AI Prompts to Elevate Your Everyday

Practical prompts you'll actually use

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The Secret Sauce: Why These Prompts Work

The biggest mistake people make with AI is treating it like a search engine. A search engine expects short, basic queries and gives you a list of links to sort through yourself, usually buried under ads.

AI lets you ask a detailed, multi-part question with context. Then it reads, compares, and distills the information into a clear, tailored answer for you. And all without ads.

The “magic” in the following prompts is a simple instruction I’ve included in every single one: “Ask me clarifying questions.” This forces the AI to stop guessing and start listening to what you actually need.

You should apply this every time you use AI; always ask it to ask you for what’s missing or unclear - this is the easiest way to increase the quality of your results.

Instructions

In the following pages you will find **5 prompts** for common activities;

- Copy the prompt provided, and paste it into your chosen AI tool
- Replace the pink highlighted text with your own, relevant details.
- Answer any clarifying questions the AI may have for you.

Pro Tip:

When the AI asks follow-up questions, answer them plainly and let it continue. You don’t need to overthink your responses. Clear and direct is perfect.

01 | The Flight Finder

The Goal: Find the best flights for your trip.

Why You Need This: Because flight searching shouldn't feel like a part-time job.

Note: Make sure the AI tool you are using has web browsing capabilities enabled.

Copy the text in the Prompt box and paste into your AI chat window

The Prompt:

Act as my Flight Finder. I want help comparing flight options and choosing the best one for my trip.

1) My trip details:

- From (airport or city): [input]
- To (airport or city): [input]
- Departure date: [input]
- Return date (or "one-way"): [input]
- Cabin: (Economy, Premium Economy, Business) [input]
- Budget (optional): [input]
- Airline preferences (optional): [input]
- Currency to show prices in: [input]

2) My must-haves:

- Stops: (Nonstop/ Max 1 stop / Any) [input]
- Other: (eg: checked bag included, changeable) [input]

3) What I want you to do:

Using your browsing capabilities, find flight options that meet my criteria and compare them. Present the results in a simple comparison table with these columns:

- Option #
- Airline
- Route (with stops)
- Departure time / Return time (local time)
- Fare type name
- Total price
- What's included (bags, seat selection, meals, etc.)
- Key restrictions to watch (in plain English)
- Link to book (if available) or cite source

4) Then summarize (in plain English):

- Which option offers the best overall value and why
- Anything important I should know before booking (eg. seat selection rules, fare restrictions, etc)

Before searching, ask me any clarifying questions.

Related Reading: Smart Travel Tech for a Smoother Take-Off.

02 | The Fridge-to-Table Chef

The Goal: Dinner solved based on current reality, not a wishful grocery list.

Why You Need This: For the days when you have three random vegetables and zero desire to go to the store. The built-in constraint lets you be honest about how much effort you're willing to put in.

Copy the text in the Prompt box and paste into your AI chat window

The Prompt:

I have [insert: key ingredients]. My pantry is stocked with basic staples (oil, butter, salt, pepper, garlic, common dried spices, rice, canned beans and tomatoes). I want 3 weeknight dinner ideas that are [insert: criteria such as high protein, vegan, gluten or dairy free]. Keep prep simple and the skill-level low. Provide clear, step-by-step recipes and include a short, witty chef's note or tip for each. Before giving me the recipes, ask me questions about my kitchen tools or possible missing staples to make sure the recipes are doable for me tonight.

Pro Tip:
Typically, when you hit the enter key in an AI chat window, it's a trigger for the AI to start responding. If you just want to start a new line in the same chat, hold the shift key while hitting the enter key; this will advance you to the next line where you can complete your thoughts.

Related Reading: Level Up Your Home Cooking With These 5 Simple Tools.

03 | Deep Dive Research Assistant

The Goal: Clear, jargon-free understanding without falling down a Google rabbit hole.

Why You Need This: When you want facts, context, and smart questions - not opinions or contradictory hot takes. This prompt helps you get oriented quickly and know what actually matters before you go any further.

Copy the text in the Prompt box and paste into your AI chat window

The Prompt:

I am researching [insert: topic]. Provide a clear, jargon-free summary for a beginner that covers the essentials, without over-simplifying. Include the most important facts I should know, the biggest myths, misconceptions, or common pitfalls, and three smart, expert-level questions I should ask if I'm speaking with a professional. If any part of this topic is debated, uncertain, or not well-settled, flag that clearly rather than presenting it as fact. Before you begin, ask me two or three focused questions to understand what I'm trying to decide, learn, or evaluate with this research. Keep the output concise and easy to scan, and include credible sources where they meaningfully support the information, briefly noting why each source is trustworthy.

04 | The “Talk Me Through This” Comparison

The Goal: Make a confident decision by clearly comparing your options based on what actually matters to you.

Why You Need This: Comparing options online is overwhelming and biased by marketing or reviews that don’t reflect your reality. This prompt helps you cut through the noise and choose what makes the most sense for you, not what’s loudest or trendiest.

Copy the text in the Prompt box and paste into your AI chat window

The Prompt:

Act as my comparison assistant. I’m trying to decide between [insert: option A] and [insert: option B].
This decision is for: [insert: who / how it will be used].
What matters most to me: [priority #1], [priority #2], [priority #3].
My deal-breakers: [insert: criteria].
My budget (optional): [insert: $ amount or range].

Before you start, ask me any questions you need in order to make a good recommendation.

Then show me a simple comparison table that explains:

- The strengths of each option
- The weaknesses of each option
- Anything important I should watch out for
- Which one is the best fit for my needs and why

Finish with a short checklist of smart things I should confirm before I buy or choose.
If something is uncertain or depends on location, model, or missing information, say so clearly instead of guessing.

Pro Tip:
Provide screenshots or documents for the AI to reference as part of the prompt (just tell the AI what you are giving it). The AI will review the info and take it into consideration. To upload a file, click the “+” key typically found in the bottom left of the chat box. Select “Add Photos & Files”, and it will open your folders window where you can select the file.

05 | The “No-Stress” Suitcase

The Goal: A streamlined packing list that covers everything, without overpacking.

Why You Need This: Most overpacking comes from indecision. This prompt forces clarity, working with your destination, weather, activities, personal style, and what you already own so you pack with efficiency.

Copy the text in the Prompt box and paste into your AI chat window

The Prompt:

I am going to [insert: location] from [insert: date] to [insert: date] for [insert: activities].
I need a capsule wardrobe packing list of no more than 15 items that work across all activities.
My criteria: [insert: eg. must include a blazer, no more than two pairs of shoes, no denim].
Before you generate the list, ask me clarifying questions about:

- My personal style preferences
- Weather tolerance (runs hot / runs cold)
- Any core items I already own that I want included

Focus on versatility, comfort, and realistic outfits, not trend pieces.
Look up the expected weather and temperatures for my dates and take that information into account.

Other Simple, Everyday Prompts to Try

Try these simple prompts to help with daily activities:

- **Improve your writing:** "Proofread my writing [insert: copy and paste whatever you want help with]. Fix grammar and spelling mistakes, and make suggestions that will improve the clarity [insert: or whatever your goal is] of my writing."

- **Learn faster:** "I want to learn about [insert: topic]. Identify and share the most important 20% of learnings from this topic that will help me to understand 80% of it."

- **Summarize long articles/reports:** "Summarize this: [insert: copy & paste text, or attach a file] and give me a list of bullet points with key insights and the most important facts."

- **Brainstorm or generate new ideas:** "I want to brainstorm ideas for [insert: idea/concept]. My goal is [insert: what you want to achieve]. Give me a list of practical, varied ideas that are realistic."

- **Before making a major purchase:** "What questions should I ask before buying [insert: item or service]."

- **Break-down a complicated process:** "Explain how this process works [insert: process/topic], step-by-step and in plain language."

- **Get a second opinion on a decision:** "I'm leaning towards [insert: topic or activity]. What are the pros, cons, and trade-offs I should consider?"

- **Help with Excel:** get help with writing formulas. Tell the AI in plain language what you want to achieve and it will write the formula for you.

Remember: any additional context you give to the AI will increase the quality of the results you get back. It doesn't need to be well written; it can be half-baked thoughts and bullet points. The AI will take the information and give you a more complete result. Additional context could be things like:

- what your priorities are
- prior experiences or abilities
- your likes or preferences
- your education or knowledge-base
- any constraints, budget