

Ethics Audit Checklist

Module 6 | Run this checklist on your project before final launch. Check every item, document any concerns, and address them.

PROJECT NAME:

DATE OF AUDIT:

BIAS & FAIRNESS

- I have considered who benefits most and who might be excluded by my project
- If my project makes recommendations or decisions, I've checked for hidden assumptions
- AI-generated content in my project has been reviewed for stereotypes and one-sided perspectives
- I've tested my project with at least one person different from me (different background, ability, or perspective)
- Categories describing people (names, roles, descriptions) reflect diversity

PRIVACY & DATA

- I only collect data my project actually needs (data minimization)
- Users know what data is collected and why (transparency)
- Data is stored securely with appropriate access restrictions
- I have not collected sensitive data (health, financial, location) from others without explicit consent
- If targeting users under 13, I've considered COPPA and similar regulations
- There is a plan for what happens to data if I stop maintaining the project

POTENTIAL HARM

- I've considered how my project could be misused (bullying, deception, stalking, harm)
- My project doesn't shame, guilt, or pressure users (especially around habits, health, or appearance)
- If my project displays data or statistics, they are accurate and not misleading
- AI-generated content has been fact-checked where accuracy matters
- I've considered what happens if my project's data is exposed or leaked
- My project does not spread misinformation or present AI output as verified fact

ACCESSIBILITY

- Text is at least 16px and has sufficient contrast against the background
- Images have alt text descriptions
- Buttons and links are large enough to tap on mobile (at least 44x44px)
- My project doesn't rely solely on color to convey information

■ Interactive elements can be reached with a keyboard (not just mouse/touch)

■ My project works on mobile devices

TRANSPARENCY & ATTRIBUTION

■ I am transparent that AI was used in building this project

■ All images, code libraries, and datasets are properly licensed and credited

■ I have not used AI to impersonate a real person or falsely claim authorship

■ If AI powers any user-facing feature, users are informed

■ My project includes a privacy/attribution statement

Audit Findings & Action Items

For any items you could NOT check off, document the concern and your plan to address it:

CONCERN #1:

Item:	
Risk level: <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low	
Action plan:	

CONCERN #2:

Item:	
Risk level: <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low	
Action plan:	

CONCERN #3:

Item:	
Risk level: <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low	
Action plan:	

CONCERN #4:

Item:	
Risk level: <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low	
Action plan:	

CONCERN #5:

Item:	
Risk level: <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low	
Action plan:	

CONCERN #6:

Item:	
Risk level: <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low	
Action plan:	

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (circle one): Ready to ship Needs minor fixes Needs significant changes

Run this audit twice: once in Module 6 (Lesson 6.3) and once in Module 7 (Lesson 7.2) after final polish. Responsible builders check their work before they ship.