

CHECKLIST

The MVP Scope Cut List

A working checklist for cutting scope back to what actually needs testing first.

FORMAT

12 checks

TIME

20-30 min

WHO IT'S FOR

Founders and product teams scoping a first version

USE IT WHEN

Use when a “minimum” version keeps growing back toward the full plan.

01 Assumption

- What's the one assumption this version needs to test?
 - Does every remaining feature serve that assumption?
 - What's in the plan just because it seemed obvious to include?
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02 Necessity

- What would break if this feature were removed entirely?
 - Could this be done manually instead of built?
 - Is this needed for the test, or just for the ambition?
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03 Cost

- What does this feature cost in time, complexity and risk?
 - Is that cost proportional to what it teaches us?
 - What else could that time buy instead?
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04 Cut

- What's the first thing you'd cut under time pressure?
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- Why hasn't it been cut already?

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- What would you need to see to add it back later?
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This resource is deliberately lightweight. Adapt the language to your context and capture the decisions that follow.