

Brief AI Startup Roadmap

Starter-tier structured guide for developing an AI startup business document without the full premium operating pack.

Document Version: v1.0

Tier: Starter Tier Sample

Issued: 16 April 2026

AI Startup Roadmap & Operating Blueprint

Condensed version with enough structure to begin planning.

Document Control

Field	Detail
Document title	Brief AI Startup Roadmap
Version	v1.0
Issue date	16 April 2026
Prepared for	Starter Tier subscriber demonstration
Purpose	Provide structure for building a startup plan without the full premium detail

Executive Summary

This brief guide gives a structured starting point for an AI-enabled startup. It focuses on the minimum planning components: problem selection, customer validation, MVP definition, basic budget, pilot launch and execution metrics.

Starter-tier principle

Start narrow, validate with real customers, build a focused MVP, run paid pilots and improve weekly.

1. Startup Thesis

Question	Starter answer
Customer	Define one specific buyer and user group
Problem	Choose one costly, frequent and measurable workflow pain
AI role	Use AI for automation, extraction, summarization or decision support
Revenue	Start with paid pilots, then convert to subscription
Advantage	Use domain expertise, workflow templates or access to buyers

2. 90-Day Launch Plan

Period	Focus	Output
Days 1-15	Idea selection and customer list	Niche, Lean Canvas and 50 prospects

Days 16-45	Customer discovery	30 interviews and validated problem
Days 46-60	MVP definition	Feature scope and demo plan
Days 61-90	Prototype and pilot setup	Working demo and 3 pilot prospects

3. Lean Canvas Starter Template

Box	Prompt
Problem	What painful workflow are you solving?
Customer segments	Who experiences and pays for the problem?
Unique value proposition	Why is your solution clearly better?
Solution	What is the first focused AI workflow?
Channels	How will you reach the first 100 prospects?
Revenue streams	What will the customer pay for?
Cost structure	What are your AI, cloud, development and sales costs?
Key metrics	What proves traction?
Unfair advantage	What is hard for competitors to copy?

4. MVP and Pilot Checklist

Area	Starter checklist
MVP	Secure login, document upload, AI summary/extraction, exportable output, usage tracking
Pilot	3-5 pilot customers, 30-60 day duration, agreed success metric, weekly review
Security	Access control, encryption, backups, privacy policy and basic logging
AI quality	Human review, source citations, output testing and incident log
Sales	One-page brief, demo script, pricing sheet and pilot proposal

5. Budget Starter View

Category	Starter estimate
Domain/email/tools	\$100-\$300
Design/prototype	\$0-\$500

Development	\$0-\$2,000 if founder-led
AI/API costs	\$100-\$500/month
Cloud hosting	\$50-\$300/month
Legal/admin	\$500-\$2,000
Marketing	\$300-\$1,500

6. Key Metrics

Metric	Starter target
Customer interviews	30-50 in first 6 weeks
Paid pilots	3-5 by month 6
MRR	\$1k-\$5k by month 6 if pilots convert
Weekly active usage	40%+ during pilot
Time saved	30%+ reduction in target workflow
Retention	Customers continue after pilot

Prepared for subscription-tier demonstration use. This brief document is intentionally less detailed than the executive version and should be used as a starter planning guide.