

COMPANION WORKSHEET

Chapter 8 — Host Preparation

Use this worksheet after a completed Chapter 7 decision and an existing exact-item decision or Use current hardware verdict. It prepares one host. It does not approve a purchase, install GPU software, prove acceleration, or install the application stack.

Work from a fresh copy. Preserve evidence paths. Use TBD for an unfilled field and Evidence missing for a load-bearing unknown.

A. Freeze the inherited decision

Chapter 7 worksheet path

Selected posture

Chapter 7 verdict

Use current hardware / later exact-item decision / Evidence missing

Exact-item identity evidence path, or Not applicable

Exact-item handoff complete — identified, Chapter 7 criteria rechecked, ownership decided, machine present — or Not applicable

Chapter 5 candidate bound to the selected posture

Chapter 6 primary or fallback lane tuple

Inherited Chapter 9 proof status

Pending / Evidence missing

Inherited Chapter 9 observation target

Inherited Chapter 9 acceptance criteria

Inherited invalidation condition

Evidence snapshot date

If the exact-item decision is absent and the posture is not Use current hardware, stop. Do not perform host-destructive steps.

B. Identify one host

Non-sensitive host label

Physical location

Form factor

Why this machine matches the inherited decision

Local console or physical access available

Yes / No / Evidence missing

A No or Evidence missing local-access answer blocks remote-only preparation.

C. Choose the recovery-safe OS path

Inherited host OS/version family

Installer source URL or media path

Platform-appropriate authenticity or provenance evidence

Firmware mode (UEFI/Legacy/Apple/other) and evidence

Official documentation status

Edition-test status

Named recovery route if the install or later remote path fails

Do not reopen Chapter 6. A different OS family is a changed lane and requires a recalculated decision.

D. Map storage roles

System volume role and target

Working-data volume role and target

Recovery location / protected copy and target

Unique data that must not be wiped

Encryption choice and unlock method

Why unique data is not trapped behind remote-only unlock

E. Identity, updates, and clock

Local administrator exists

Yes / Evidence missing

Where credentials are stored (no secret values)

Timezone and clock source

Bounded baseline updates applied or refused, with reason

Changes that must wait until after Chapter 9

F. Local access, then optional remote access

Local login proved

Yes / Evidence missing

Optional remote-access method, or None

Remote-access evidence path

Documented fallback if remote access fails

Inference or application ports left closed

Yes / Evidence missing

Remote access may be added only after local login is proved.

G. Assign one host-readiness verdict

Allowed verdicts are exactly Ready for Chapter 9, Blocked, or Evidence missing.

Finite verdict

Binding reason

Next proof

Invalidation condition

Ready for Chapter 9 requires the inherited decision, named host, authentic OS path, untrapped storage roles, local identity, named clock, bounded update baseline with delayed changes recorded, proved local login, and remote access that is absent or secondary. It is not acceleration proof, container readiness, or application install approval.

Deterministic self-check

- ☐ Inherited Chapter 7 posture and exact-item or current-hardware verdict exist, or the sheet records Evidence missing and stops.
- ☐ The Chapter 6 lane was consumed, not replaced.
- ☐ Per-lane Chapter 9 proof fields were inherited and remain Pending or Evidence missing.
- ☐ One named host has local or physical access.
- ☐ OS path, platform-appropriate authenticity evidence, and a recovery route are recorded.
- ☐ System, data, and recovery location / protected copy roles are distinct.
- ☐ Unique data is not trapped behind remote-only unlock.
- ☐ Local administrator, clock, and bounded update baseline exist without recorded secrets.
- ☐ Remote access, if any, is secondary to a proved local login.
- ☐ No GPU driver, container, model, or application install is claimed.
- ☐ Exactly one allowed host-readiness verdict is recorded.

Chapter 8 stops here. GPU visibility, containers, inference, and the chat application occur only under later chapters.