

Are you ready to execute on AI?

This checklist helps senior leaders assess whether their organization is structurally ready to move beyond experimentation and toward meaningful AI execution.

Vision & impact

- ☐ Is there a tangible and shared vision across the organization, that describes how future AI-enabled business as a whole and customer experience would look like?
- ☐ Is the **specific, measurable** outcome AI will deliver (e.g., "reduce claims processing time by 40%") clearly stated in **the vision and unit's business strategies**?

Executive ownership

- ☐ For the past month, have the senior leaders spoken and taken sponsorship over some AI initiatives?
- ☐ Are **AI/Data transformation outcomes** tied to the **performance-based incentives** (bonuses etc.) of more than **two C-level executives**?

Value creation

- ☐ Can you point to a portfolio of **three or more AI projects** where the **measured initial business impact** (e.g., revenue, cost savings) exceeds the investment?

Data as a product

- ☐ Is your organization building toward a unified, reusable data layer?
- ☐ Are your data assets easily discoverable and trustworthy?

Platform scalability

- ☐ Can a new, multidisciplinary team **access data, build a model, and deploy a basic version to production** – securely and compliantly – in **under four weeks**?

Production maturity

Are any of your AI models deployed in live environments today? ☐

Are you currently using an **automated pipeline** (not manual scripts) to deploy, monitor, and **retrain/update** live AI models in production ☐

Governance

☐ Is there a **mandatory, documented review step** for every new AI project where ethical risks and data privacy concerns are formally **signed off** by a non-project stakeholder?

☐ Have you **defined and shared** clear policies that define who can **approve, deploy, and maintain** AI models, and what **tools/platforms** are permissible?

Talent & culture

Do you have **dedicated roles** for **AI Product Management** or **ML Engineering** (not just Data Scientists), and have you run **compulsory data and AI literacy training** for a business unit? ☐

Interpretation guide

9+ boxes checked: You are well-positioned to scale. Focus on orchestration and value realization.

6–8 boxes checked: You are on the path. Identify the key structural gaps to prioritize next.

< 6 boxes checked: Your organization may be at risk of pilot fatigue. Consider pausing expansion to focus on readiness-building foundations.