

Content Rights Readiness Checklist — before a title goes live

Fora Soft Learn

Turn every license into rights metadata an availability service can enforce automatically. A title is ready only when its rights record answers where, when, on what, and to whom — without a human. Engineering guidance, not legal advice; confirm terms with the rights holder and counsel.

1 • THE FIVE DIMENSIONS (capture per title)

- ☐ **Exclusivity** — exclusive or non-exclusive, and scoped per territory (not one global flag).
- ☐ **Territory** — the exact countries/regions licensed; nothing assumed or implied.
- ☐ **Term & window** — start date, end date, and any holdback before display is allowed.
- ☐ **Platform / tier** — SVOD / AVOD / TVOD, device classes, streaming vs download-to-own.
- ☐ **Language** — which audio, dub, and subtitle tracks are actually cleared.

2 • OWN vs LICENSE

- ☐ **Tag every title** owned or licensed; licensed titles need a renewal/expiry plan.
- ☐ **Licensed = recurring cost + licensor control**; own the few titles that are your identity.
- ☐ **Underlying rights** — music (sync + master), archival footage, likeness — cleared for this scope?
- ☐ **Provenance** — record the source and contract reference for every right held.

GO-LIVE GATE — BEFORE PUBLISHING ANY TITLE

Confirm every dimension is captured as data, keyed to a stable identifier, and ingested from avails rather than memory. Confirm the availability service enforces window, territory, tier, and holdback automatically on every catalog render and play, and that a separate entitlement service checks the individual user. Confirm the takedown path fires on the contract end date in the title's local time zone, not the server's. Owned or licensed, no title goes live until its rights record can answer where, when, on what device/tier, and to whom — with no human in the loop. This is engineering guidance, not legal advice; confirm licensing terms with the rights holder and qualified counsel.

3 • CONTRACT → METADATA

- ☐ **Stable identifier** — an EIDR ID on every title, edit, and localized version.
- ☐ **Ingest avails** (EMA / MDDF) as structured data — never hand-type rights.
- ☐ **Rights are a first-class entity** — not a country tag bolted onto a flat title list.
- ☐ **Automated takedown** when a window closes — by territory and in the correct time zone.

4 • TWO SERVICES (a play needs BOTH)

- ☐ **Availability** — may this title show here & now? (rights, window, territory, tier, holdback)
- ☐ **Entitlement** — may THIS user watch? (active plan, payment, concurrency limit)
- ☐ **Test the expiry path** — does a title go dark on its end date, in the right time zone?
- ☐ **Never fold rights into entitlement** — that is how an expired title keeps streaming.