



DIRECTORY SUBMISSION LIST

The Real AI Side Hustle — Free Companion Resource

Submitting your site to startup and tool directories earns early backlinks and a little traffic. Work the free ones first; treat the paid ones with skepticism. Prices and DR claims move — check each site before paying. Last verified: mid-2026.

READ FIRST Most of these are built for SaaS and AI tools, not affiliate content sites — a listing still works, but temper expectations. And a fast “DR 30+” spike from a paid bulk service often evaporates within a month. **Do the free tier of everything before you spend a dollar (Chapter 9 has the full story).**

FREE — DO THESE FIRST

Directory	What it is & honest take	Cost	Submitted
Product Hunt producthunt.com	Launch platform; real dofollow links + traffic. Good for SaaS/tools, more limited for pure content sites.	Free	<input type="checkbox"/>
BetaList betalist.com	Early-stage startup directory; reaches early adopters. Free listing with a queue; paid option skips the line.	Free / freemium	<input type="checkbox"/>
StartupFame startupfa.me	Startup launch directory; a listing plus a backlink. Free submission with paid upgrades.	Free / freemium	<input type="checkbox"/>
IdeaKiln ideakiln.com	Startup/idea showcase directory; submit for a listing and a link.	Free / freemium	<input type="checkbox"/>
turbo0 turbo0.com	AI-tools directory; submit your AI tool or site for a listing.	Free / freemium	<input type="checkbox"/>
twelve.tools twelve.tools	Submits your tool to many directories at once — a time-saver versus doing each by hand.	Free / freemium	<input type="checkbox"/>

PAID — ONLY WITH EYES OPEN

Directory	What it is & honest take	Cost	Submitted
StartupSubmit startupsuubmit.com	Bulk directory submissions; “guarantees DR 30+.” I paid it — the DR spike evaporated in a month. Read Chapter 9 before you do.	~\$199	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tip: keep your one-line pitch, logo, and a screenshot in a single folder so each submission takes two minutes. Check the box as you go, and note the date you submitted in the margin — some directories take weeks to list you.