ISO 9001:2026 Readiness Checklist



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Welcome to our checklist

This checklist aims to help you understand what ISO 9001:2026 requires in simple terms and where your business activities may already comply. Working through the checklist will provide you with valuable insights and guidance on your next steps.

To note, the checklist cannot count as evidence for your transition audit, as our auditors must confirm compliance during your transition audit.

How does it work?

This checklist breaks each new requirement down by clause. In each section, you will be asked whether you have fulfilled key elements of the new criteria. You can mark your response as:

- Ready – indicating that you feel ready to demonstrate the aspect and should transition during your next visit from SGS
- Nearly ready – indicating that, with guidance or support, you would be able to demonstrate the aspect. We would recommend transitioning during your next SGS visit
- Work to do – indicating that further preparation is needed for your audit or, perhaps, even training from SGS Academy.

The relevant next steps are at the end of the checklist, where you should have a better idea of how close you are to transitioning to the new standard.

Clause 4 Context of the organizations

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
4.1 Understanding the organization and its context (ISO 9001:2015, Amd 1)			
Has the organization determined whether climate change is a relevant issue? Has it confirmed whether any of its interested parties consider climate change an issue?			
4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties			
Has the organization determined the relevant requirements of its interested parties and which of these requirements will be addressed through the quality management system?			

Clause 5 Leadership

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
5.1 Leadership and commitment			
Does top management demonstrate leadership and commitment to the quality management system by: Promoting continual improvement? Promoting quality culture and ethical behavior? An organization's quality culture and ethical behavior are reflected in its shared values, attitudes, established practices and actions.			

Clause 6 Planning

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
6.1.3 Actions to address opportunities			
Has the organization established processes to determine, analyze and evaluate opportunities that can have a desired effect on its ability to continually and consistently provide conforming products and services and enhance customer satisfaction?			
6.2 Quality objectives and planning to achieve them			
Are the organization's objectives available as documented information?			
6.3 Planning of changes			
To ensure the change is implemented effectively to achieve intended result(s), has the organization considered: The communication of changes? How the effectiveness of changes will be monitored and evaluated? How the results of the changes will be reviewed?			

Clause 7 Support

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
7.3 Awareness			
Does the organization ensure that people doing work under its control are aware of the organizational quality culture and ethical behavior?			

Clause 8 Operation

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
8.2.1 Customer communication			
Does the organization provide information related to contingency actions, when relevant, including any related disruptions to providing products or services?			
8.2.3 Review of requirements relating to products and services			
When the customer does not provide a documented statement of its requirements, does the organization confirm the customer requirements before acceptance?			
Is documented information available, as applicable, as evidence of: The results of the review? Any new requirements for products and services?			
8.4.3 Information for external providers			
Does the organization communicate to external providers its requirements for: The external providers' interactions with the organization and, as applicable, its customers and other relevant interested parties? Verification or validation activities that the organization or its customer intends to perform at the external providers' premises or other location?			

Clause 9 Performance evaluation

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
9.1.2 Customer satisfaction			
Does the organization monitor customer satisfaction and determine the methods for obtaining, monitoring and reviewing customer satisfaction information?			
9.2 Internal audit			
Does the organization define the objectives for each audit?			
9.3 Management review			
Do management review inputs include: Changes in the needs and expectations of interested parties relevant to the quality management system?			

Clause 10 Improvement

Have you determined:	Ready	Nearly ready	Work to do
10.1 Continual improvement			
Has the organization continually improved the quality management system's suitability, adequacy and effectiveness? Has the organization considered the results of monitoring, measurement, analysis, evaluation and results from management review to determine opportunities? Has the organization addressed these opportunities as part of continual improvement?			
10.2 Nonconformity and corrective action			
Does the organization evaluate the need for action to eliminate the causes of nonconformity(ies), so they do not recur or occur elsewhere?			

Your next step

All or most answers are Ready (with Nearly ready making up the minority):	Most answers are Nearly ready (with Ready and Work to do making up the minority):	Most answers are Work to do (with Ready and Nearly ready making up the minority:
Congratulations! You are ready to book your transition audit with SGS. You can register your interest via https://www.sgs.com/en/contact-form. Alternatively, contact your local office, which will help progress your transition.	Your organization would benefit from a gap analysis to identify the areas that need addressing and provide practical ways to address them. To do this, contact your SGS auditor or local office directly.	You are not quite up to date with some areas of the new standard, but this can be resolved in various ways. SGS Academy hosts a variety of transition courses, aimed at organizations certified to the previous standard. An SGS Product Expert Consultation call with one of our product experts will help increase your ISO 9001:2026 knowledge. A gap analysis will identify the areas that need attention and how to address them.

Materials to support your transition

We are committed to making your transition as easy as possible. Check out our dedicated information and transition guidance at https://www.sgs.com/en/showcases/iso-9001-2026-key-updates-and-transition-guidance.

Not an SGS customer?

It is easy to transfer your certification to SGS. If you would like us to support you through this process, contact our support team via https://www.sgs.com/en/contact-form.

When you need to be sure

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