

# Project Quality Rubric

AI Builder Lab | Self-Evaluation Guide

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Use this rubric to evaluate your project before shipping. Rate yourself honestly in each category. **Aim for 3 or higher in every category before you deploy.** If you score a 1 or 2, the rubric tells you exactly what to fix.

## 1. FUNCTIONALITY

*Does it work?*

<b>1 — Broken</b>	Core features don't work. Errors, blank screens, or buttons that do nothing. Not usable.
<b>2 — Partially Working</b>	Some features work but others are broken or incomplete. Data doesn't save, or major bugs exist.
<b>3 — Functional</b>	All core features work correctly. Data saves. No errors during normal use. Minor edge cases might fail.
<b>4 — Polished</b>	Everything works, including edge cases. Input validation prevents errors. Graceful handling of empty states and unexpected input.

My Score for 1. FUNCTIONALITY:

\_\_\_ / 4

## 2. DESIGN

*Does it look intentional?*

<b>1 — Rough</b>	Default browser styling. Inconsistent colors, fonts, or spacing. Hard to read. Looks accidental.
<b>2 — Basic</b>	Some styling applied but inconsistent. Some areas look good, others look unfinished. Layout works on desktop only.
<b>3 — Clean</b>	Consistent color scheme, typography, and spacing throughout. Readable on both desktop and mobile. Looks like a finished product.
<b>4 — Professional</b>	Thoughtful design with visual hierarchy, smooth transitions, and attention to details like hover states, icons, and empty states. Could pass as a commercial product.

My Score for 2. DESIGN:

\_\_\_ / 4

## 3. USEFULNESS

*Would someone actually use this?*

<b>1 — Toy Example</b>	Just a demo or tutorial output. Doesn't solve a real problem. No reason for anyone to come back.
<b>2 — Has Potential</b>	Addresses a real need but missing key features or too limited to be useful in practice.

<b>3 — Genuinely Useful</b>	Solves a specific problem. Someone (including you) would actually use this regularly. Has enough features to be practical.
<b>4 — Impressive</b>	Does something better, faster, or more elegantly than existing alternatives. People would choose to use this over other options.

My Score for 3. USEFULNESS:

\_\_\_ / 4

## 4. DOCUMENTATION

*Can someone understand it?*

<b>1 — None</b>	No explanation of what the project is, how to use it, or why it exists.
<b>2 — Minimal</b>	Has a title but no instructions. New users would be confused about what to do.
<b>3 — Clear</b>	Clear title, brief description, and the project is self-explanatory through good UI design. Project summary is complete.
<b>4 — Portfolio-Ready</b>	Complete project summary, clear value proposition, well-written reflection. Could be shared with a college admissions officer or employer.

My Score for 4. DOCUMENTATION:

\_\_\_ / 4

## 5. ETHICS & RESPONSIBILITY

*Have you thought about impact?*

<b>1 — Not Considered</b>	No thought given to privacy, bias, accessibility, or potential harm.
<b>2 — Acknowledged</b>	Aware of ethical issues but haven't addressed them in the project.
<b>3 — Addressed</b>	Ethics audit completed. Privacy considered. Accessibility basics met (readable text, sufficient contrast, mobile-friendly). Bias checked.
<b>4 — Exemplary</b>	Privacy statement included. Accessibility thoroughly tested. Bias actively mitigated. Clear documentation of ethical decisions made.

My Score for 5. ETHICS:

\_\_\_ / 4

## TOTAL SCORE

Total:

\_\_\_ / 20

**17–20: Ship it!** Your project is polished and portfolio-ready. Deploy with confidence.

**13–16: Almost there.** Your project works and looks good. Fix any categories scored 2 or below, then ship.

**9–12: Needs work.** Core functionality may be incomplete or design needs significant polish. Focus on the lowest-scoring categories.

**5–8: Not ready yet.** Go back to the building sessions and iterate. Your project needs more development before deployment.

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**Action Plan:** List the 1–3 specific things you need to fix based on your scores:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_