Canvas & Blackboard Integration Decision Worksheet

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

A. Choose the integration surface

- [ ] 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

- [ ] 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

- [ ] 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

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.

Companion to: 'Integrating With Canvas and Blackboard'
www.forasoft.com/learn/elearning-video/articles-elearning/integrating-with-canvas-and-blackboard



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This worksheet picks between LTI 1.3, packaged SCORM or xAPI and REST for Canvas and Blackboard. Our seven-volume handbook covers the video tool behind that launch; start with Volume 3 for players, adaptive delivery and DRM, then Volume 1 for encoding lessons and Volume 4 for captions and loudness.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND INSIDE

- Players, ABR and DRM (Vol. 3)
- Captions, loudness, accessibility (Vol. 4)
- Encoding lecture video (Vol. 1)
- CDN delivery and cost (Vol. 3)

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Building one LTI video tool for Canvas, Blackboard and Moodle?

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