Your Contract Was Written by AI...

Now What?

A practical checklist for reviewing the draft critically.

1 Does the draft reflect the actual deal?

Start with the business terms, not the legal language.

- ☐ Correct parties and legal names
- ☐ Correct services or products
- ☐ Correct payment structure
- ☐ Correct timing and deadlines
- ☐ Correct responsibilities for each party
- ☐ Correct termination expectations

2 Did you give AI enough context?

Before assuming the contract is wrong, ask whether the input was incomplete.

- ☐ What type of agreement is this?
- ☐ What is each party actually doing?
- ☐ How and when does money change hands?
- ☐ What could realistically go wrong?
- ☐ What matters most to me in this relationship?

BETTER INPUT → BETTER OUTPUT

But better output still requires thoughtful review.

3 Look for what may be missing.

Think in categories. The right provisions depend on the deal.

☐ Payment protection	☐ Scope and change protection
☐ Confidentiality	☐ Intellectual property
☐ Termination	☐ Liability and risk allocation
☐ Dispute provisions	☐ Other deal-specific risks

4 Look for provisions that do not belong.

- ☐ Does this provision make sense for this transaction?
- ☐ Do I understand what it actually does?
- ☐ Does another provision contradict it?
- ☐ Did AI insert it simply because it is “standard”?
- ☐ Would I accept it if something went wrong?

5 Do the “What If?” Test.

What if... They do not pay?	**What if... The project expands?**	**What if... Someone wants out?**
What if... There is a delay?	**What if... Confidential information is disclosed?**	**What if... The relationship goes badly?**

6 Know when to stop using AI.

Consider legal review when:

- ☐ The dollars or potential loss are significant
- ☐ Important intellectual property is involved
- ☐ The relationship is unusual or complicated
- ☐ The other side substantially revises the agreement
- ☐ You do not understand a provision
- ☐ Something feels wrong, but you cannot identify why

AI can help draft the words. It cannot decide which risks your business should accept.

The goal is not a longer contract. It is the right contract for the deal.

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