

# Canvas & Blackboard Integration Decision Worksheet

Pick the smallest surface that does the job. The companion article explains every line.

## A. Choose the integration surface

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- LTI 1.3 launch: a hosted video tool that serves both platforms (the default)
- Packaged content: SCORM or xAPI, when content must live inside the LMS
- REST / GraphQL API: when an outside system must read or write LMS data
- Do NOT build code inside the LMS: impossible on Canvas, deprecated on Blackboard

## B. If LTI: the launch and grade-passback gate

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- Target LTI 1.3 + LTI Advantage; treat LTI 1.1 as legacy only
- Canvas: create an LTI Developer Key (JSON config) and install by client ID
- Blackboard: register the app (client ID + keyset) and deploy it
- AGS writes scores back; let the institution control which gradebook columns
- One LTI build serves Canvas, Blackboard, and Moodle from a single code path

## C. Packaged content and the Canvas vs Blackboard split

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- Blackboard plays SCORM 1.2/2004, AICC, and xAPI natively (Original and Ultra)
- Canvas has no native player; SCORM only via an add-on LTI tool, SCORM 1.2 only
- For rich video tracking, design statements against the xAPI Video Profile
- Test in Blackboard's Ultra view, not just Original; test in a real LMS, not a preview
- Each REST API is platform-specific - build it only for data LTI does not carry

## Before your first roster, grade, or API call: privacy

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The roster (NRPS), grades (AGS), and anything pulled through either REST API are real student identities and results - personal data under GDPR, under FERPA for US student records, and under 152-FZ for a Russian audience. Decide what you store, why, and for how long first. This is engineering guidance, not legal advice.