

# Worksheet: 3 Perspectives to Focus Your Product Strategy



## Delight and Unity

Think of your product as a promise to the person using it. Your product is helping them accomplish a task and achieve a goal. Features are temporary ways to keep these promises; your company's mission offers a more long-lasting kind of promise.

## Growth and Scale

We've all used "great" products that faded into obscurity. Why does this happen? There are other factors at play like the business model, acquiring customers in a cost-effective manner, timing, operational efficiencies, retention strategies, and navigating complex ecosystems (e.g. multi-sided markets).

## Differentiation and Competition

This section zooms out even further and asks you to look at your product and business in the greater market context. Keep in mind that putting the competition at the center of your product strategy isn't always the best for sustainable growth—but it does offer another useful perspective.

Our product makes the following promise(s) to our customers...

Persona

Promise:

To sustainably keep these promises, what must we do in the following areas?

Acquisition:

**A** Legacy player; current competitor; established future competitor; potential disruptor

**B** Highly differentiated; incrementally better; equal, lagging

**C** Maintain this position; work to improve; let it slip

Compared to \_\_\_\_\_ [Competitor] \_\_\_\_\_, which we consider to be a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [A] \_\_\_\_\_, we are \_\_\_\_\_ [B] \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to our ability to \_\_\_\_\_ [Competitor] \_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, we must \_\_\_\_\_ [C] \_\_\_\_\_.

Cost Structure:  
Personas  
Promises

Compared to \_\_\_\_\_ [Competitor] \_\_\_\_\_, which we consider to be a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [A] \_\_\_\_\_, we are \_\_\_\_\_ [B] \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to our ability to \_\_\_\_\_ [Competitor] \_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, we must \_\_\_\_\_ [C] \_\_\_\_\_.

Expansion:

Compared to \_\_\_\_\_ [Competitor] \_\_\_\_\_, which we consider to be a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [A] \_\_\_\_\_, we are \_\_\_\_\_ [B] \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to our ability to \_\_\_\_\_ [Competitor] \_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, we must \_\_\_\_\_ [C] \_\_\_\_\_.

Channels:

A product strategy is a set of key beliefs, assumptions, and hypotheses focused on the sustainable growth of your company. A coherent product strategy addresses the three perspectives in this worksheet: customers, company, and competition. Your next step, now, is to **focus**. Reduce the number of promises, prioritize the key aspects of scaling, and pick your competitive battles.