UI/UX CAREER ROADMAP CHECKLIST

1. Understand the Fundamentals

- ☐ Learn what UX vs UI actually means
- ☐ Understand user-centered design principles
- ☐ Learn basic usability concepts (heuristics, accessibility, hierarchy)
- ☐ Study common UX processes (research → wireframes → testing → iteration)
- ☐ Analyze real products (apps/websites) from a UX perspective

2. Learn Core Tools (Don't Overdo It)

- ☐ Choose 1–2 design tools (Figma, Adobe XD, Sketch)
- ☐ Learn wireframing and prototyping basics
- ☐ Understand components, auto layout, and design systems
- ☐ Practice recreating existing interfaces
- ☐ Learn basic collaboration workflows (handoff, feedback)

3. Start Practicing with Real Projects

- ☐ Redesign an existing app or website
- ☐ Create at least 2–3 personal UX projects
- ☐ Solve real problems (not just aesthetic redesigns)
- ☐ Define goals, users, and constraints for each project
- ☐ Document your thinking—not just the final design

4. Learn UX Research & Strategy

- ☐ Practice writing problem statements
- ☐ Create user personas (simple and realistic)
- ☐ Conduct basic user research (surveys, interviews, or assumptions if needed)
- ☐ Map user flows and journeys
- ☐ Understand how to validate design decisions

5. Build a Strong Portfolio

- ☐ Create 2–4 solid case studies (quality over quantity)
- ☐ Clearly explain your process (not just visuals)
- ☐ Show problem → solution → impact
- ☐ Keep layout clean, simple, and easy to scan
- ☐ Optimize for both desktop and mobile viewing

6. Develop Visual & Interaction Skills

- ☐ Improve typography, spacing, and layout
- ☐ Understand color usage and accessibility
- ☐ Learn basic UI patterns and conventions
- ☐ Design consistent components and systems
- ☐ Explore micro-interactions and usability details

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7. Get Real-World Experience

- ☐ Take on freelance or small client projects
- ☐ Volunteer or redesign real-world problems
- ☐ Collaborate with developers or other designers
- ☐ Work within constraints (deadlines, feedback, revisions)
- ☐ Practice presenting and explaining your work

8. Build Your Personal Brand

- ☐ Create a simple portfolio website
- ☐ Optimize your LinkedIn profile
- ☐ Share your work or insights (optional but powerful)
- ☐ Write about your process or lessons learned
- ☐ Start building a network in the design community

9. Prepare for Job Applications

- ☐ Practice explaining your case studies out loud
- ☐ Prepare for common UX interview questions
- ☐ Refine your resume and portfolio presentation
- ☐ Apply consistently (don't wait for perfection)
- ☐ Track applications and follow up

10. Keep Growing After You Start

- ☐ Ask for feedback regularly
- ☐ Continue learning new tools and methods
- ☐ Stay updated on UX trends and best practices
- ☐ Reflect on your work and improve your process
- ☐ Build deeper expertise in a specific area (optional)