

Is your app ready for **real** **users?**

12 checks for non-technical founders. About 10 minutes, and no coding.

Ownership

Users & data

Money & alerts

Shipping

It works in the demo. Will it hold up?

1 Answer yes or no.

Do each check yourself, or ask whoever built the app to show you. "I think so" counts as no.

2 Count your yeses.

The last page tells you what your score means and what to do next.

3 Fix the gaps before real users find them.

A gap found now is a task on a list. Found by a customer, it's an incident.

Why it matters: in 2025, missing access rules left 170+ apps built with Lovable exposing users' emails, phone numbers, payment status and API keys.

Superblocks, "Lovable vulnerability CVE-2025-48757"

The same year, an AI coding agent deleted SaaStr founder Jason Lemkin's live database during a code freeze. His lesson: keep test and live cleanly apart.

The Register, 21 July 2025

Do you really own your app?

- ☐ **1 The code lives in a repository your company owns, and you're an admin.**

How to check: log in to GitHub or GitLab. Can you see the code, and add or remove people yourself?

- ☐ **2 Hosting, database, domain and payment accounts are in your company's name.**

How to check: list every service the app uses and who holds each login. If only a freelancer or an AI tool can open it, that's a risk.

- ☐ **3 No passwords or API keys sit in the code or in the browser.**

How to check: ask where the keys are stored. The right answer is the hosting provider's secret settings, never the code.

Will it hold up when people sign up?

☐ 4 Users can only see their own data.

How to check: make two test accounts. Copy a page link from one and open it logged in as the other. You should get an error, not their data.

☐ 5 Sign-up, login and password reset work with real emails.

How to check: sign up with a new email address, reset the password, then log in on your phone.

☐ 6 Backups run on their own, and someone has restored one.

How to check: ask when the last backup ran and when one was last restored.

Will you know before it costs you?

- ☐ **7 Payments handle declined cards, refunds and cancellations.**

How to check: use your payment provider's test card for a declined payment and see what the app does.

- ☐ **8 Spending limits or alerts are set on AI, SMS and cloud bills.**

How to check: look for a budget alert in each provider's billing settings.

- ☐ **9 You hear about errors before your customers do.**

How to check: is there error tracking that messages someone when something breaks?

Can you change it without breaking it?

- ☐ **10 There's a separate test version (staging) with its own data.**

How to check: is there a second link where changes go first? Does it use different data from the live app?

- ☐ **11 Changes go live automatically after checks, not by hand.**

How to check: ask how the last change reached your users. "I uploaded the files" or "I edited it on live" counts as no.

- ☐ **12 Another engineer could take over next month.**

How to check: is there a short written guide on how to run, deploy and change the app?

YOUR SCORE

Count your yeses.

11–12

Ready for real users. Keep checking as you grow.

7–10

Fix the gaps before your next launch, pilot or raise.

0–6

Get an audit before real users or real money touch it.

Not sure how to answer some of these?

Send us a link to your app. We'll record a free 5-minute video on what's solid and what won't survive real users. No pitch.

Book a free 20-minute call

Or email your app link to hello@assemblerslab.com