

FREE DOWNLOAD

AI Stack Decision Checklist

Use this before buying another AI subscription. Score real workflow value, overlap, pricing risk, and exit cost.

1. Define the job

- ☐ The weekly workflow I need improved is: _____
- ☐ The output must be publishable/useful in under _____ minutes.
- ☐ The tool must replace or reduce: _____

2. Test candidates on the same task

TOOL	TASK RESULT	EDITS NEEDED	MONTHLY COST	KEEP?

3. Overlap audit

- ☐ This tool does something my current stack cannot do.
- ☐ I checked whether an included plan/tool already covers this job.
- ☐ I checked cancellation, usage limits, and annual billing terms.

4. Buying rule

Buy only if: the tool saves time every week, replaces another paid seat, or produces a result you can directly monetize. Otherwise, stay on the free tier and revisit later.

Prepared by AIToolsEssentials · Updated 2026-08-25 · Research/strategy only, not implementation support.