

As IT heads seek to unlock the potential of AI, this checklist serves as the definitive starting point, guiding them through the critical considerations and decisions required to explore and implement their first successful use case.



#1 Strategy and Objectives

- Define Clear Objective
- Ensure Leadership Alignment
- Create an Al Roadmap

Ask Yourself

Have I identified specific business goals and objectives for implementing AI in my operations

Are these objectives aligned with my overall business strategy

Is there executive leadership alignment and commitment to Al adoption

Do I have a formalized roadmap of maturing Al adoption and governance

#2 Data Readiness

- Assess data quality and availability.
- · Establish data governance.

Ask Yourself

Do I have access to high-quality and relevant data for AI projects

If so, how do I consolidate data across siloes onto a single data store

Have I assessed data quality, completeness, and availability

Is there a data governance strategy in place?

If not, How to build one and who do I reach out to



#3 Infrastructure and Technology

- Evaluate IT infrastructure.
- Consider cloud-based Al services.

Ask Yourself

Do I have the necessary IT infrastructure to support Al initiatives, including computing power and storage capacity?

Is my infrastructure scalable to handle AI workloads

Have I evaluated cloud-based AI services & data and AI platforms





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#4 Talent and Skills

- · Identify AI skill gaps.
- Develop a talent acquisition plan.

Ask Yourself

Have I identified the AI skill gaps in my organization

Do I have a plan to acquire, develop, or hire the required AI talent

Is there a team responsible for AI strategy and execution



#5 Compliance and Ethics

- Understand regulatory requirements.
- · Address ethical considerations.

Ask Yourself

Am I aware of the regulatory requirements and compliance standards relevant to my industry

Have I assessed how AI implementation might impact data privacy, security, and compliance

Am I prepared to address potential ethical and legal issues, such as bias and transparency

#6 Budget and ROI Analysis

- Allocate an Al budget.
- Analyze ROI potential.

Ask Yourself

Have I allocated a budget for AI initiatives, including data acquisition, software, hardware, and talent

Have I conducted a thorough ROI analysis to understand the potential benefits and costs of AI adoption

Is there a process to continuously evaluate ROI as Al projects progress

7 Project and Change Management:

- Prioritize Al use cases.
- · Plan for change management.

Ask Yourself

Have I identified and prioritized specific AI use cases that align with my business goals

Have I assessed the feasibility and potential impact of these use cases

Are there well-defined success criteria for each use case

Do I have a change management plan to guide my organization through the AI adoption process?

Is my organizational culture open to embracing Al, experimentation, and learning from failures?



BONUS: Never Skip Security and Privacy Considerations



Ask Yourself

Have I conducted a comprehensive security and risk assessment for AI projects

Am I prepared to handle potential security threats and vulnerabilities associated with AI

Have I established policies and procedures for ensuring data privacy and ethical AI practices

Am I prepared to address issues related to bias, fairness, and transparency in AI decision-making?

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