

The Build vs Buy AI Checklist:

The 9 Questions You Need to Ask

Mark the following statements as either true or false. Then, tally up the points to find out if building or buying an AI solution makes sense for your company.

1.

It is a top priority for your company to allocate the resources needed to constantly follow the latest innovations in machine learning and implement consistent updates to ensure your solution does not lag behind your competition.

True: -15
False: +15

2.

You would benefit from training data outside of the data you already own.

True: +10
False: -10

3.

You fully understand what machine-learning technical debt is and have in-house experts who are able to focus their time on detecting and resolving this.

“It is remarkably easy to incur massive ongoing maintenance costs at the system level when applying machine learning. [...] These include boundary erosion, entanglement, hidden feedback loops, undeclared consumers, data dependencies, changes in the external world, and a variety of system-level anti-patterns.” Machine Learning: The High Interest Credit Card of Technical Debt (Sculley et. al, 2014)

True: -10
False: +10

4.

You currently have the budget and want to use it to hire an in-house team of experts to build out your solution along with the overhead costs of powering AI technology.

True: -15
False: +15

5.

Being able to implement and scale AI-based functionality for your product or service easily and without much time and resources taken from your current team is important.

True: +20
False: -20

6.

The budget needed to build an in-house AI solution could be more helpful for building out other areas of business, such as customer support or product innovation.

True: +10
False: -10

7.

AI is a core business objective and differentiator, and your company’s revenue is mainly dependent on continually improving and selling AI.

True: -5
False: +5

8.

You see the value of building AI in-house as far greater than the long-term costs of maintaining a solid infrastructure.

True: -5
False: +5

9.

AI is an add-on to your current business or product offering and not the core of what you do or sell.

True: +5
False: -5

Total Points: _____

20 or more points?

You should invest in an AI tool, which will enable you to get the benefits of AI without the costs of building and maintaining an AI infrastructure.

Less than 20 points?

Building your AI in-house might be possible!

Want to learn more about the pros and cons of building or buying an AI solution? Talk to an expert from the Clarifai team! Email us at info@clarifai.com