

Ten highest-leverage things to do first

If you do nothing else, do these ten — ordered by leverage. Check them off. One sitting gets you a real harness.

Layer: Context Capability Control Governance

1

Write a lean AGENTS.md

☐

Canonical, version-pinned, real 3–10 line snippets. Keep it ~200 lines. This single file is the highest-leverage artifact you own.

CONTEXT

2

Add the two thin adapters

☐

CLAUDE.md (@imports AGENTS.md) and copilot-instructions.md (hard rules in first 4,000 chars). Author once, serve both vendors.

CONTEXT

3

Port the starter skill library

☐

code-review, secure-coding-checklist, pii-handling, regulatory-logging. Each with a description written as an explicit trigger.

CAPABILITY

4

Add a code-intelligence MCP server

☐

Replace grep/glob exploration with one AST/graph server. Prefer local-first; pin the version. Big token + tool-call savings.

CAPABILITY

5

Create a security-reviewer subagent

☐

Read-only, scoped tools, blocks on hard-coded secrets. Same prompt body compiles to a Copilot security-scout agent.

CONTROL

6

Add a protect-paths hook

☐

A PreToolUse gate (exit 2 blocks) plus a post-edit lint hook. Turns advisory rules into enforced ones, locally.

CONTROL

7

Ship one gh-aw security-guard

☐

Read-only token, safe-outputs only, compiled with --strict. Per-PR security pass that complements the inner-loop hook.

CONTROL

8

Turn on mandatory review

☐

Branch ruleset: auto Copilot review (non-blocking) + one required human approval + green CI. No AI change lands unreviewed.

GOVERNANCE

9

Distribute policy you can't override

☐

managed-settings.json via MDM: deny-list, model pinning, marketplace lock. New laptops come up compliant by default.

GOVERNANCE

10

Wire the audit pipelines

☐

OpenTelemetry (prompt/tool content) + Compliance API pull + GitHub audit log → SIEM. You need all three to reconstruct events.

GOVERNANCE