Cheat-Resistant Assessment Design Checklist

A one-page gate to run before you ship an online assessment. Design the test to resist cheating first, add proportionate deterrence and detection, and keep every flag fair. Engineering guidance, not legal advice.

A. Design the test to resist cheating (do this first)

- [ ] Each exam drawn at random from a large question pool; question order randomized
- [ ] Parameterized variants: same problem, student-specific numbers or datasets
- [ ] Questions reward applying judgment to novel scenarios, not recalling facts
- [ ] Open-book or authentic tasks where the material is searchable anyway

B. Add deterrence (modest, real effect)

- [ ] Integrity policy stated plainly before the exam; consequences are concrete
- [ ] Monitoring is visible — a visible control deters more than a hidden one
- [ ] No reliance on the retracted 'sign-at-the-top' pledge claim

C. Add detection only as stakes justify

- [ ] Lockdown / focus logging treated as a signal, not proof (defeatable by a 2nd device)
- [ ] Text & code similarity (Turnitin, MOSS) and cohort answer-collusion analysis
- [ ] AI-writing detector used (if at all) as one weak signal — never an auto-accusation

D. Keep it fair, private, and defensible

- [ ] Every flag triggers human review with context; documented, fast appeal route
- [ ] Accommodations so controls don't penalize disabled or non-native candidates
- [ ] Detection data minimized (GDPR Art 5); FERPA / GDPR basis and retention set

Companion to: 'Anti-Cheating: Detection, Deterrence, and Assessment Design'
www.forasoft.com/learn/elearning-video/articles-elearning/anti-cheating-detection-deterrence



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This checklist puts assessment design first, then deterrence and detection, with fairness and privacy checks. Our seven-volume handbook covers the video stack behind proctoring; start with Volume 6 for computer vision and speech, then Volume 7 for real-time pipelines and compliance, and Volume 3 for players and WebRTC.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND INSIDE

- Computer vision and speech models (Vol. 6)
- Compliance and biometrics (Vol. 7)
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