

Build versus buy comparison

Compare delivery options using observed workflow requirements.

A requirement-by-requirement comparison

Ownership and whole-running-cost questions

A completed reporting design example

A free worksheet from ailevrg.com/guides/ai-build-vs-buy

Define the job first. Request demonstrations using your approved examples rather than a supplier's standard happy path.

01 Job

Workflow and useful finish

Essential requirements

Useful optional features

Client variation and exception

02 Options

Existing product option

Configuration option

Custom build option

Evidence of fit for each requirement

03 Ownership

Information and workflow ownership

Access and integration checks

Setup and ongoing cost inputs

Maintenance, support and export owner

04 Decision

Examples tested and results

Unresolved requirements

Chosen first route and reason

Trigger to reconsider

Choosing a reporting preparation route

Invented teaching example. No client outcome is claimed.

Need

Prepare agreed reports for several invented client variations with checkable sources.

Comparison

Test whether an existing reporting tool can handle the source and review requirements.

Test configuration of current systems for the same jobs.

Estimate a custom layer only for requirements those routes cannot meet.

Decision evidence

Acceptable reports, complete review effort, maintainable changes and exportable client requirements.

Limit

No named product is scored and no route is assumed to win before the tests.