

# How to Write Effective OKRs

Powered by OKRs Tool

#### How to Write Effective OKRs

Your team is up and running in OKRs Tool — now let's help every department write **clear**, **measurable**, **uniquely focused OKRs** they can execute on. This guide gives you a simple flow, strong examples, and in-app steps that match the product.

#### Who it's for

- Team leads and ICs creating OKRs inside OKRs Tool
- Departments rolling out OKRs beyond the pilot team
- Anyone who wrote one great objective... and got stuck on the second

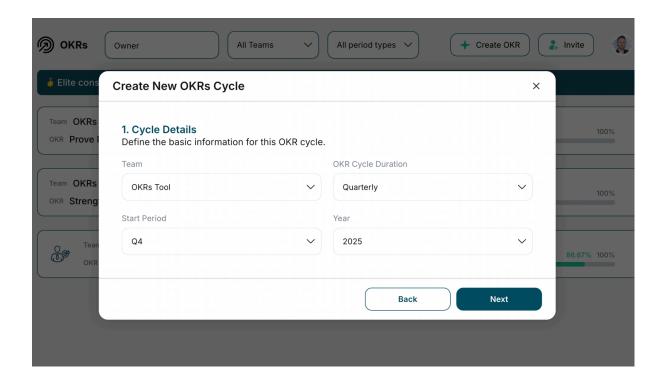
### What you'll get

- A 5-step process to create OKRs in OKRs Tool
- Examples for Marketing, Product, and Sales
- Tips to make each objective unique (no duplicates or "same-ish" goals)
- A quick template + final gut check

### The 5-Step OKR Flow (in OKRs Tool)

- 1) Set timeframe & cycle
  - Click Create OKR (top navigation).
  - Choose your **timeframe** (e.g., quarterly, annual) and **cycle**.

Pro tip: Most teams start quarterly — it's short enough to stay flexible, but long enough to show real progress.



# 2) Create your Objective

Objectives are the "what" and "why" — bold, inspiring statements. They should be unique, easy to remember, and clearly connected to your priorities.

"Improve user onboarding to drive activation"

X "Work on onboarding"

#### Tips:

- Aim for 1-3 objectives per team
- Write in plain English
- Connect to business goals

# 3) Add measurable Key Results

Key Results are the "how we measure success." They must be specific, measurable, and time-bound.

#### For each KR:

- Add 2–4 Key Results per Objective
- Set a specific **target value** (e.g., 35% → 50%, \$0 → \$250k)
- Assign an owner (open the KR → Assign owner)

- (Optional) Link initiatives that drive the result
  - From a KR: add an initiative
  - Or via Initiatives tab: use Al-suggested or create your own

Pro tip: Results, not tasks. "Launch campaign" is a task; "Increase MQLs from  $400 \rightarrow 800$ " is a KR.

#### 4) Review & Save

Before finalizing, pressure-test your OKRs:

- Are they measurable?
- Ambitious but realistic?
- Aligned with company goals?
- Can they be tracked weekly?

Click Start Cycle to confirm your OKR.

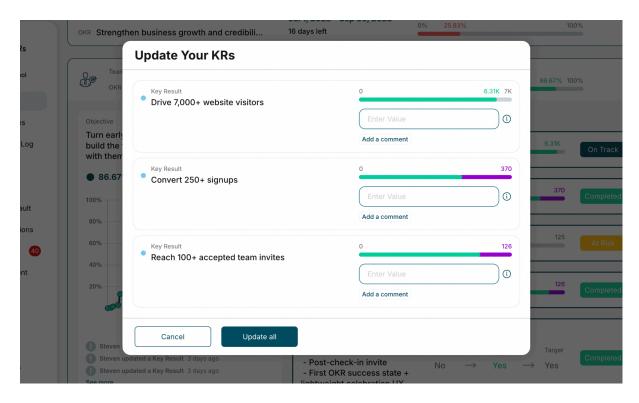
Need to adjust later? Use the **3 dots** on the far right  $\rightarrow$  **Edit OKR** to refine wording or **Add** new KR  $\rightarrow$  Save.



Bonus: Ask another team to review. If they can't explain your OKRs back to you, rewrite them.

- 5) Make it a habit (weekly)
  - Update progress weekly (charts + status labels).
    - 1. Add a **comment only** (context, no progress change).
    - 2. Update **progress + comment** (e.g.,  $22 \rightarrow 25 + note$ ).
    - 3. **Manually override status** if needed (e.g., mark "On Track" without new data).
  - Batch update multiple KRs:
    - 1. Toggle Select KRs

- 2. Check KRs
- 3. Click Update selected KRs → Update all



- Every **Friday** → all users get an email reminder to update
- Every **Sunday** → org admins get a weekly report email

Pro tip: Keep objectives stable during a cycle; only add new KRs when priorities genuinely shift. 3–5 KRs per Objective is the sweet spot.

# Make Each Objective Unique (and avoid duplicates)

When users create one great objective then stall, use distinct lenses:

- Growth: acquisition, activation, revenue
- Retention: churn, adoption, product usage
- Quality: reliability, NPS, bug rates
- **Efficiency**: cycle time, cost, automation

Pick **one objective per lens** that matters this cycle. If two objectives feel similar, merge them or split by audience (e.g., self-serve vs. enterprise).

### Example OKRs You Can Steal

### Marketing

**Objective:** Increase qualified demand from our target market

- KR1: Grow organic traffic from  $20k \rightarrow 30k$  sessions
- KR2: Capture **1,000** new newsletter sign-ups
- KR3: Lift MQL  $\rightarrow$  SQL conversion from 22%  $\rightarrow$  30%

#### **Product**

Objective: Improve onboarding to accelerate time-to-value

- KR1: Increase Day-7 retention from 35% → 50%
- KR2: Raise onboarding completion from 60% → 85%
- KR3: Cut time-to-first-value from 10 days  $\rightarrow$  5 days

#### Sales

**Objective:** Boost new customer acquisition

- KR1: Close \$250k in new ARR
- KR2: Shorten average sales cycle from 45 → 30 days
- KR3: Achieve 20% win rate on new opportunities

# Quick OKR Template

Objective: [Clear, inspiring outcome for this cycle]

→ Example: "Launch a referral program to drive organic signups"

#### **Key Results:**

- 1. [Measurable outcome with a target value]
- 2. [Measurable outcome with a target value]
- 3. [Measurable outcome with a target value]

Owner: [Team/person] • Timeline: [e.g., Q3]

### Final Gut Check (ship with confidence)

- Aligned to company priorities?
- Measurable and outcome-based?
- Each KR has a clear owner?
- Trackable weekly (with comments/updates)?
- Ambitious and achievable?

If you're nodding "yes" to all five, your OKRs are ready to roll.

### Appendix: In-App Moves You'll Use Often

- Assign KR owner: open KR → Assign owner
- Link initiatives: from a KR or via Initiatives tab (Al-suggested or manual)
- Add a KR later: 3 dots  $\rightarrow$  Edit OKR  $\rightarrow$  Add new KR  $\rightarrow$  Save
- $\bullet \quad \text{Batch updates: Toggle "Select KRs"} \rightarrow \text{Update selected KRs} \rightarrow \text{Update all}$
- Share progress externally: share by email or URL (view-only)
- Close/clone cycles: 3 dots on a cycle → Close / Clone / Edit / Delete (delete is hard-delete)