FREE WORKSHEET

Resume Parser Cost and ATS Fit Worksheet

Who it is for: talent acquisition leaders, recruiting operations managers and agency recruiting leads who are choosing resume parsing software and need to compare price and ATS fit on the same terms.

How to use it

1. Fill in your inputs and the cost table for each tool on your shortlist. Use prices from the vendor, in writing.
2. Run 50 to 100 of your own resumes through each finalist. Check each field and each resume type in the ATS fit pages.
3. Ask every vendor the 10 questions. Pick the tool with the lowest cost per 1,000 that passes your ATS and layout checks.

What is inside

Tab 1	Cost per 1,000 resumes, for any pricing model
Tab 2	ATS field-mapping checklist and resume layouts to test
Questions	10 yes-or-no questions to ask vendors before you sign

TAB 1

Cost per 1,000 resumes

Use one copy of this page for each tool. Cost per 1,000 resumes is the number that lets you compare per-document, credit, bundle and per-user pricing.

Your inputs

INPUT	VALUE
Resumes received per month	_____
Share you want parsed (all, or only shortlisted)	_____ %
Resumes per year to parse (monthly x 12 x share)	_____
Extra costs to add: setup, API developer time, OCR add-on, overage, support	$ _____

Tool details

Tool name	
Quoted price	
Date quoted	

TAB 1, CONTINUED

Work out your cost per 1,000

Find the row that matches how the vendor charges, then write your number in the last column.

PRICING MODEL	WHAT YOU PAY	COST PER 1,000 RESUMES	YOUR NUMBER
Per document	Price per resume parsed	Price per document x 1,000	$ _____
Prepaid credits	Credit pack price / credits in pack = price per credit. One resume may use more than one credit.	Price per credit x credits per resume x 1,000	$ _____
Annual document bundle	Annual price / documents included. Count unused documents as paid.	Annual price / documents you will really parse x 1,000	$ _____
Per user per month	Seats x monthly price x 12 months	Yearly cost / resumes parsed per year x 1,000	$ _____
Platform or ATS plan	Plan price for the ATS or platform that includes parsing	(Yearly plan cost - cost of the ATS without parsing) / resumes per year x 1,000	$ _____
Contact sales	Ask for the price per resume at your volume, in writing	Quote / resumes in the quote x 1,000	$ _____

Worked example

EXAMPLE FROM A VENDOR PRICE PAGE	CALCULATION	RESULT
Self-serve plan at $0.10 per document (Affinda resume parser pricing page, read November 13, 2026)	$0.10 x 1,000	**$100 per 1,000 resumes**

TAB 2

ATS field-mapping checklist

Parse 50 to 100 of your own resumes and open the candidate records in your ATS. Mark each field Works or Fails. Parsed data most often breaks at the handoff: a field lands in the wrong place, dates shift, or one person becomes two records.

FIELD TO CHECK	WHERE IT SHOULD LAND IN YOUR ATS	WORKS?	NOTES
Full name	Candidate name	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Email	Email (check one email, not two merged)	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Phone	Phone, in your country format	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
City and state	Location field, not the address line	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Job titles	Each job as its own work history row	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Employers	Employer name per row	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Start and end dates	Date fields, with current role marked	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Education	School, degree and year per row	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Skills	Skills field, no duplicates	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Languages and certifications	Own fields, if your ATS has them	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Original resume file	Attached to the candidate record	[ ] Yes [ ] No	
Source and apply date	Source field, set when the resume arrives	[ ] Yes [ ] No	

TAB 2, CONTINUED

Resume layouts to test

Include at least two resumes of each type in your test set. These are the layouts parsers most often get wrong.

RESUME TYPE TO TEST	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	RESULT
Two-column layout	Columns read left to right, not line by line across	[ ] Pass [ ] Fail
Tables and graphics	Skills and dates inside tables are not lost	[ ] Pass [ ] Fail
Scanned PDF or photo	Text is read, or the file is flagged for manual review	[ ] Pass [ ] Fail
Short or no work history	Hourly resumes still create a usable record	[ ] Pass [ ] Fail
Non-English or mixed language	Names and fields are not garbled	[ ] Pass [ ] Fail
Same person applies twice	Duplicate is merged or flagged, not created	[ ] Pass [ ] Fail

Test summary

Your ATS	
Resumes tested	
Fields failing	
Layouts failing	

VENDOR QUESTIONS

10 questions to ask before you sign

Each question can be answered with yes or no plus one detail. Write the answer down and ask for it in writing.

#	QUESTION TO ASK THE VENDOR	YES OR NO	DETAIL THEY GAVE
1	Does it connect to my ATS, and does it write parsed fields into the right ATS fields without manual mapping?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
2	Can you show the parsed output of 50 of my own resumes before I sign?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
3	Does it read scanned files, two-column layouts and tables, and which file types does it accept?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
4	What happens when a resume fails to parse: is it flagged, retried or dropped?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
5	Does it support the languages my applicants use?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
6	Is the price per resume written down at my monthly volume, including overage and add-ons?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
7	Do you keep resume data after parsing, and for how long?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
8	Can you delete a candidate's data on request, and in how many days?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
9	Can parsing be hosted in my region, or inside my own cloud?	[ ] Y [ ] N	
10	Who owns setup and support, and how long does a go-live take?	[ ] Y [ ] N	

SCORING

How to pick the winner

1. Drop any tool that fails a field your recruiters use every day.
2. Between tools that pass, compare cost per 1,000 resumes including setup and developer time.
3. A tool that costs less per resume but needs manual fixes on every record costs more once recruiter time is counted.
4. No independent accuracy benchmark was found as of November 2026, so your own test results are the best evidence you have.

Final pick

TOOL	COST PER 1,000	FIELDS FAILING	LAYOUTS FAILING	DECISION

SEE IT IN ACTION

Screen every applicant after the parse

Peoplebox runs AI first-round interviews by phone or video and sends scored candidates to your ATS.

Book a Demo →