Responsible AI in practice: bias, privacy and governance checklists

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Responsible AI is less about principles on a poster and more about decisions made at specific points in a project. Here is a short checklist for each point.

TL;DR The short version

- Responsible AI is a set of decisions at specific points in a project, not a poster of principles.
- Before building, say who is affected and whether AI is needed; minimise personal data and know where it came from.
- Test results across the groups affected, keep a human in the loop for consequential decisions, and monitor for drift and misuse.

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Before you build

1. Say what decision the system supports and who is affected by it.
2. Decide whether AI is needed at all.
3. Name who is accountable for the system.

Data and privacy

- Know what data is used, where it came from and whether you may use it for this purpose.
- Minimise personal data and keep it out of prompts and logs where you can.
- Check where a provider stores and processes data, and under what terms.

Bias and fairness

- Test results across the groups the system affects, not only on average.
- Look at how errors are distributed, not just how many there are.
- Give people a way to challenge an outcome.

In operation

- Keep a human in the loop for consequential decisions.
- Monitor for drift and for new misuse.
- Keep records so decisions can be explained and audited.

- Review the system on a schedule, and when the law or the use changes.

> Related credential: AI Practitioner. Explore the exam facts and syllabus.

Sources and further reading

1. NIST. AI Risk Management Framework (AI RMF 1.0). nist.gov/itl/ai-risk-management-framework.

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