

Summarization Method Selection Guide

Document Count **Quality Need** **Budget** **Recommended Method**

Single High High **GPT-4 + Few-Shot**

Single High Low **FLAN-T5-XL Local**

Cost Level:
High Cost

Single Medium Any **GPT-3.5 + Zero-Shot**

Medium Cost

Multiple High High **GPT-4 + Map-Reduce**

Low Cost

Multiple Medium Low **FLAN-T5 + Chunking**

Many (>10) Any Low **Extractive + LLM Polish**

Key Factors:

- Token limits constrain input size

- Quality vs Cost tradeoff

- Local models for sensitive data