

The Composable Commerce Readiness Worksheet

Composable commerce is not a product you buy. It is a system you assemble and maintain. This is how to tell whether that trade is right for you.

Answer this one first

Everything else follows from it. If the answer is shaky, stop here and reconsider.

Who owns the integration, forever?

Not for the build. For the years after, as every service changes its API underneath you.

Score your readiness

Integration ownership

We have a team that will own the connections permanently, not just build them.

1	2	3	4	5
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Engineering capacity

We have developers comfortable assembling and running services over APIs.

1	2	3	4	5
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Advantage depends on a capability

Our competitive edge hinges on one or two parts of the stack being excellent.

1	2	3	4	5
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Scale

We operate at a scale where flexibility pays back the complexity.

1	2	3	4	5
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Rate of change

We change things often, and a suite is holding us back.

1	2	3	4	5
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Reading it: 20 or above, composable likely earns its cost. 13 to 19, go headless on the one piece that matters and keep the rest on a suite. Below 13, a strong suite will serve you better for far less maintenance.

Compare the real costs

Composable is not reliably cheaper. Fill both columns, including the lines the pitch skips.

Cost line	Suite	Composable
Platform / subscriptions		
Implementation and assembly		
Integration build		
Ongoing integration upkeep		
Internal engineering time		

Time to first launch		
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Which piece would you make best-of-breed first?

You rarely need everything composable at once. Start with the capability your business actually competes on.

The one capability worth going best-of-breed for, and why

The honest test. Does the picture of owning a permanent integration layer excite your team or exhaust them? That reaction is a fairly reliable signal about whether composable is right for you.