



# Strategic IT Roadmap Template for Growth & Security

A 12-24 Month Planning Framework for Business Leaders



# Executive Introduction



IT roadmaps often focus on industry trends, emerging technologies, and technical maturity frameworks.

Business leaders need something different – you need a tool that:

- 1** Speaks the language of growth, risk reduction, and ROI
- 2** Provides a repeatable framework for decision-making
- 3** Helps justify investments to executives and the board
- 4** Simplifies complex choices into clear, business-aligned next steps

**This template helps organizations map an IT plan rooted in business outcomes, not technical detail.**


It's designed to support leadership-level planning and decision-making, without requiring deep technical expertise.

Use it to align priorities, sequence initiatives, and communicate strategy across the organization.

# How to Use This Template

- 1** Identify your top business priorities for the next 12-24 months.
- 2** Pinpoint the operational barriers hindering those goals.
- 3** Map the right IT initiatives to eliminate those obstacles.
- 4** Score each initiative based on business value.
- 5** Build a sequenced roadmap that delivers stability, security, efficiency, and scalability.
- 6** Translate your plan into executive language for leadership approval.

This is not another technical whitepaper. When used correctly, it's a practical, board-ready planning tool.

A woman with dark hair and bangs, wearing a green button-down shirt, is speaking and gesturing with her right hand. She is in the foreground, looking towards a group of people in the background. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in a meeting setting.

# IT Roadmap Framework Overview

## 1. Business Priorities First, Technology Second

An effective IT roadmap starts by defining the business outcomes it needs to support:



### Growth Objectives

- Expansion into new markets or regions
- Mergers or acquisitions
- Faster sales cycles
- Improved customer experience



### Operational Objectives

- Higher productivity
- Fewer disruptions or outages
- Standardized systems across locations
- Reduced support burden



### Risk & Resilience Objectives

- Reduced cyber exposure
- Stronger compliance
- Improved business continuity
- Lower vendor/operational risk

## 2. Identify Obstacles Hindering the Business

Use operational lenses instead of technical ones.



### Growth Barriers

- Slow onboarding of new locations and/or staff
- Inconsistent customer experience
- Connectivity issues affecting service



### Efficiency Barriers

- Frequent downtime or instability
- Tool fragmentation
- Excessive troubleshooting demand on teams



### Risk Barriers

- Gaps in access control
- Inconsistent security posture
- Limited visibility across locations

### 3. Map Obstacles to Strategic IT Initiatives

Examples:

Obstacle	IT Initiative	Business Impact
Inconsistent access for hybrid teams	Modern Secure Access (e.g. SASE)	Lower risk, faster execution
Too many disconnected vendors	Vendor Consolidation	Cost predictability, simpler ops
Frequent outages	SD-WAN + standardized connectivity	High uptime, scalability
Fragmented communications	Unified Communications	Better CX, consistent workflows
High ticket volume	Managed IT & Helpdesk	Higher productivity, lighter burden

### 4. Score Initiatives by Business Value

Score 1 – 5 in each category to determine priority.

• Growth Impact	
• Risk Reduction	
• Cost/ROI Predictability	
• Scalability	
• Time-to-Value	



## 5. Build Your 12 – 24 Month Roadmap

Break into three waves:

### 0-6 Months: Stabilize & Reduce Risk

High ROI, high urgency initiatives.

### 6 –12 Months: Standardize & Strengthen

Improve consistency, visibility, and predictability.

### 12 – 24 Months: Modernize & Scale

Build long-term resilience, automation, and advanced architectures.

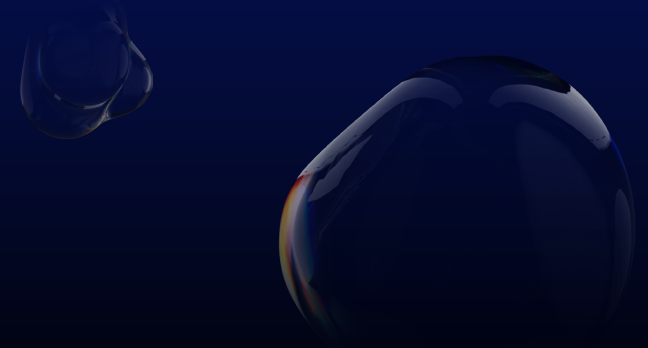


## 6. Prepare the Executive Narrative

Translate IT actions into board-relevant value:

- How does this accelerate growth?
- How does this reduce risk?
- How does this improve cost predictability?
- How does this support expansion?

Answering these questions will help to build a compelling justification for your case and make it easier to approve.



# Strategic IT Roadmap: 12 – 24 Month Planning Template



## 1. Business Priorities (Next 12 – 24 Months)

List 3-4 priorities your IT roadmap must support.

Priority 1:

Priority 2:

Priority 3:

Priority 4 (optional):

## 2. Obstacles Preventing These Outcomes

Operational, productivity, security, and scalability constraints.

Obstacle 1:

Obstacle 2:

Obstacle 3:

### 3. Map Obstacles to IT Initiatives

With business priorities clarified, the next step is identifying the specific IT initiatives required to support them. Avoid broad intentions. Focus on concrete actions that can be scoped, funded, and executed.

Business Objective	Required IT Initiative	New / Optimize / Consolidate



## 4. Score Each Initiative (1-5)

Not every initiative should be tackled at once – and not every initiative deserves equal weight. Evaluate each initiative through a leadership lens: impact, urgency, complexity, and sequencing.

### How to Evaluate:

For each item identified in the previous section, answer the following:

#### Primary Business Outcome:

What does this initiative most directly improve? (Revenue, risk reduction, operational efficiency, scalability, customer experience, etc.)

#### Urgency:

Is this initiative time-sensitive?

Low → Medium → High

#### Complexity:

How disruptive or resource-intensive will this execution be?

Low → Medium → High

#### Recommended Timing:

Based on the above, when should this realistically be addressed?

0-6 mo — 6-12 mo — 12-24 mo

### Initiative Prioritization Worksheet

Initiative	Primary Business Outcome	Urgency	Complexity	Recommended Timing

## 5. Build Your 12 – 24 Month IT Roadmap

Place each initiative into the phase where it delivers the best business outcome.

### 0-6 Months (High Value/Fast ROI)

### 6-12 Months (Strengthen & Standardize)

### 12-24 Months (Scale & Modernize)

## 6. Create Your Executive Narrative

Optional - ideal for board presentations.

- Growth Acceleration:
- Risk Reduction:
- Cost/ROI Impact:
- Scalability Benefits: