

Vibe Coding Checklist

Use this when pairing with AI

Layer 1: Clarity & Comprehension

Do I understand this?

- I can explain what every function does
- I know why each line exists or I've removed it

No "black-box" chunks left in just because they worked

Layer 2: Fit & Alignment

Does it belong here?

- Matches architectural patterns or breaks them on purpose
- Uses the right abstraction. Not too vague. Not too rigid
- Performance, security, and error handling are accounted for

Layer 3: Style & Structure

Did I refactor with intention?

Names are clear and meaningful

Structure is readable (no deep nesting, no magic numbers)

Formatting and conventions are consistent

Layer 4: Behaviors & Boundaries

Do I test the edges?

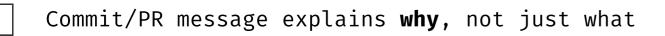
Happy path is confirmed

Unexpected inputs are handled

Meaningful tests exists: automated ones pass, manual ones documented

Layer 5: Communication & Context

Did I explain my choices?



Comments clarify intent and background. They do not restate code

Any uncertainty or assumptions are clearly noted

Going the distance: Self-Check

Did I learn anything from this code? If not, you may be vibe-coding too hard. Pause. Interrogate the logic. Let learning catch up with speed

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