cloud system:** Some users may prefer the flexibility of a true cloud system which allows faster scaling due not being bound by on-premise infrastructure.

Essential features of legal billing software

While features may vary by software and by different pricing plans (some software providers offer different tiers of features and functionality for different pricing plans, for example), key features to look for in today's legal billing software include:

- **Time and expense tracking features:** The ability to accurately track billable hours and expenses–eliminating messy spreadsheets or third-party time tracking applications.
- **Invoice creation and sharing features:** The ability to create detailed, clear invoices for various billing arrangements (such as individual and split bills) and securely send them electronically.
- **Payment processing features:** The ability to offer flexible payment options and accept online payments.

- **Flexible billing features:** The ability for flexible payment options and alternative billing arrangements.
- **Client accounting features:** Simplified management of client accounts and SRA compliance.
- **Reporting features:** The ability to easily track financial performance and profitability with legal billing reports and financial reporting.
- **Accounting and bookkeeping features:** The ability to sync transactions with your accounting software reduces manual entries and errors.
- **Integration features:** The ability for your billing software to sync and work with practice management tools and accounting software for streamlined workflows.
- **Security features:** Ensure the protection of client data and ensure compliance with industry rules and regulations.

What are the benefits of legal billing software?

Legal billing software is one of the most effective ways for law firms to improve their billing and collections processes.

Some of the key benefits of legal billing software for large firms are related to:

- **Efficiency.** Legal billing software offers improved efficiency for many billing processes, such as time tracking, invoicing, and payment collections. Reducing time spent on these time-consuming manual tasks helps large law firms save time and boost productivity.
- **Accuracy.** Similarly, using software for billing tasks helps to reduce the risk of manual billing errors or inaccurate time and expense tracking.
- **Cash flow and profitability.** As the *2024 Legal Trends Report for Mid-Sized Law Firms*found, the median total payment lockup (unbilled and uncollected revenue) among mid-sized law firms is 101 days. Adopting streamlined billing and convenient payment options makes it easier to bill clients faster and for clients to pay promptly, leading to increased revenue for your firm.
- **Compliance.** From LEDES billing to client accounting, law firms have many unique legal, accounting, and ethical responsibilities when it comes to billing. Legal billing software features make it easier to manage complex processes and stay compliant.
- **Reporting.** Information is key to sound decision-making and financial management for law firms, and reporting features in law firm billing software make it easier for firms to track key performance indicators and analyse data.
- **Client experience.** Legal billing software makes it easier for firms to send clear, detailed invoices to clients in less time. Increased transparency and a timely billing process contribute to a better experience for clients.

Cost considerations: Budgeting for software solutions

Budget is one of the primary considerations when selecting legal billing software for mid to large-sized law firms. Weigh the following factors when budgeting for potential legal billing software solutions to help you find the right fit:

- **Tiered pricing.** Many legal billing software solutions offer different pricing tiers depending on the specific features that a firm may want to use. Consider which tier and price would best suit your firm.
- **Subscription fees and contracts.** Be sure to check if signing up means you're locked in with a software for a set period.
- **Monthly vs. annual prices.** Some software solutions offer a discount when subscribing on an annual basis.
- **Integration fees.** Are you hoping to use a particular software with certain software integrations that you don't already pay for? If so, consider any app costs for integrations and include them in your budget.
- **Onboarding and training costs.** Are there fees or costs required for training, setup, or onboarding?
- **Additional fees.** Look for any hidden costs for things like additional storage or additional features.
- **Return on investment (ROI).** In addition to considering how much a software will cost, take some time to consider what cost savings it may be able to provide the firm as an ROI.

Tips for selecting the right software for large firms

Consider the following tips when vetting potential legal billing solutions for a large law firm:

1. **Know what your firm needs**

As with almost any software solution, there is a wide array of great options available to choose from when it comes to legal billing software—but that doesn't mean that all will be the right fit.

To avoid choosing software that doesn't have the features your firm really needs—or, conversely, paying too much for software with features your firm won't use—start by taking the time to assess the specific needs, wants, and pain points your firm currently has with legal billing.

What billing tasks are taking up the most time or causing the most frustration at your firm? Identify these, then when evaluating legal software look for a solution that addresses those specifically.

1. **Keep scalability in mind**

In addition to identifying areas of improvement for your firm's billing now, it's also important to prioritise scalability for the future. Legal billing software for large firms should be able to scale as the practice expands and more cases and clients come on board.

1. **Remember the budget**

As mentioned previously, it's important to carefully consider what fits the budget. Make sure a potential software fits the budget, and look for any free trials or demos available.

Also, consider scalability with the budget: Can your firm start at a more basic tier for a lower cost, then move up to more fully-featured tiers later?

1. **Standalone billing software or a legal practice management platform?**

Does your firm want an all-in-one solution for practice management and billing features or just billing software? If you're choosing a standalone software, be sure to consider how well it can integrate with your existing practice management software.

1. **Consider product innovation**

You want to select a solution that will invest in delivering you the best product. This means making sure the solution you chose has a product team that delivers on their promises. This is crucial today where we see advancements in things like AI impacting how we work.

1. **Consider integrations**

Similarly, it's also important to consider how well a potential billing software will be able to integrate with your existing tech stack and systems. Can it integrate with your accounting software? Does it integrate with other tools that your firm frequently uses?

1. **Check on customer support**

Take the time to research potential solution's customer support and training resources. Does the software offer responsive customer support if something goes wrong? How will your firm learn how to use the software?

With the above tips in mind, be sure to spend time thoroughly researching and comparing potential solutions before implementing one at your firm.

The impact of AI on legal billing software

Artificial intelligence (AI) has already had a significant impact on law firm workflows and processes, including legal billing.

When used ethically, AI tools (like Clio's upcoming generative AI-powered partner, Clio Duo, which is coming soon) can help lawyers streamline processes and improve workflows. In the realm of legal billing, this can mean a range of functions, such as:

- Built-in time tracking to make it easier to track billable hours
- AI-powered invoice review to flag errors or inconsistencies
- Detailed reporting via AI-driven analytics
- And more

Mobile capabilities: Billing on the go

Mobile capability is another important factor to bear in mind when considering legal billing software solutions.

From remote working to working on the go, the ability to track time and manage billing flexibly enhances efficiency.

Clio's top-rated mobile app, for example, makes it easy to pull up bills and capture billable time on the go.

Compliance features: Safeguarding client data

As with any software or tool your firm uses, safeguarding client data is critically important when considering any legal billing software.

Any software your firm uses should have, at minimum, robust security features, be compliant with industry standards and requirements, and use security-focused features.

To learn more about how to keep your firm secure, read our guide to law firm data security.

Clio, for example, protects client information with top security features and protocols, including:

- Having dedicated security experts available 24x7x365 to respond to security incidents

- Applying in-transit and at-rest encryption using industry best practices (such as HTTPS and TLS)
- Meeting compliance requirements, including GDPR guidelines, HIPAA standards, SOC2 compliance, and ensuring all payments are PCI-compliant

You can learn more about Clio's security features and protocols here.

Conclusion: Choosing the best legal billing solution for your firm

Legal billing for a large law firm can be complex and time-consuming, but the right software can help. The right legal billing software solution can streamline workflows, improve efficiency, and ensure more accurate and effective billing, all while keeping client data secure.

The key to choosing the best solution for your law firm is to do your research. By determining the areas where your firm could most benefit from improvement, you can then find the right legal billing software to help.

Clio's legal billing software is a great choice for a streamlined, innovative, and comprehensive solution. Clio's billing features make it easier to bill your clients in a way that's convenient and clear for them—while also making the whole billing and collections process easier, quicker, and more effective for your firm.

Learn more about Clio's legal billing software here.

Frequently asked questions

What is legal billing software and why do large firms need it?

Legal billing software is a type of software that helps law firms to better manage their billing processes by streamlining tasks like time and expense tracking, invoicing, and payment processing. Large law firms can benefit from legal billing software because they handle a higher volume of cases and invoices—legal billing software makes it easier to stay organised, saves time, and improves efficiency.

Can legal billing software integrate with other legal practice management tools?

Legal billing software can integrate with other legal practice management tools, provided the tools have an integration set up with the software. Integrating legal billing software with other legal practice management tools can help law firms to streamline

workflows and save time by connecting processes and reducing duplicate tasks.

Can legal billing software be used for multiple practice areas and types of clients?

Legal billing software can be used for multiple practice areas and types of clients. Depending on the specific software used, law firms may be able to customise certain billing processes and invoices to accommodate the specific needs of different practice areas or clients.

What is the best legal billing software?

The best legal billing software for a particular law firm is the option that best meets the law firm's specific needs and requirements. It should be secure, user-friendly, reliable, and it should include features to assist with common legal billing tasks like time and expense tracking, invoicing, payment processing, and reporting. It should also be able to help law firms to stay compliant with industry regulations.

How does legal billing software ensure data security?

Legal billing software ensures data security by employing a combination of robust security measures designed to protect client data from unauthorised access, breaches, and loss. These security measures may include encryption of data at rest and in transit, access controls, regular security audits, and compliance with industry standards and regulations. The software must also adhere to security and privacy requirements.

About Clio

Clio is the global leader in legal AI, powering legal work across the profession, from law firms of every size to corporate legal teams, government agencies, and courts. Its Intelligent Legal Work Platform unites the business and practice of law, connecting the people, information, and processes behind legal work. Clio's AI brings the context together with legal sources drawn from Clio Library, a growing collection of more than one billion legal documents. Over 400,000 legal professionals in more than 130 countries rely on Clio to run their legal world. Learn more at www.clio.com.