

## THE FINAL TAPE

# Checklist vs Playbook Comparison + Implementation Guide

Side-by-side comparison, when to use each system, starter templates, and weekly review framework

## Key differences

Aspect	Checklist	Playbook
Primary Purpose	Execution & Consistency	Analysis & Insight
Structure	Linear (step-by-step)	Hierarchical (categories & tags)
Best Used For	Pre-trade validation, compliance	Post-trade review, pattern detection
Time of Use	Before/During trade	After trade (review phase)

## When to use a checklist

- Enforce rules before entering a trade
- Maintain high compliance
- Reduce emotional decision-making in the moment

## When to use a playbook

- Analyze performance across many trades
- Identify behavioral patterns
- Build and refine your trading edge over time

## How to combine both (feedback loop)

- **1. Checklist** — score compliance before/during the trade
- **2. Playbook** — tag behavioral and contextual reality at review
- **3. Weekly review** — cross-filter both to rank leaks and Kill List items

## Starter compliance checklist (5 rules)

Type	Rule	Met?
Hard	Risk $\leq$ 1% of account on this trade	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hard	HTF trend confirmed in trade direction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hard	No high-impact news within 60 min of entry	<input type="checkbox"/>

Flexible	Pre-entry checklist completed before order	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flexible	No revenge entry after prior session loser	<input type="checkbox"/>

Compliance % = rules satisfied ÷ total rules

### Starter playbook categories (blank tag rows)

Category	Tags applied (4–8 per trade)
Planning	
Entry	
Execution	
Exit	
Market Regime	
Context	

### Weekly review framework (both systems)

- Filter last 20 trades with compliance scores and tags
- Compare avg R by Green vs Amber vs Red compliance bands
- Sort top negative playbook tags on losing trades (≥80% compliance)
- Identify which checklist rules correlate with poor outcomes
- Write one Kill List item tied to top tag or rule violation