

AI Service Pricing & Unit Economics

A practical model connecting usage behavior, cost-to-serve, customer value, margin targets, and packaging decisions.

AI PRODUCT

UNIT ECONOMICS

COMMERCIAL STRATEGY

The challenge

Early pricing reflected a single use case even though customer behavior varied significantly. Always-on usage carried a different cost profile than after-hours coverage, making one package difficult to defend and scale.

The model

Built a scenario model using estimated minutes, cost per unit, target gross margin, behavioral differences, and competitive reference points. Stress-tested adoption and overage assumptions before setting package boundaries.



USE

Expected volume and timing

+



COST

Variable cost per unit

+



MARGIN

Target gross margin

+



VALUE

Customer outcome

Packaging decision

Created two service levels aligned to distinct usage patterns. Included guardrails for heavy usage, clear upgrade logic, and a value story that sales could explain without leading with technical consumption details.

Leadership value

Turned a pricing debate into a cross-functional decision. Product, finance, sales, and operations could see the same assumptions, tradeoffs, and signals to monitor after launch.