QUESTION 10: What do you think it will cost to run BlockReceipt for the first 6 months?

Try estimating:

Hosting/infrastructure

Wallet service (Magic.link, Web3Auth, or custom)

Smart contract + minting costs

Legal setup (LLC, terms, privacy)

Dev/design help

Branding/marketing

Answer:

**Six-Month Budget Snapshot for BlockReceipt (pilot-ready stage)**

*USD estimates, SaaS start-up scale, 10 K–25 K monthly transactions, lean five-person team*

| **Cost bucket** | **What’s included** | **Low burn** | **Moderate** | **Notes / risk guards** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1. Hosting & infra** | Front-end (Vercel / Netlify), back-end microservice (AWS t3.small + RDS), IPFS pinning via Pinata, monitoring | **$250** | **$800** | Start serverless to keep idle costs near zero; scale up only if a chain pilot signs. |
| **2. Wallet service** | Custodial wallets & social log-ins (Magic.link, Web3Auth) — first 10 K MAUs often free | **$0** | **$300** | Both vendors charge ~$0.05 per MAU after the free tier. Renegotiate when you hit >50 K users. |
| **3. Smart-contract & minting** | • Polygon PoS gas (≈$0.002 / mint)• One audit of ERC-1155 (~$6 K) | **$1 500** | **$7 000** | Gas: 100 K mints ≈ $200. The audit is the big one-off; defer full audit until the code freezes. |
| **4. Legal & compliance** | • LLC filing complete• Privacy & ToS pack ($1 200)• 10-hour outside counsel for IP & NFT regs | **$2 500** | **$6 000** | Use template SaaS docs first; bring counsel back when an enterprise pilot requests addenda. |
| **5. Dev & design help** | • 1 full-stack contract dev (part-time, 20 h/wk @ $70/h)• 1 UX/UI designer (sprint basis) | **$15 000** | **$28 000** | Protect IP: require NDAs + “work-made-for-hire” clauses; keep TACo PRE logic in a private repo. |
| **6. Branding & marketing** | • Logo, style guide, landing page ($3 K)• Conference booth or pilot-store signage | **$4 000** | **$8 000** | Bootstrap with Fiverr/99designs if cash-light; save event spend for the first pilot announcement. |

**Six-month runway**

* **Bare-bones MVP:** **≈ $23 K**
* **Comfortable pilot-ready build:** **≈ $50 K**

**How to keep the “secret sauce” safe**

1. **NDAs + IP assignment** in every freelancer or employee contract.
2. **Private Git repository** with role-based access; leave TACo PRE core in a separate, limited-access module.
3. **Split architecture:** front-end open-source SDK, proprietary minting/orchestration service running on your servers.
4. **Rolling code escrow:** snapshots prove ownership if disputes arise.

With a lean budget, tight IP controls, and phased spending triggers (e.g., only pay for a full audit once a retailer signs), BlockReceipt can reach a credible pilot without breaking the bank—or exposing its core tech.