

Playwright Automation Checklist

Quick Checklist, at a glance

What you will get:

- Code fixes that cut flake and raise test signal
- CI settings that surface root cause fast
- A simple process that keeps noise out

Code-level

- ☐ Replace `waitForTimeout(...)` with auto-waits and web-first assertions
- ☐ Prefer user-facing locators: `getByRole`, `getByLabel`, `getByText`
- ☐ Avoid brittle CSS and XPath like `div > span:nth-child(3)`
- ☐ Make each test independent, new browser context per test
- ☐ Use retrying assertions: `toBeVisible`, `toHaveText`, `toHaveURL`
- ☐ Mock network when full backend is not needed with `page.route(...)`

CI/CD-level

- ☐ Set `retries: 2` in CI only
- ☐ Capture `trace: on-first-retry`, screenshots and video on failure
- ☐ Start with `workers: 1`, raise slowly after the suite is stable
- ☐ Use Docker or pinned browsers to avoid env drift
- ☐ Keep artifacts for 7–14 days for fast triage

Process-level

- ☐ Quarantine flaky tests with `@flaky`, run them in a separate nightly job
- ☐ Assign an owner for each flaky test and open a ticket the same day
- ☐ Track flake rate, mean time to triage, and slowest tests
- ☐ Review trends weekly and delete dead tests

- ☐ Block merges on critical failures, low pass rate, or big coverage drop

Targets to aim for:

- ☐ Flake rate under 5%
- ☐ Mean time to triage under 10 min
- ☐ p95 slowest test under the agreed limit for your app

Do this now:

- Set `retries: 2`, `trace: on-first-retry`, `screenshot: only-on-failure`, `video: retain-on-failure`
- Replace fixed waits, switch to `getByRole` where possible
- Add `@flaky` tag and a nightly quarantine run