Monetization Readiness Checklist

Check your progress in YouTube Studio → Earn. Confirm current requirements there; YouTube changes them.

1. WHERE I STAND TODAY **Date checked:** _____

	Fan funding & Shopping	Ad & Premium revenue
Subscribers	500 Mine: _____	1,000 Mine: _____
Long-form route (12 months)	3,000 qualified hours Mine: _____	8,000 qualified hours* Mine: _____
— or — Shorts route (90 days)	3M qualified views Mine: _____	20M qualified views* Mine: _____
Also needed	3 public uploads in last 90 days	—

**For new applicants from February 1, 2027 (before then: 4,000 hours or 10M Shorts views). The two routes never combine. Only public long-form videos count toward hours; only engaged views of public Shorts count toward views. Don't delete, unlist, or make private old long-form videos.*

2. MY WATCH-HOUR GAP

Hours still needed: 8,000 – my current qualified hours (_____) = _____ hours

Hours per month to get there in 12 months: hours needed (_____) ÷ 12 = _____ per month

My current monthly watch time (Analytics, last 28 days): _____ hours Gap per month: _____ hours

Rough views needed per month: hours per month × 60 ÷ my average view duration in minutes (_____) = _____ views

3. THE OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ I follow YouTube's monetization policies and advertiser-friendly guidelines
- ☐ I live in a country or region where the Partner Program is available
- ☐ No active Community Guidelines strikes on my channel
- ☐ 2-Step Verification is on for my Google account
- ☐ Advanced features are turned on (Studio → Settings → Channel → Feature eligibility)
- ☐ My videos are original: my own scripts, narration, and visual choices (Chapter 19)

4. APPLYING & GETTING PAID

- ☐ Turned on the eligibility notification in Earn
- ☐ Read and accepted the Partner Program terms
- ☐ Created or linked AdSense for YouTube (one per person)
- ☐ Used my legal name and address (matches my bank)
- ☐ Submitted for review; kept publishing on schedule
- ☐ Approved! Set my ad preferences for future uploads
- ☐ Tax information submitted in AdSense (US: W-9)
- ☐ Payment method added (bank deposit)
- ☐ Address PIN entered when it arrived by mail
- ☐ Know the timeline: finalized 7th–12th, paid 21st–26th
- ☐ US payment threshold: $100 (balance rolls over)
- ☐ Keeping records of earnings and channel expenses

5. STAYING IN THE PROGRAM

- ☐ Upload or post at least every few months (six months without either can turn monetization off)
- ☐ Watch YouTube Studio for updated terms and accept them by the deadline
- ☐ Answer each video's self-certification honestly; check monetization icons (green, yellow, red)

Milestone 10 complete: _____ **(date)** **Applied:** _____ **Approved:** _____

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