

Onboarding UX Checklist

Before Signup

- Touchpoints have a consistent narrative thread from one to the other
- Each touchpoint helps the user accomplish something they actually want to do
- The touchpoints promise an improvement to the user's life ("whoa, I...")
- ☐ That improvement's positioned within the context of their current situation (frontload the "aha moment")
- Points of anxiety & struggle are directly addressed wherever they arise
- ☐ The product's personality is engaging and consistent across the board
- The product's credibility is established with social proof, testimonials, and real-world outcomes it generates
- All unnecessary points of friction and distraction are removed from critical workflows

After Signup

- ☐ The first-run experience leads to a specific, relevant, meaningful "quick win"
- The workflow for the first-run experience is as streamlined as humanly possible
- Users' time spent floating in "limbo" states is managed & limited
- ☐ If coach marks & tooltip tours are used at all, they're primarily to spur activity, not point at buttons
- Blank states and preloaded content are self-descriptive and helpful
- Social cues are provided to indicate highly-valued behaviors
- Key early use activities are explicitly called out, in the form of to-do lists or completion meters
- Completed tasks are reciprocated with a success state
- People are incentivized to form social bonds with others, and thus become more accountable for ongoing use
- Lifecycle emails are positioned to act as catalysts driving return visits