

What to Look for in an AI Redline Solution:

A CHECKLIST FOR HIGH-STAKES CONTRACTING

Across the contracting lifecycle, whether in legal, procurement, finance, or the executive suite, AI redlining is no longer a futuristic concept. It's here. But not all solutions are created equal. The professionals responsible for protecting business risk, enforcing policy, and accelerating deal flow are demanding more than automation.

They're setting a higher bar, expecting AI tools to mirror the way their teams think, work, and communicate. Here's what they tell us they're looking for:

- 1. Steerability:** Can you guide how the AI applies your rules and policies?
- 2. Thoroughness:** Does it cover every rule, every time, without skipping steps?
- 3. Accuracy:** Does it identify what's missing and suggest the right edits?
- 4. Explainable:** Can you link each edit to a rule, playbook, or prompt to audit and defend AI guidance?
- 5. Fluency:** Are the edits professional, clear, and negotiation-ready?

Key Quality Attributes for Evaluating AI Redline Systems

Choosing the right AI redlining solution requires more than a quick feature comparison. Use this checklist to evaluate whether a solution offers the control, consistency, accuracy, and transparency your team needs to review contracts with confidence.

Attribute	Description	Questions to Ask
Steerable	<p>Provides reviewers with precise control over what the AI looks for and how it applies edits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Users should be able to shape or adjust the system's behavior based on contract type, negotiation style, or organizational preferences. ✓ Look for support for structured playbooks, adjustable aggressiveness, and the ability to fine-tune rules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Can I adjust how conservative or aggressive the edits are? ? How do I control what the AI looks for and how it responds? ? Can I use different redline strategies for different contract types? ? Does the system support structured playbooks or rule sets?
Thorough	<p>Executes every playbook rule without skipping steps or hallucinating new rules, ensuring consistent, complete coverage across provisions and contracts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A thorough system executes every task or rule in the defined playbook without silent failures, and without hallucinating new tasks or rules. 💡 Especially important in regulated environments or when comparing vendor vs. in-house reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? How does the system ensure that all playbook rules have been executed? ? How does the system prevent the LLM from hallucinating new issues or applying rules that weren't requested?
Accurate	<p>Reliably detects whether a provision is present, missing, or misaligned, and applies edits with precision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Accuracy includes both detection (e.g., is the concept found?) and application (e.g., is the right edit made in the right place?). ✓ Minimizing false positives and false negatives is critical for reducing downstream workload and risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Does the system measure accuracy? If so, how does it define accuracy, and what is the accuracy? ? How often does the system miss something it should have found (false negatives)? ? How often does the system incorrectly identify or edit language it should have ignored (false positives)?
Explainable	<p>Links each edit to a clear source of instruction, such as a rule, playbook entry, or user prompt, making it easy to audit, defend, and understand AI decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Whether through an audit log, label, or in-line comment, transparency builds trust and supports quality assurance. ✓ Especially important for legal and compliance teams who need to defend or justify edits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Can I see which rule or instruction led to each edit? ? Can I trace changes back to user-defined logic or playbook entries? ? How is this traceability surfaced to reviewers: inline, in a sidebar, or through metadata?
Fluent	<p>Produces edits that read naturally and integrate seamlessly into the contract, maintaining tone, clarity, and formatting expected in professional legal documents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Poorly written or awkward edits can erode reviewer trust, even if the logic is sound. ✓ Fluency includes tone, formatting, and structural cohesion, all important for negotiation readiness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Do the edits match the style and tone of the surrounding language? ? Can the system preserve formatting, numbering, and defined terms? ? What does a typical insert look like in a redlined document? ? Can I easily reject or rephrase edits that don't feel right?

The High Standard for AI in Contracting

Every professional who works with contracts shares a common goal: move faster while reducing risk. An AI redlining tool should help achieve that goal without adding uncertainty, ambiguity, or unnecessary work.

For more tips on how to choose the right solution, download our guide:
[Evaluating AI Redline Software: A Strategic Framework.](#)