



Budget Preparation & Planning Checklist

Pre-Planning & Data Collection

Gathering historical financial data, previous year's actuals, and relevant departmental inputs.

Budget Period Start Date

Budget Period End Date

Historical Financial Statements (Last Fiscal Year)

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Primary Budgeting Method

- ☐ Incremental Budgeting
- ☐ Zero-Based Budgeting
- ☐ Activity-Based Budgeting

Required Departmental Data Sources

- ☐ Sales Reports
- ☐ HR/Headcount Projections
- ☐ Marketing Spend Plans
- ☐ Operations/COGS Estimates

Summary of Key Economic Assumptions

Write something...

Goal Setting & Strategic Alignment

Defining key financial objectives, revenue targets, and aligning budget limits with company-wide strategic goals.

Primary Financial Objective

Write something...

Strategic Alignment Summary

Write something...

Target Revenue Growth Percentage

Enter a number...

Budget Implementation Date

Enter date...

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to Track

- ☐ Gross Margin
- ☐ EBITDA
- ☐ Burn Rate
- ☐ Operating Cash Flow
- ☐ Customer Acquisition Cost (CAC)

Strategic Roadmap Document

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Executive Approval

Revenue Forecasting

Projecting sales volumes, pricing models, and potential market fluctuations to estimate total top-line income.

Primary Revenue Stream Name

Write something...

Projected Monthly Revenue

Enter a number...

Revenue Source Category

- ☐ Product Sales
- ☐ Service Subscriptions
- ☐ Licensing Fees
- ☐ Consulting Services

Forecast Period Start Date

Enter date...

Forecast Period End Date

Enter date...

Revenue Assumptions & Drivers

Write something...

Historical Sales Data Support

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Expense & Cost Estimation

Calculating fixed costs, variable expenses, headcount requirements, and anticipated operational overhead.

Fixed Costs Description

Write something...

Total Estimated Operational Expenses

Enter a number...

Expense Categories Included

☐ Payroll & Benefits

☐ Marketing & Advertising

☐ Rent & Facilities

☐ Software & Subscriptions

☐ Travel & Entertainment

☐ Maintenance & Repairs

Expense Estimation Deadline

Enter date...

Supporting Cost Documentation

 Upload File

Assumptions & Contingency Notes

Write something...

Capital Expenditure (CapEx) Planning

Identifying and budgeting for long-term investments, equipment, technology, and infrastructure needs.

Proposed Asset Name

Write something...

Business Justification

Write something...

Estimated Cost

Enter a number...

Planned Purchase Date

Enter date...

Expense Category

- ☐ Hardware/Equipment
- ☐ Software/Licenses
- ☐ Infrastructure/Facilities
- ☐ Vehicles
- ☐ Other

Vendor Quotes/Estimates

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Department Head Approval

Budget Draft Review & Reconciliation

Reviewing the initial draft for discrepancies, comparing it against cash flow projections, and ensuring mathematical accuracy.

Review Completion Date

Enter date...

Review Status

- ☐ Drafting
- ☐ In Review
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Requires Revision

Total Budget Variance Percentage

Enter a number...

Reviewer Notes & Discrepancy Details

Write something...

Finalized Budget Spreadsheet

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Finance Director Approval

Stakeholder Approval & Finalization

Presenting the budget to management/board for formal approval and updating the official accounting records.

Approval Date

Enter date...

Approver Name

- ☐ CFO
- ☐ Finance Director
- ☐ Department Head
- ☐ CEO

Approval Comments/Notes

Write something...

Signed Approval Document

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Final Authorization Signature

Budget Monitoring & Variance Analysis Setup

Establishing the process for monthly tracking of actual vs. budgeted performance and defining variance thresholds.

Budget Review Frequency

Enter date...

Variance Threshold Percentage

Enter a number...

Primary Variance Driver

- ☐ Revenue Shortfall
- ☐ Operational Overspend
- ☐ Unexpected Capital Expense
- ☐ Payroll/Labor Variance

Variance Explanation Notes

Write something...

Supporting Documentation

 Upload File

Controller Approval