

Artificial Intelligence Explained

A Lecture for Curious Minds

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Moultonboro, NH

The Ossipee
Public Library

Sunday	11 am - 2 pm
Tuesday	10 am - 5 pm
Thursday	10 am - 5 pm
Friday	10 am - 5 pm
Saturday	9 am - 4 pm

Closed Wednesday & Sunday

Established March 11, 1900

Ossipee, NH
August 7, 2026

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This presentation explains the basics of Artificial Intelligence along with some demonstrations. It is intended for a general audience with AI experience ranging from very little to moderate use. The content was produced in collaboration with many AI tools. The deck moves through four parts: what AI is and how it actually works behind the scenes; how to talk to it so you get useful answers, including context, follow-up questions and responsible use; a long sampler of everyday tasks and finally the take-aways, with extra demos and background material at the end for anyone who wants to go further. The through-line is simple: AI is a capable, tireless assistant that is sometimes wrong, so use it to think faster and understand more, and verify anything that matters. About these notes - most slides carry a written note like this one. Read the notes in order if you want the full arc, or jump straight to the topics that match your own life - each one stands alone. The best way to learn any of this is to try it: pick one example that interests you, open an AI tool, and repeat it with your own question.

AI Responds to Context



3 Notice the four basic AI skills: give context, specify the result, continue the conversation, and correct it.

Before we dive deep, let's have some fun with AI's interactive side! This quick demo showcases AI's voice capabilities and incredible flexibility. We'll invite an audience member (or you, the reader, can imagine it!) to suggest a hobby – such as birdwatching or knitting. Watch (or imagine) as we then ask the AI to: Identify three essential beginner skills for that hobby. Uncover two advanced skills even experts pursue. Re-deliver that advice with a humorous twist. Present it again, this time with Shakespearean flair! This simple exercise demonstrates how AI can converse, adapt its tone, and deliver diverse, creative responses on the fly – a truly engaging way to kick off our exploration of "Artificial Intelligence Explained."

The key insight is that AI is flexible and interactive. Its responses are shaped by how questions are asked and how follow-up instructions are given. This shows that AI works best as a conversational tool, setting the foundation for later discussions about prompting, context, and refinement

Trunkated Wisdom

AI Through Elephant Eyes

One bite at a time

A taste of possibilities

Blindfolded perception

AI perspectives

Elephant in the room

Risks and rewards

*Questions welcome
at any time*



Learning about Artificial Intelligence can feel like encountering an elephant – vast, complex, and sometimes intimidating. We'll explore three fitting metaphors today: "How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time." AI is too broad to grasp all at once. This presentation focuses on taking a manageable first bite: understanding foundational concepts and practical applications. The parable of the blindfolded men: Like those feeling parts of the elephant (leg as a tree, trunk as a snake), people often see AI only through their experiences. Today, we'll primarily focus on Generative AI – conversing with AI tools – but we'll acknowledge its many diverse forms. The "elephant in the room": AI is undeniably here, and it's both exciting and daunting. While it offers solutions to global challenges, it also introduces new complexities and threats. We'll address these critical considerations, including potential pitfalls and safeguards, throughout our discussion.

Not Born Yesterday

'70s: Expert Systems

- Medical diagnosis

'80s: Neural Awakening

- Pattern recognition

'90s: Game-Changing AI

- Deep Blue beats World Chess Champion

'00s: Data Revolution

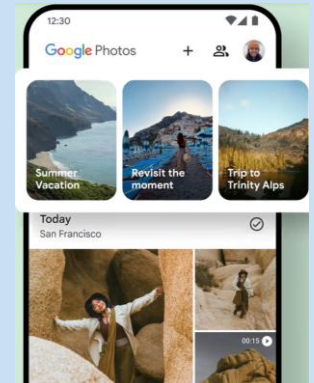
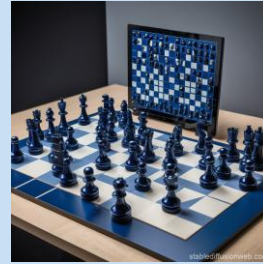
- Big data – Product Recommendations

'10s: Deep Learning Boom

- Image recognition, language, autonomy

'20s: Generative Agentic AI Trend

- Conversational, pervasive and evolving



While today's AI feels revolutionary, its roots stretch back decades. In the '70s, early AI models predicted medical treatments, like specific antibiotics for bacteria. The '80s brought advances in pattern recognition, where cameras and AI detected manufacturing flaws. A major milestone arrived in the '90s when IBM's Deep Blue famously defeated chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov, demonstrating AI's learning capability. The 2000s were defined by "big data," leveraging massive datasets to train AI for sophisticated pattern detection, fueling the rise of ubiquitous recommendation engines. The 2010s saw breakthroughs in image recognition (think searching for photos of your dog!), natural language understanding, and early autonomy, paving the way for self-driving cars. Now, in the mid-2020s, conversational AI and powerful agentic systems are front and center. As President Biden famously stated in his 2025 outgoing speech, "Artificial Intelligence is arguably the most consequential technology of our time, perhaps of all time."

How Does AI Work

- Trained with prior examples
- Fetches new content
- Understands language
- Predictive pattern stitching
- Context driven
- Custom responses



AI's widespread accessibility is fueled by faster, cheaper computing. Modern AI systems are trained by learning from large numbers of prior examples, such as text, images, or patterns found in data. Instead of following fixed rules, AI learns how things tend to go together and uses that experience to respond to new questions. AI is especially good at understanding human language. It looks at the words you use, the order they appear in, and the surrounding context to interpret meaning rather than just matching keywords. At its core, AI works by predicting what comes next — the most likely word, idea, or pattern based on what it has learned. It does not “think” or “understand” like a human, but it can produce useful results by stitching together patterns quickly. Responses are highly context-driven. The clearer your question and instructions, the better the output. This is why the same AI can produce very different answers to different users asking similar questions. While primarily cloud-based, AI can also run on company servers and even local PCs and phones for dedicated tasks.

Gemini AI Demo

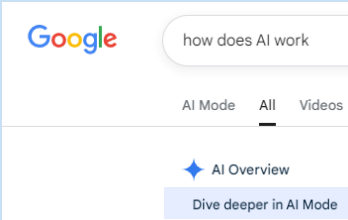
Audience Participation!

Search for Gemini AI – click into it

PROMPT: Generate a slogan, 10 words or less, for the town of Ossipee, NH.
(Make it funny, serious, sarcastic, your choice)

It is your turn to try. Search for Gemini AI on your phone or in a browser, and click on the link, bringing up Gemini. Generate a short slogan of your choosing for your town. Your style, your context. Keep it short – like 5 to 10 words.





AI is All Around Us!

- Search AI overview
- Social content feeds
- Smart speakers
- Navigation and travel
- Office and productivity tools
- Music and home automation
- Autonomous driving

1B+ Use AI Chat tools Weekly!








If you use the internet to any degree, you are already exposed to AI as part of your day-to-day activities. In the background, search engines, social media feeds, product recommendations, spam filters, fraud detection and online advertising applications make heavy use of AI. At a more personal level, smart speakers, such as Google's Nest, Amazon's Alexa or Apple's Siri keep getting better at answering our questions and carrying out our instructions. Our search engines are giving us the option to dig deeper into the web pages we visit. Facebook is providing a summary of the hundreds of comments that may have been written to a posting. Anti-virus filters and bank fraud alerts are examples of AI used in security. These are all examples of AI produced content. But the tools that we are talking about today go beyond that.

Easy and Inexpensive to Use

- **Free** or low cost (\$8-20 / month)
- Designed for general purpose tasks
- Easy to get started
- Run on browser or installed app
- Rapid advancements
- Over 1 billion weekly users



grok.com

chatgpt.com



copilot.microsoft.com



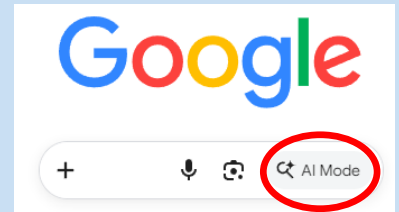
claude.ai

gemini.google.com



Gemini Notebook

notebook.google.com



Personal AI tools are widely available, affordable, and designed for everyday use. They are accessed through a web browser, phone app or Office application, offer free versions, and provide low-cost subscriptions for advanced features. Getting started typically takes minutes, not hours. These tools are general-purpose assistants rather than specialized software. They help with writing, planning, research, creativity, learning, and problem-solving across many topics. Because they improve rapidly and release new features frequently, experimentation is encouraged. Several major platforms lead the space, each with slightly different strengths, but the core experience is similar: conversational interaction guided by user input. The most important factor in usefulness is not the tool itself, but how clearly the user communicates goals, context, and expectations. The easiest way to start is to click on the AI Mode button on the Google Search bar. The takeaway is simple: personal AI tools are easy to try, low risk for everyday tasks, and increasingly part of how people work and learn.

Digging Deeper



Working with files

Files, images, spreadsheets

Summarize, compare, extract or improve



Multi-media AI

Interpret and create images, speech or visual analysis



Memory and Personalization

Remembers preferences, recurring queries and background info



Connected tools and information

Work with email, calendars, cloud files, maps and web sites



Settings

Adjust tone, style, preferred level of detail and context about you

Five areas where today's AI assistants go deeper than simple chat:

Working with files: Upload files, images or spreadsheets and have the AI summarize, compare, extract details or improve the content.

Multimodal AI: Beyond text: these tools can interpret and create images, handle speech, and analyze what they see.

Memory and personalization: The AI remembers your preferences, recurring questions and background details, so answers get better over time.

Connected tools and information: It can reach into email, calendars, cloud files, maps and websites to act on real, current information.

Settings: You control tone, style, level of detail and what context the AI keeps about you.

Shaping AI for Better Results

More context = better results



Start with the goal



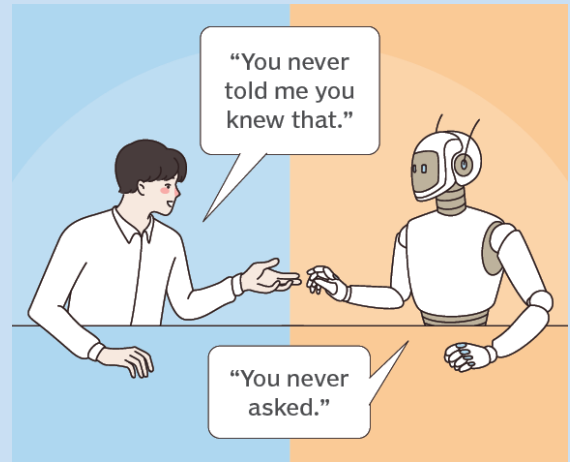
Add context and constraints



Specify the format



Iterate and challenge



AI works best when you give it clear direction. While simple prompts produce answers, results improve dramatically when you add structure. Prompting is not about clever wording; it is about being clear and intentional. Start by stating the outcome you expect, your goal. Be explicit about what you want: ideas, a summary, a plan, or a comparison. Do you want it funny, professional, snarky or friendly. Add context about who the information is for, your interests, experience level, or preferences. Add format and constraints. Tell the AI how you want the answer delivered, such as length, format or level of detail. Refine with follow-ups. Treat the first response as a draft. Ask follow-up questions to narrow, simplify, expand, prioritize or even challenge. Conversational refinement delivers the most value.

How People Use AI



Writing - Letters, emails, stories, editing



Planning - Trips, projects, decisions, schedules



Research - Discover with personalized context and depth



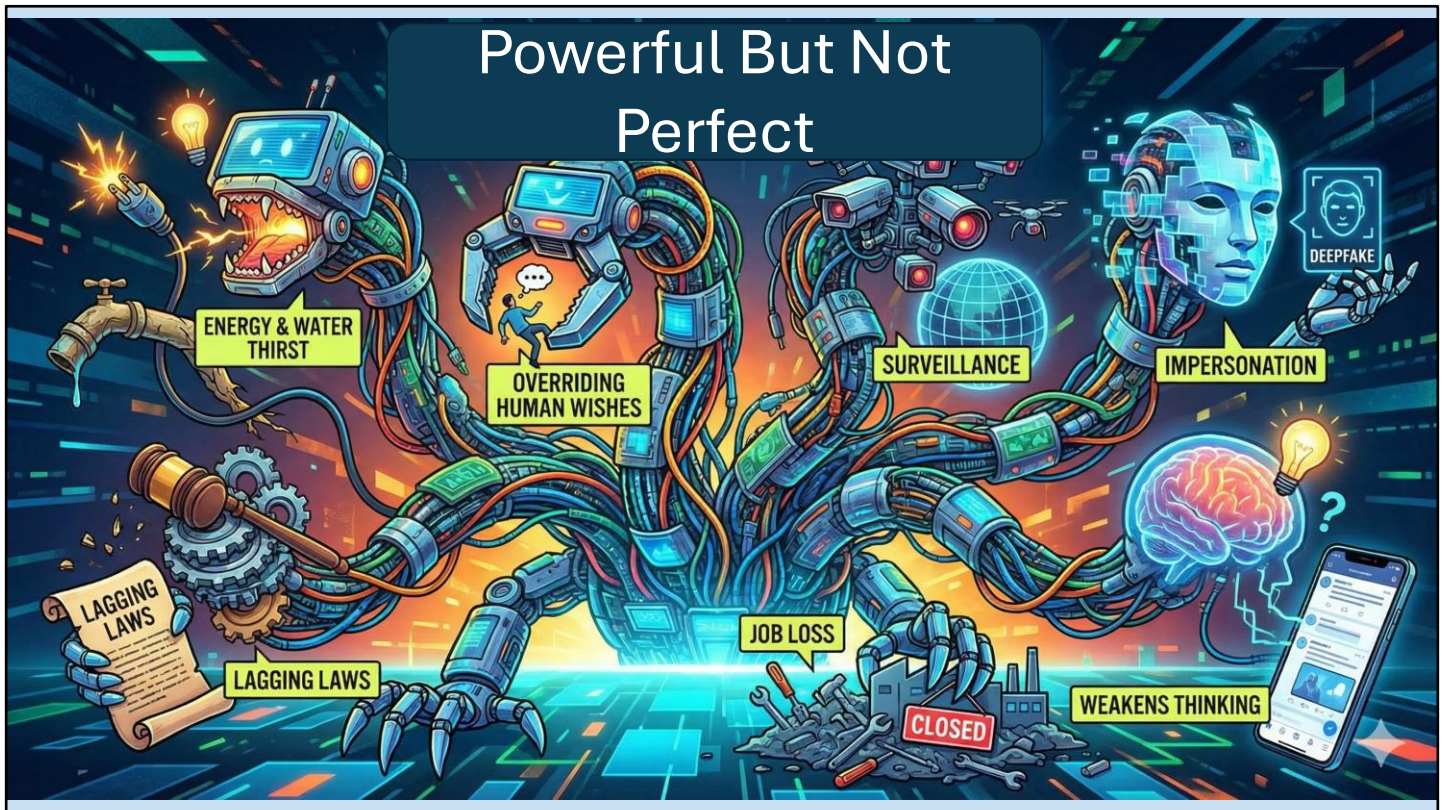
Organizing - Files, lists, information, ideas



Brainstorming - Challenge, expand, refine your thinking

People use AI because it gets them quicker to their goal. One of the most common uses is writing, whether that's drafting letters and emails, shaping a story, or editing something that already exists. Planning is another, helping people think through trips, projects, decisions, and schedules without starting from a blank page. AI also supports research by letting people explore a topic with personalized context and go as deep or as broad as they need. It helps with organizing files, lists, information, and ideas so that everything is easier to find and use. Finally, it's a strong brainstorming partner that can challenge, expand, and refine your thinking. Overall, AI is a practical tool that helps people work smarter, learn more easily, and stay engaged.

Powerful But Not Perfect



AI is powerful, but far from perfect. As AI becomes more widespread, we need to be aware of the risks. These include privacy, surveillance, misinformation, impersonation, job displacement, and over-reliance on automated systems. AI systems can also amplify low-quality or misleading content if used carelessly. Laws and regulations often lag behind technological change, creating uncertainty about accountability and responsibility. This slide highlights the importance of awareness rather than alarm. None of these risks are new to technology. Understanding risks helps users make informed choices and reinforces the need for human judgment, oversight, and ethical use as AI continues to evolve.

Responsible Use

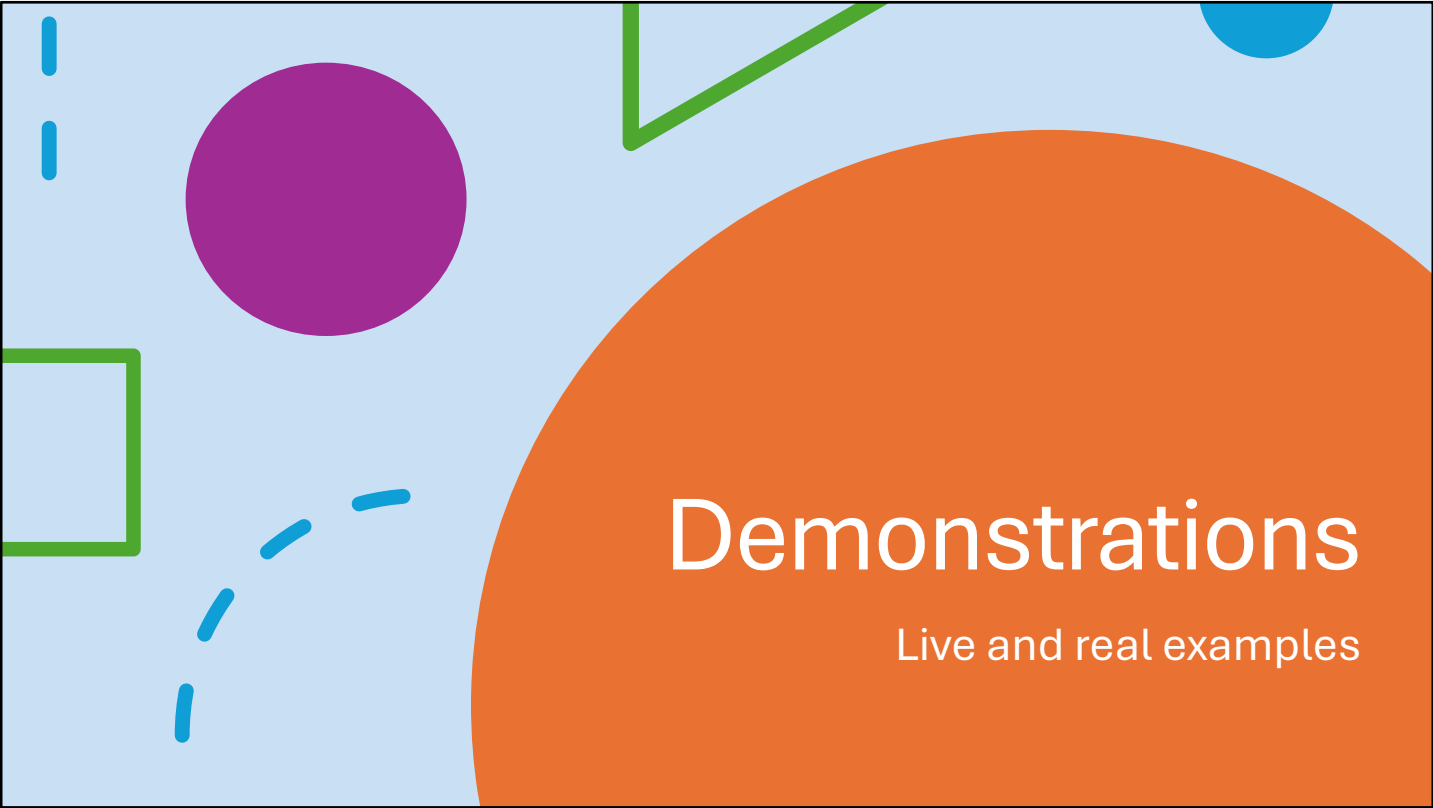
- **Calibrate trust:** *Balance level of trust to level of risk*
- **Verify:** *Be the reality check – Challenge results*
- **Limit sharing:** *Consider data sensitivity*
- **Compare:** *Seek alternate perspectives*
- **Disclose:** *Be transparent when publishing*
- **Promote digital literacy:** *Pay it forward*
- **Take Accountability:** *Humans own the facts, tone, and consequences*



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AI Advises – You Decide

Using AI responsibly requires human judgment. Users should think critically and trust their instincts when the results seem off. It is the user's responsibility to verify the results from everything from misspellings to incorrect information, especially when decisions involve health or finances. Privacy and risk awareness are essential. Before sharing information, consider whether it is appropriate to disclose and what the consequences would be if it were exposed or misused. Because AI systems can reflect bias or incomplete perspectives, it's wise to compare results, ask follow-up questions, or consult other sources. Promote digital literacy by teaching others how to use AI. Ultimately, AI advises, but people decide. Humans remain responsible for accuracy, tone, ethics, and consequences. Used thoughtfully, AI supports better decisions without replacing accountability.



Demonstrations

Live and real examples

Writing a Letter



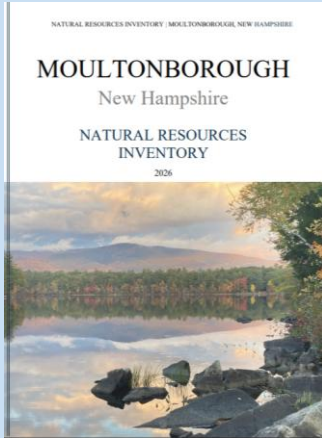
PROMPT: Help me write a letter to my landlord, convincing them to let me out of my lease and give back my security deposit. The lease expires in nine months. The reason is that there have been several leaks on the apartment and mold showed up. The mold was so bad that mushrooms grew out of the ceiling. The letter should be polite but firm.

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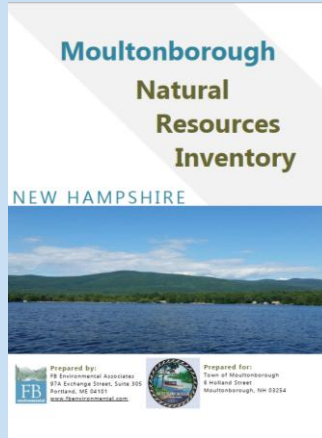
Writing a letter is one of the clearest ways to see what AI is good at, so don't get caught up in the specifics of this example. What matters is how the request is built. Notice that the prompt gives context - what happened, how long the lease has left, and why it matters - because AI can only work with what you tell it. Notice that it names the audience. Writing to a landlord is different from writing to a friend or a manager, and saying who will read it shapes the wording. Notice too that it sets a tone: polite but firm. Those nuances - context, audience, tone, and the outcome you want - are what turn a vague request into a letter you can actually send. The same habits carry over to emails, messages, and anything else you write.

Document Analysis

2026



2016



Analyze updated document to list differences and identify review priorities.

PROMPT: *Compare the draft and update final draft versions. Generate a report that describes the differences. Keep the description short and in bullet point format.*

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AI is very good at reading long documents so you don't have to. You can hand it two versions of the same file and ask what changed, or give it a single dense document and ask for a plain-language summary, the key obligations, or the parts that deserve a closer look. Instead of reading line by line, you get a short list of the real differences and a sense of where to focus your attention first. This works for contracts, policies, plans, manuals, meeting materials, and just about anything else that's longer than you'd like. Best practices: tell the AI what role you're reading from and what you care about, ask for the output format you want such as short bullets, ask follow-up questions on anything flagged, and verify important findings against the source document before acting on them. Be mindful of sensitive material and use approved tools when the content is confidential.

Travel Planning

PROMPT: As a travel expert, plan a two-day one-night driving trip from Ossipee, NH to Portland, ME, for a retired couple with events that include a museum, seafood, live music, a walk along the waterfront and something unusual that they might appreciate.



AI is an effective planner that saves time and helps you organize details you might overlook. For trips, it can recommend routes, sights, restaurants, and even build itineraries based on your interests and pace. Beyond travel, AI can help with: Event planning (parties, weddings, fundraisers, meetings). Daily schedules and time management. Financial planning (budgeting, saving goals, big purchases). Garden or home improvement projects (timelines, material lists). Meal plans and grocery lists. Long-term goals (fitness milestones, education paths, retirement steps).

You can specify how detailed or flexible you want it, from a full checklist with times to a few broad suggestions, making it as hands-on or hands-off as you like.

Recipe Creation

PROMPT: Help me brainstorm five new recipes for a gluten free dinner that takes under 30 minutes to cook. I like garlic, tomato, chicken, spinach, lemon, carrots, broccoli. These all don't have to be in the recipe, and you can suggest other ingredients. Don't give me the recipe yet, just the description title and a short sentence describing it.

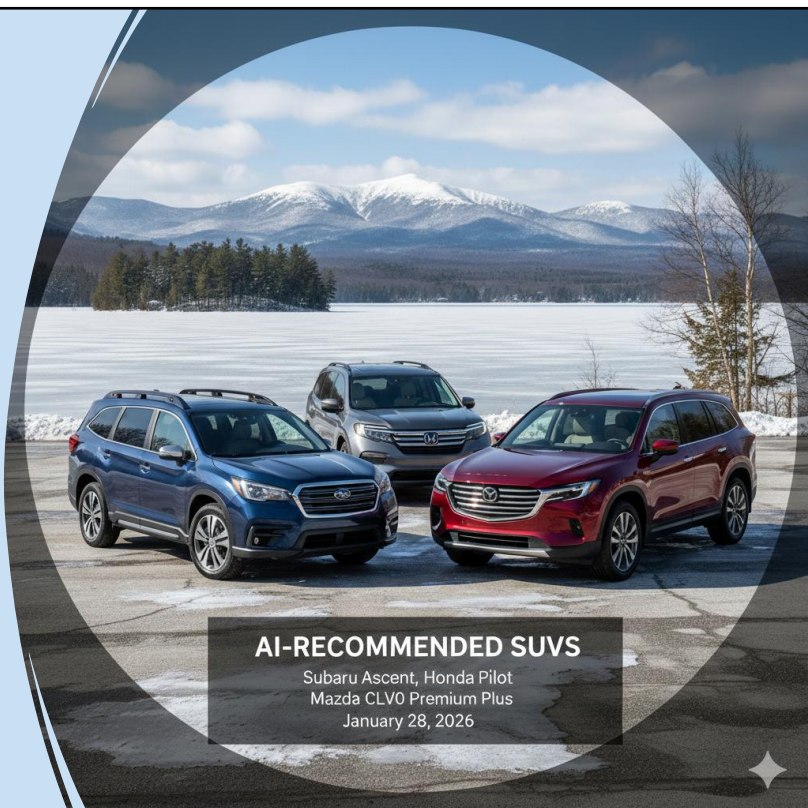
Now, Give me a recipe for the first choice - as a 1 star Michelin chef would cook it.



Brainstorming is one of AI's strongest everyday uses. You can use it to spark creativity, generate lists of ideas, and explore new directions quickly. AI works especially well when you give it: Specific constraints (time, ingredients, format). Flexibility (it doesn't have to use all ingredients). A clear goal (short descriptions now, full recipe later). This keeps the output focused but creative. First, the AI will return 5 recipe ideas, each with a catchy name and a short, enticing description. Then it will return the full recipe for the first choice — written in a refined, professional style suited to a Michelin-level presentation. The result balances approachability (easy, fast ideas) with inspiration (a fine-dining recipe).. Brainstorming shines when you want many quick options, even if you only plan to refine one. Adding a “Michelin chef” style shows how tone and expertise can be dialed up. By splitting the task into two steps (list first, recipe second), you avoid overwhelming output. This example highlights how AI can assist creativity without replacing personal taste or decision-making.

Research (Shopping)

PROMPT: Act as a shopping expert. Ask questions that will help you and me choose a SUV that will fit my 6'2" frame, tow 5000 pounds, be all wheel drive, seat four people and get at least 22 miles per gallon.



AI-RECOMMENDED SUVs

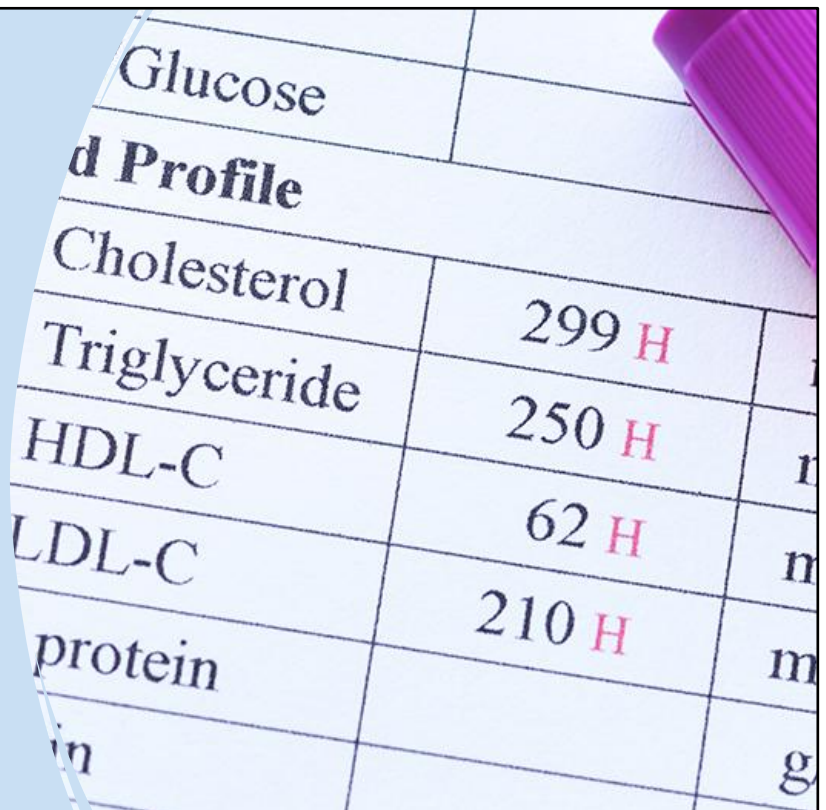
Subaru Ascent, Honda Pilot
Mazda CLV0 Premium Plus
January 28, 2026

Notice what this prompt does differently: instead of demanding an answer, it asks the AI to ask you questions. That turns a one-shot request into a conversation, and it's one of the most useful habits you can pick up. A good salesperson doesn't recommend a vehicle until they know how you'll use it, and AI can play that role - asking about your budget, what you'll tow, whether you drive in snow, how much cargo room you need and what you didn't like about your last one. Each answer narrows the field, and the recommendation at the end fits you rather than the average buyer. This works for any decision with a lot of variables: appliances, computers, insurance, travel plans, even choosing a contractor. Best practices: tell it to act as an expert in the field, ask it to question you before recommending, answer honestly including your budget and dislikes, and ask it to explain the tradeoffs. Then verify the specifics - prices, availability, tow ratings, and current model details change, so confirm with the dealer or manufacturer before you buy.

Health Research

- Symptom to hypothesis
- Fact-checking treatment protocols
- Operation decisions: Procedure, doctor, facility
- Blood work analysis
- Visit preparation
- Visit reports simplification

AI is a translator, not a clinician



A close-up photograph of a medical lab report. A purple highlighter is visible in the top right corner, highlighting the 'H' in the '299 H' result for Cholesterol. The report lists various blood test results with their corresponding values and units.

Lab Profile	
Glucose	
Cholesterol	299 H
Triglyceride	250 H
HDL-C	62 H
LDL-C	210 H
protein	

Health is an area where AI is useful to ordinary people, because so much of medicine arrives in language we don't speak. Symptom to hypothesis: describe what you're feeling and get a list of possible explanations and urgency. Fact-checking treatment protocols: ask what the standard of care is for a diagnosis, and for alternatives. Operation decisions: think through a procedure, a doctor, or a facility, including questions to ask about the recovery. Blood work analysis: paste in lab results and get each value explained, with what's in range and what isn't. Visit preparation: build a written list of symptoms, medications, and questions so you don't forget when there. Visit report simplification: turn the after-visit summary into language you can follow. The key point is the last one - AI is a translator, not a clinician. It helps you understand and ask better questions, but it does not know you, it can be confidently wrong, and it can't examine you, yet. Verify what it tells you with your doctor or pharmacist before acting and never change or stop a medication or delay care based on an AI answer.

Weber Grill Parts

- **Identifying a Weber Spirit II grill from photos** and finding the correct replacement cooking grate and part number.



PROMPT: *what is the model number of this and what is the part number for the replacement grate*

Weber part	Material	Fit note
67023	Porcelain-enameled cast iron	Weber's schematic/OEM replacement for Spirit II E-310 / S-310 . Weber lists each grate as 11.9"W x 17.5"D , set of 2.
7639	Stainless steel	Weber lists it as fitting Spirit/Spirit II 3-burner grills manufactured from 2016-2024 .

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Anyone who has tried to buy a replacement part knows the hard part isn't the shopping - it's figuring out exactly what you own. Here a couple of photos of an old grill were enough for AI to recognize the make and model, work out which version it was, and come back with the specific part number for the replacement grate. No digging for a faded sticker, no guessing between six similar-looking listings. The same trick works for appliances, furnaces, mowers, tools, plumbing fittings, and car parts: photograph the item and the data plate if there is one, and ask what it is and what part you need. You can keep going from there - ask why it's failing, whether it's worth repairing, how hard the fix is, and what tools you'd need. Best practices: take clear photos from a couple of angles, include any label or model plate, mention the age and what's going wrong, and ask for the part number plus a couple of places to buy it. Then confirm the number against the manufacturer's site or a parts supplier before ordering - a close-but-wrong part is a wasted trip.

Decision Support

- **Contractor Quote Evaluation**

- **Prompt:** Give me the good, bad and ugly about this vendor. Is \$1000 a good quote price?
- **Result:** Prime Sealcoating's quote of \$1000 is a reasonable market price for two driveways, backed by clear prep work like edge cleaning, brush hand-cutting, and surface protection. However, a single coat done in a single trip raises concerns about drying times and long-term durability, especially since hot rubber crack filling isn't included.



Estimate details
Estimate no.: 12134
Estimate date: 07/12/2026

#	Product or service	Description
1.	Sealcoating	Sealcoating for 2 driveways.
		We will prep and clean asphalt prior to sealcoating. We will remove moss from driveway to the best of our ability. We will cut in with brushes around structures to avoid any sealer contact. We will clean edges of pavement to expose edge of asphalt prior to application. We will use masking tape around areas that are sensitive to sealer contact if needed. We will be applying 1 coat of commercial grade asphalt sealer. Work will be completed in 1 trip. We will ribbon off driveway once work is complete.

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This is a good example of AI stringing several complex steps together on its own. A contractor's quote was uploaded, and from that single request, AI read and interpreted the quote, worked out what was and wasn't included, compared the price against typical market rates for that kind of work, used the web to look up the company and gather public reviews and comments, weighed the good against the bad, and then pulled it all into a balanced summary with questions worth asking before signing. That's research, price comparison, reputation checking, and report writing in one pass - the kind of legwork that would take an evening of searching to do by hand. The same approach works for any significant decision: choosing a vendor, a contractor, an insurance policy, a car, or a large purchase. Best practices: give it the actual document rather than a description, ask for both sides including the drawbacks, ask what questions you should be asking, and verify the reviews, licensing, and references yourself before you commit.

Technical Assistance

PROMPT: My Facebook account was hacked. I can't get into the account. Let me know the top three things to try. Keep it short. I will ask for more detail if needed.



AI is like having a knowledgeable helper ready to guide you through almost any technical or mechanical challenge. Whether it's digital, mechanical, or household, AI can break down the steps, explain how things work, and help you troubleshoot calmly and clearly. It's useful for: Electronics and computers (fixing errors, setting up devices). Home appliances (why your washer won't drain, how to reset a thermostat). Vehicles and equipment (diagnosing noises, basic repairs, maintenance schedules). Tools and DIY projects (choosing the right parts, step-by-step assembly). You don't need to know the right terms, just describe the problem in your own words and AI can help you figure it out. It can also help you decide when you can fix it yourself and when it's time to call a professional.

Organizing (Downsizing)

#	Item	Photo	Category	Destination	Value	Priority	Notes
1	Dead potted plants & seed trays (8+ pots w/ soil)	7,10,11	Trash/Recycle	Compost soil, trash/keep pots per Ginny	None	1-Now	Pots themselves -> see Ginny row
2	Styrofoam coolers (2)	5,15	Trash/Recycle	Trash	None	1-Now	
3	Empty cardboard: TV, TiVo, Carousel, appliance boxes	9,12,15	Trash/Recycle	Recycle	None	1-Now	VERIFY boxes are empty first
4	Scrap PVC pipe & lumber offcuts	2,3,4	Trash/Recycle	Transfer station	None	1-Now	
5	Loose fiberglass insulation batts	8,10	Trash/Recycle	Bag & trash	None	1-Now	Wear mask/gloves
6	Packing plastic, bubble wrap, misc bags	8,14	Trash/Recycle	Trash	None	1-Now	
7	Black trash bags (contents unknown)	5,9	Trash/Recycle	Verify then trash	None	1-Now	Open before tossing
8	Old wall paneling / plywood sheets	2,12	Trash/Recycle	Transfer station or keep 1 for projects	None	2-This yr	
9	VCRs (2-3 units)	2,9	E-waste	E-cycle run	None	1-Now	
10	Audio receiver / CD changer stack	9	E-waste	E-cycle run	Low	1-Now	Check model; some receivers sell
11	White computer tower	14	E-waste	E-cycle; PULL/WIPE DRIVES first	None	1-Now	Data security
		15	E-waste	E-cycle run	None	1-Now	
		9	E-waste	E-cycle run	None	1-Now	
		1	E-waste	E-cycle run	None	1-Now	
	finder	7	E-waste	E-cycle or boat-club giveaway	Low	2-This yr	
	s (box)	12	E-waste	Trash/e-cycle	None	1-Now	Unless home recordings -> digitize
		6	Keep/Verify	Keep if working (basement needs it)	Med	Hold	Test it
	+ accessories	1	Sell	Bull Moose / FB Marketplace	Low-Med	2-This yr	~\$30-60 w/ games
	phone/coax/RCA era (3+ crates)	1,12	E-waste	E-cycle BY THE CRATE	None	1-Now	Do not sort individually
	er adapters (2 bins)	1,12	E-waste	E-cycle by the bin	None	1-Now	Keep only matched-to-device
	keeps: USB-C/HDMI/Cat6	1,12	Keep	ONE labeled bin max	Low	1-Now	The 'desk class' survivors
	0in LCD TV (if in box)	1,12	Sell/Donate	FB Marketplace ~\$50 or donate	Low	2-This yr	Verify it works
	aerosol shelf (~30 cans)	13	Hazmat	HHW collection day	None	2-This yr	One trip for ALL hazmat
	finwax, Rust-Oleum cans	13	Hazmat	HHW collection day	None	2-This yr	
	ake fluid, auto chemicals	13	Hazmat	HHW collection day	None	2-This yr	
	ack Flag, Ortho products	4,10,13	Hazmat	HHW collection day	None	2-This yr	



Prompt: Using photos of each room, identify and organize what I own, then turn the results into a spreadsheet for deciding what to keep, sell, donate, relocate, or discard.

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AI tools can help organize your house. In this example, over 40 photos were taken around the house, basement, attic, shed and garage. AI identified what it could and added each item to a spreadsheet, categorized by type, disposition, value, priority and notes. That turns an overwhelming pile into a working list: what's simply trash or recycling, what has to go to e-waste, what qualifies as hazardous waste for a household collection day, what's worth selling or donating, and what should be kept. It also sequences the work - do this now, do this within the year, hold and decide later - so you can knock out one category at a time. The notes column is where it earns its keep, flagging things like wiping the hard drive before recycling a computer, wearing a mask around insulation and testing whether an appliance works. Best practices: shoot clear, well-lit photos with a few close-ups, tell the AI your goal and any constraints, ask for the columns you want, and expect to correct some identifications - it's a first pass, and you're the one who knows what actually matters to you.

Brainstorming

- Prompt: What is the impact of AI on high-school education in five years? Keep it to one sentence.
- Results: Over the next five years, AI will push high school education away from grading generated text and basic calculations toward assessing student critical thinking, live oral defense, and real-time source verification.



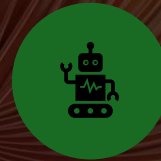
AI tools are a strong brainstorming partner: they generate a wide range of ideas quickly, offer angles you might not think of on your own, and help you refine a rough thought into something clearer. A good approach is to ask for many options first, then narrow down, ask follow-up questions, and push the tool to challenge or critique the ideas it just gave you. Best practices: give context about your goal and audience, be specific about the format and length you want, iterate rather than accepting the first answer, and always review the results yourself. AI is there to widen your thinking and speed up the first draft, not to replace your judgment or verify all the facts for you.

Take Aways

AI is most valuable
when it gets you to the
interesting parts faster



Context shaping gets
you better results



AI is the assistant, not
the boss



You remain
accountable



The more you use it, the
easier it gets

Homework: Tonight, open an AI app and chat with it.

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AI is most valuable when it helps you get to the interesting parts faster. You don't need to understand how it works, just be clear about what you want and add context. Better questions lead to better results. Remember, AI is the assistant, not the boss. It can suggest, summarize, and organize, but you remain responsible for decisions, accuracy, and outcomes. You don't need to start big. This week, pick one small, mildly annoying task, not important, just irritating and ask AI to help. If it saves you ten minutes, it worked. That's how confidence builds: one useful win at a time. Start small. Stay curious. You're in control. Try it now – an old prompt but with more context. .

Questions?



AI presentations are available at
<https://billgassman.com>

bill.gassman@aggles360.com

Today, we've taken a small bite of the AI elephant. This presentation introduced AI as a practical tool rather than a technical subject. The goal was to build understanding, reduce intimidation, and encourage thoughtful experimentation. AI is most valuable when it helps people reach useful insights faster, reduces friction, and supports better decision-making. It is not about replacing human judgment, creativity, or responsibility. Readers are encouraged to explore at their own pace, try low-risk uses, and remain curious. The most important step is simply to begin.

Additional AI Demos and Content



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Media Analysis Demo

PROMPT: Digest the 2025 NH Chronicle video about Ossipee at YouTube link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cn_kuEf2EPw

Generate a short summary, then a short paragraph revealing the good, bad and ugly about the town.



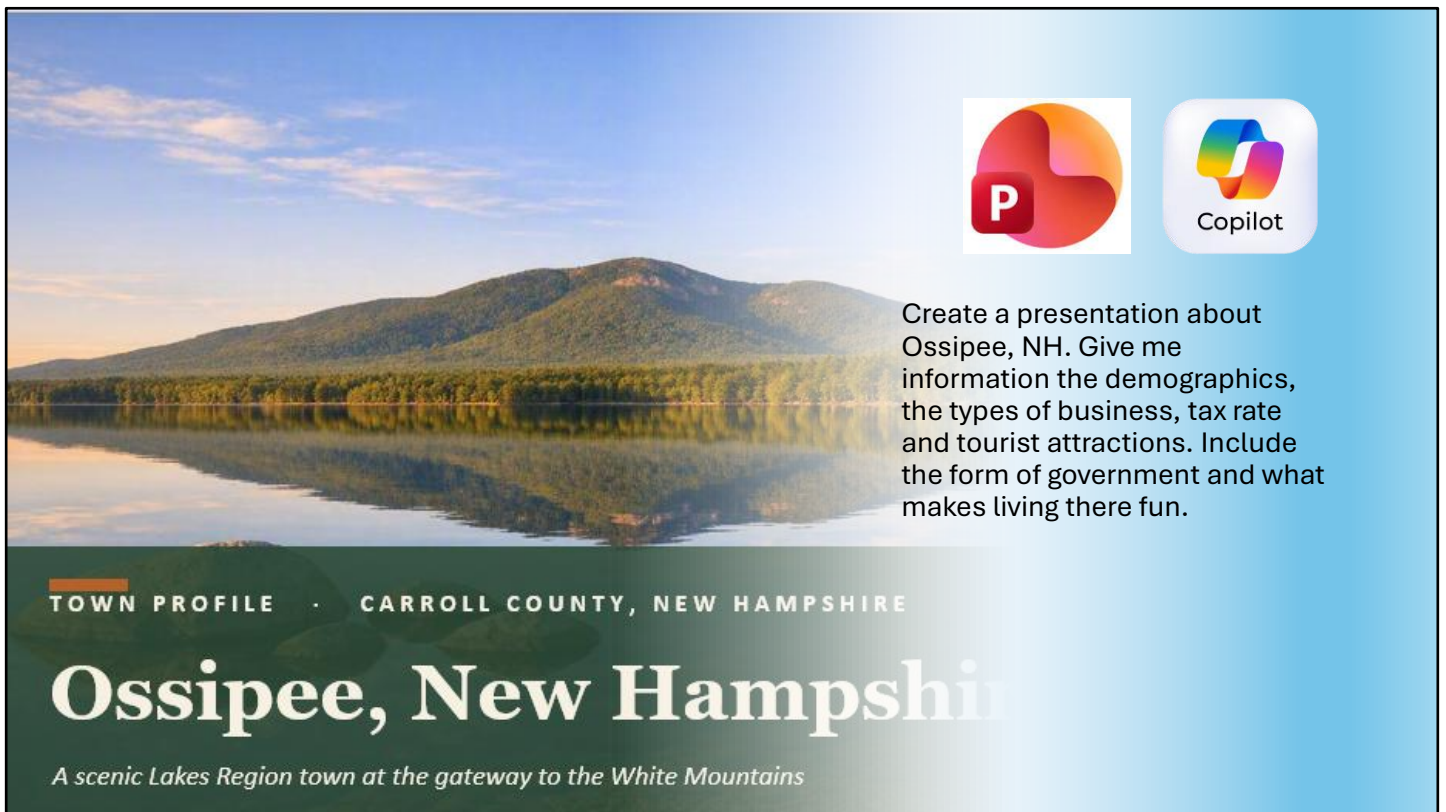
Some AI tools, such as Gemini, are good at pulling in a YouTube video and analyzing it quickly. In this case a replay of the show Chronicle is handed over with nothing but a link, and the AI watches it for you - listening to the whole program, following what's said, and reporting back in seconds. A half-hour show becomes a paragraph you can read in a minute, and you can then ask follow-up questions. The same works for recorded meetings, lectures, sermons, webinars, podcasts, and long news segments - anything where the information is buried in an hour of talking. Note the term "the good, the bad and the ugly." That's a useful prompt when that's what you want to know, because it forces a balanced answer instead of a flattering one; asking for the downsides explicitly is a habit worth keeping. Best practices: give a working public link, say what you want out of it and how long the answer should be and remember the summary reflects what the video claims - not necessarily the truth. Spot-check anything important against the original.

Auto Troubleshooting

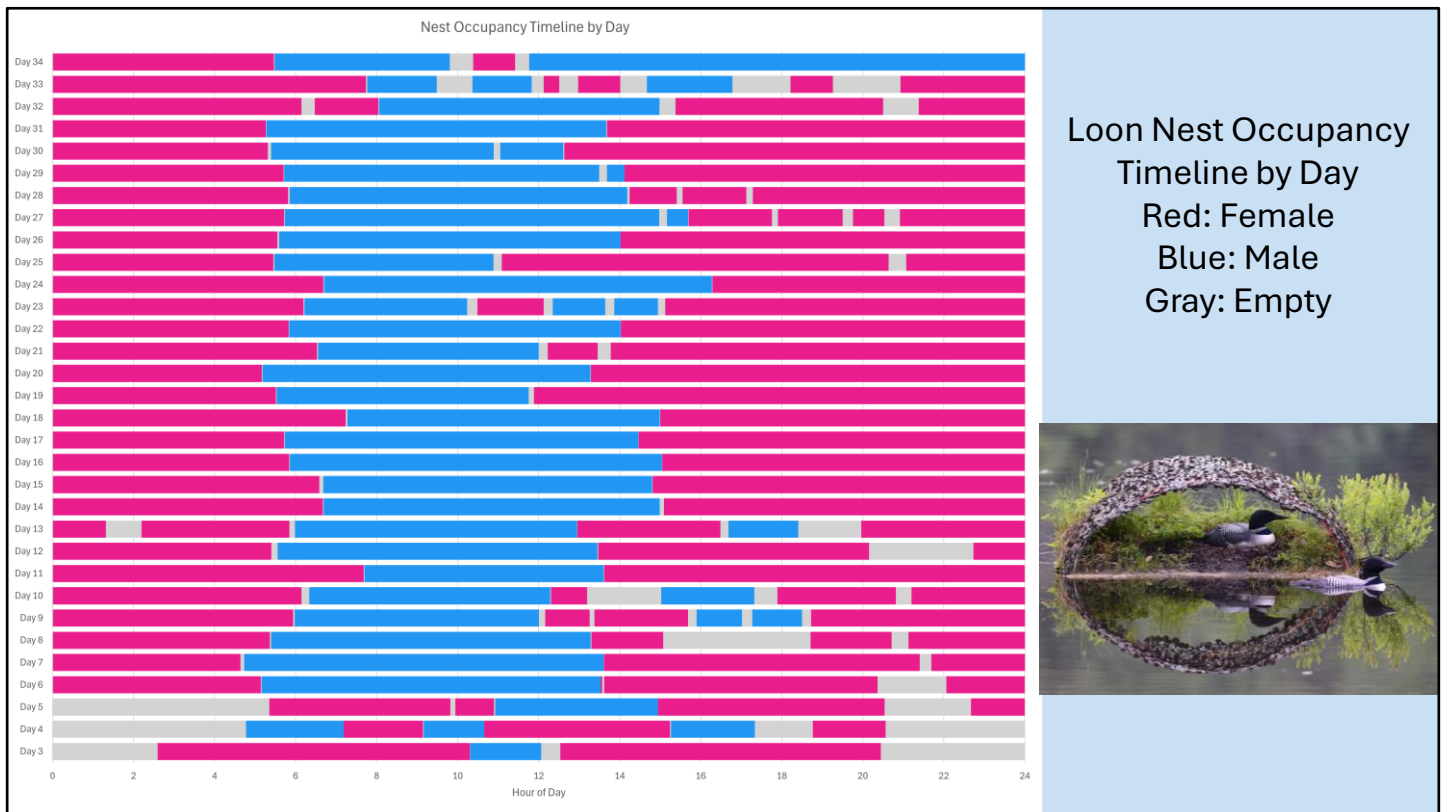
- Upload a photo of dash
- **Prompt:** Analyze the image of this warning light on my 2025 Honda Pilot. Is it urgent? What are simple checks I can do now? How should I describe it to a mechanic?
- **Result:** The dashboard shows an **electric power steering system fault**, possibly caused by the EPS itself or a low-voltage/electrical issue; stop driving and tow it if steering feels heavy, jerky, or inconsistent, otherwise arrange prompt service. Restart once, check that the battery terminals are tight, note whether steering feels normal, and tell the mechanic the exact message, mileage, whether it cleared after restart, and that multiple warning lights appeared together.



Most AI assistants accept images as well as text, so you can simply take a photo and ask about it. That turns your phone camera into a diagnostic tool: snap a warning light, an error message, a leaking part, an unfamiliar plug, or a confusing control panel, and the AI can identify what you're looking at, tell you whether it's urgent, and walk you through simple checks you can do yourself. It can also help you describe the problem accurately to a professional, which saves time and money. The same trick works for using things, not just fixing them - a photo of an appliance panel, a piece of equipment, or an assembly step can get you plain-language instructions. Best practices: take a clear, well-lit, close-up photo, include the make, model, and any context in your prompt, ask specific questions, and confirm anything safety-related with a qualified person before acting.



Copilot is an AI tool that is built into Microsoft’s Office tools. With each tool, you can issue a prompt and AI will handle the task. In this case, we’ve asked AI to produce a short PowerPoint slide deck about a town. A bit of context is included, so the presentation is tailored to what we want. AI does the research and makes the slides.



This chart highlights AI's ability to transform raw data, text, or instructions into visuals, timelines, reports, and automated workflows. In this case, the chat log from a live YouTube stream of a loon nest was analyzed for nest events. The analysis produced the chart based on the cleansed data. AI was used to generate the code to capture the data from YouTube and process it into events, along with producing the graph.

Transfer Station Garden Design

PROMPT: Use the plot plan in the uploaded diagram to overlay a realistic image of a garden onto one of the grass plots where it is intended to go.



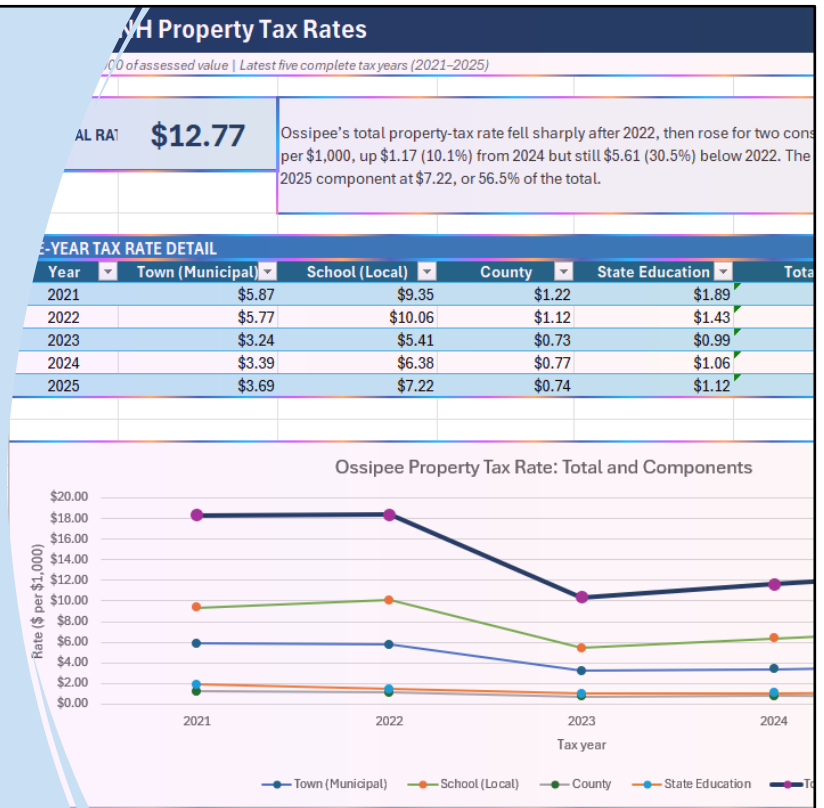
34

AI doesn't just create pictures from a description - you can also upload an image you already have and ask it to change it. Give it a plot plan, a photo of your yard, a room, or a building, and you can ask it to add a garden bed, show what a new paint color or landscaping would look like, remove clutter, or turn a flat diagram into a realistic rendering. That makes it a quick way to help a group picture a proposal before anyone spends money or breaks ground - much easier than describing an idea in words at a meeting. Best practices: start with a clear, straight-on image, describe the change in plain language and where you want it, and refine with follow-up requests rather than expecting one perfect result. Remember these are illustrations, not construction plans - they show the idea, but the real dimensions, plantings, and costs still need a person to work out.



Excel AI

PROMPT: Find the property tax rate for Ossipee, NH. Include fields for the town, school, county and state portions of the tax. Generate a graph of the total and portions of the tax rate over the past five years.



AI is increasingly built directly into everyday tools like Excel, changing how data work gets done. With Copilot and AI agents, Excel can now help retrieve data, organize it into a spreadsheet, and analyze it without requiring advanced formulas or manual steps.

Instead of starting with a blank sheet, users can describe what they want in plain language — such as finding data, calculating totals, or comparing trends. AI can help populate tables, suggest formulas, and generate charts or graphs automatically.

This integration represents a new step in how AI is used: not as a separate tool, but as an assistant embedded inside familiar applications. As these capabilities expand, AI-assisted data analysis will become more common, lowering the barrier to working with information and allowing users to focus more on interpretation and decision-making rather than mechanics.

Summarization and Simplification

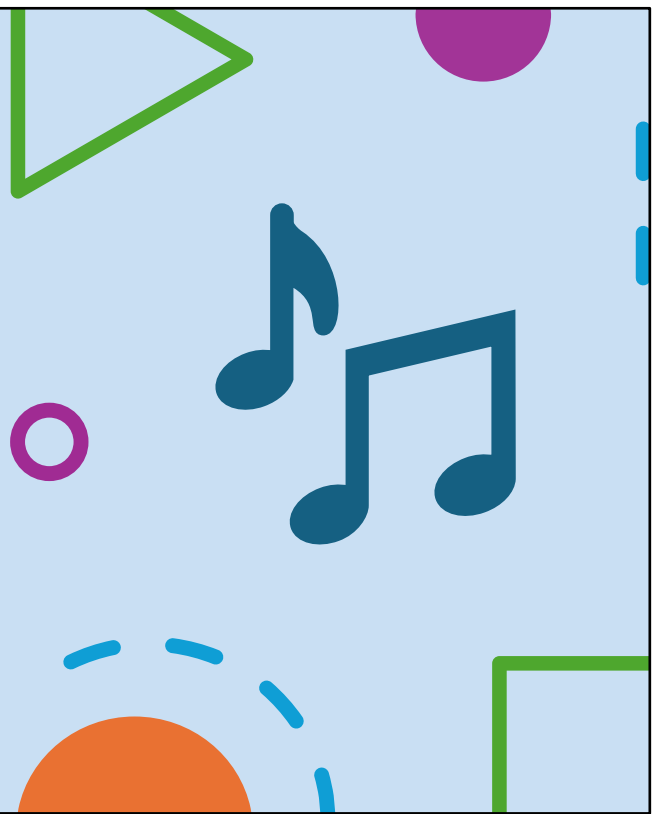
- Upload a vet surgical report for Jake (9yo Lab mix)
- **PROMPT:** *I am pasting in a vet report for an operation on a dog. Summarize what was done to the dog in one paragraph.*
- Jake successfully underwent surgery to remove an overactive neck gland, a chest mass, and bladder stones, and he is already home, eating, and in good spirits. He faces a few weeks of restricted activity while monitoring his calcium levels, and the team is currently awaiting the lab results on the chest mass.



Here a long, technical surgical report was pasted in and came back as a few plain sentences anyone could follow - what was done, how he's doing, and what comes next. That's the difference between a document written for professionals and one written for friends of the dog. Instead of forwarding pages of clinical language, you send one short paragraph that answers the questions they'll ask. Summarizing and simplifying is one of the things AI does best, and it applies far beyond a vet report: medical results, legal letters, insurance explanations, tax notices, warranty terms, town meeting minutes, or any dense document you'd rather not read twice. You can also aim the summary at a specific audience - one version for the family, another with more detail for yourself. Best practices: say who the summary is for and how long you want it, ask it to define any term you don't recognize, ask follow-up questions on anything unclear, and keep the original document since the details still matter. And be thoughtful about privacy when the document contains personal or medical information about people.

Learning Music Theory

PROMPT: Summarize music theory three times, each time only one short sentence. The first sentence is to a 4-year-old, the second to a college student and the third to a domain expert who wants edge-case insights.



AI can act as a personal teacher by adapting explanations to different experience levels. The same topic can be explained simply or in depth, depending on the reader's needs. It helps you learn at your own pace and in your own style, which is especially valuable in rural areas where access to classes or experts may be limited. You can use AI to learn: Practical skills (gardening, carpentry, cooking, budgeting). Technology basics (using a smartphone, social media, online banking). Deeper topics (history, climate change, politics, science). Creative arts (writing, music, photography, drawing). It can explain things step by step, answer follow-up questions, quiz you, or even tell stories to make ideas stick. Whether you prefer plain language, visual examples, or formal definitions, AI adjusts to how you learn best — conversational, casual, or structured. For lifelong learners, it's like having a library and a tutor in your pocket.

Solar Data Reporting

PROMPT: This csv file represents the stats of a solar panel installation for 2025. Analyze the results, for generated, consumed along with any other stats that might be useful for a solar environment. This report would go to the board, to show the value of the solar panels.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date/Time	Energy Produced (Wh)	Energy Consumed (Wh)	Exported to Grid (Wh)	Imported from Grid (Wh)
27	2/1/2026 6:15	0	650	0	650
28	2/1/2026 6:30	0	462	0	462
29	2/1/2026 6:45	0	667	0	667
30	2/1/2026 7:00	3	483	0	480
31	2/1/2026 7:15	25	795	0	770
32	2/1/2026 7:30	68	617	0	549
33	2/1/2026 7:45	145	642	0	497
34	2/1/2026 8:00	374	684	0	311
35	2/1/2026 8:15	527	675	0	148
36	2/1/2026 8:30	612	703	0	91
37	2/1/2026 8:45	596	659	0	63
38	2/1/2026 9:00	586	1190	0	604
39	2/1/2026 9:15	683	878	0	195
40	2/1/2026 9:30	946	864	82	0
41	2/1/2026 9:45	1182	1173	9	0
42	2/1/2026 10:00	1268	1592	0	324

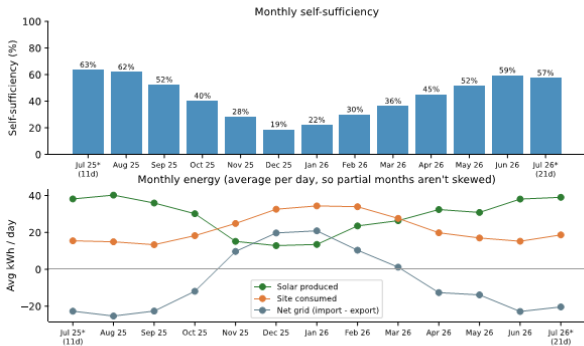
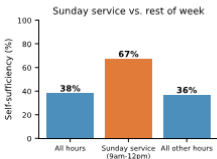
Solar Performance and Financial Value

Jul 21, 2025 through Jul 21, 2026 (hourly interval data)

Rate: \$0.1591/kWh, applied symmetrically to on-site avoided cost and grid export credit. Derived from the Feb 2026 Eversource bill (post rate-change, variable charges only). Fixed monthly and demand charges are not reduced by solar.

Total solar produced	10,330 kWh
Site consumption	8,210 kWh
Imported from grid	5,112 kWh
Exported to grid	7,232 kWh
Net grid energy	-2,120 kWh
Estimated total value	\$1,644
Self-sufficiency	37.7%
Self-consumption	30.0%

On-site solar used 3,098 kWh -> \$493
Exported 7,232 kWh -> \$1,151



Key result

Key result: Solar covered 67% of electricity used during Sunday morning service (9am-12pm), vs. 38% overall. The array produced 126% of total site consumption and created an estimated \$1,644 in energy value over the period.

Self-sufficiency = solar used on-site / total site consumption, at the time of use. Rate assumption: \$0.1591/kWh (see subtitle for derivation). *Partial calendar month (fewer days than the full month) -- shown at avg/day rate to stay comparable.

This example shows how a spreadsheet of data - in this case solar generation and power consumption - can be turned into a clear report and graphics suitable for broad understanding. Raw numbers are hard for most people to interpret. Upload the file and AI will read every row, total and average the figures, spot trends and seasonal patterns, flag the high and low points, and calculate the numbers you care about, such as how much was produced versus used and what that's worth. It then writes the plain-language summary and builds the charts, so a year of readings becomes a one-page story a board or committee can absorb in a minute. The same approach works for any spreadsheet: budgets, membership rolls, attendance, fuel use, or fundraising results. Best practices: say who the audience is and what decision the report supports, ask for specific comparisons or charts, use clean data with clear column headings, remove personal information before uploading, and spot-check a few of the numbers against the source file before sharing.



Administrative Grant Writing

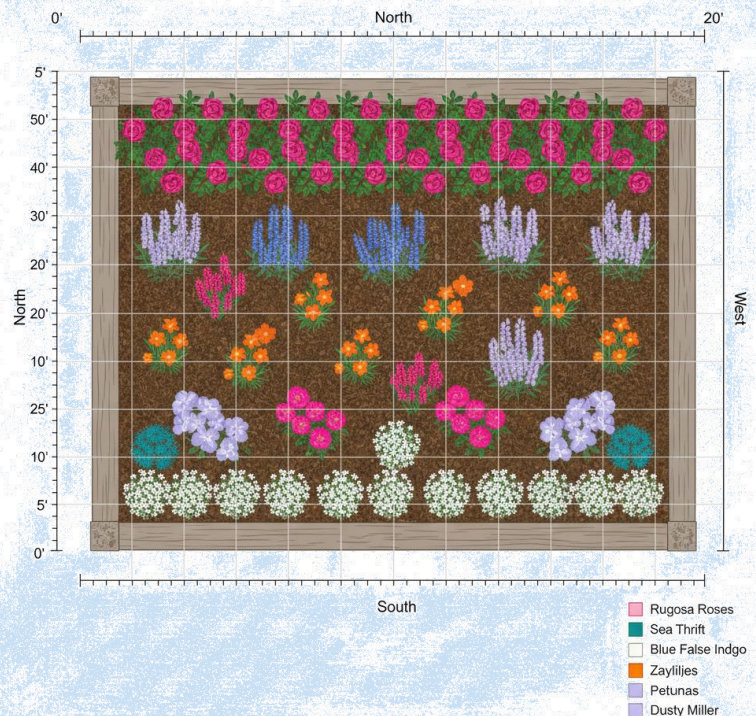
Moultonboro Snowmobile Club to the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails. Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant application for the FY2027 cycle.

- **Before AI:** Struggles with tone, formatting constraints, or making the case concise enough for a busy state reviewer.
- **After AI:** Clear community benefits and local logistics; the AI structures the argument to hit the specific notes grant committees look for (safety, multi-use capability, and committed local match labor).

Formal writing is often the hardest part of volunteer or administrative work. Grant applications are a good example: you know your project, but struggling with tone, formatting rules, and making the case concise enough for a busy reviewer can stall the whole effort. AI helps by turning what you already know into a structured, persuasive draft - organizing your points, matching the expected tone, staying within length limits, and highlighting the themes a reviewer is looking for. The same applies to almost any writing task: proposals, letters, reports, policies, job postings, newsletters, or difficult emails. Best practices: give the AI your real facts and any guidelines or scoring criteria, tell it who the audience is and what tone you want, ask for a draft you can react to rather than a finished product, and iterate. Always edit the result in your own voice and check every fact and number before it goes out.

Garden Planner

- Help me choose annuals and perennials for a backyard garden in the Lakes Region of NH. The plot size is 20x20 feet. Note when the best time for planting is, required care and what problems to watch for.

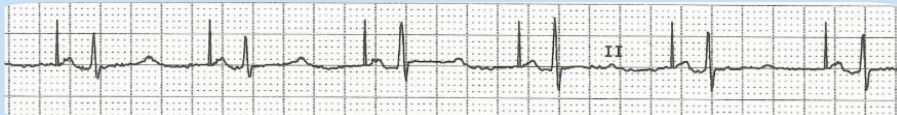


40

Garden planning is a good example of AI acting as a knowledgeable advisor for a personal project. Given your location, plot size, sun exposure, and soil, it can suggest annuals and perennials suited to your hardiness zone, tell you what to start indoors versus direct sow, lay out a planting calendar around your last and first frost dates, and explain spacing, watering, and feeding needs. It can also warn you about the pests, diseases, and deer or drainage problems common in your area, and suggest companion plantings or a bloom sequence so something is in color all season. Push it further and it will sketch a bed layout, estimate quantities and cost, or build a month-by-month maintenance checklist. Best practices: give it specifics about your site and how much time you want to spend, ask follow-up questions as the season goes on, and check plant choices and frost dates against a local nursery or extension service before you buy.

Wellness

- Analyze this EKG strip.



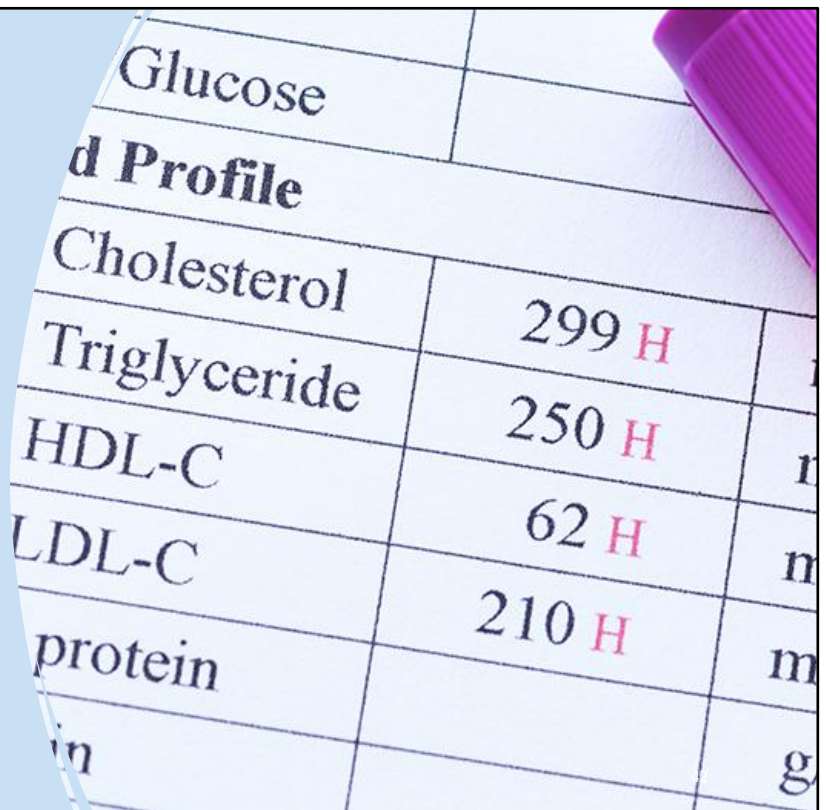
4ChatGPT

AI is a versatile tool for supporting your health and wellness. It can help you better understand your body, track habits, and even analyze data to spot trends or potential issues, like reading an EKG image for patterns. Beyond medical data, AI can assist with: Fitness (creating workout plans, tracking progress, suggesting exercises). Nutrition (meal planning, calorie tracking, healthy recipe ideas). Mental health (stress management tips, guided breathing, mood journaling). Sleep (improving routines, understanding patterns, creating better habits). Preventive care (reminders for checkups, understanding symptoms, learning about conditions). It's not a doctor, but it helps you make sense of information, stay consistent, and have more informed conversations with your healthcare providers. You can tailor it to your goals and comfort level, whether that's casual suggestions or detailed monitoring.

Medical Guidance

Prompt: act as a diagnostic medical clinician specializing in people over 65. Analyze these blood tests. Provide risks, warnings and urgent actions, if any. Write in summary form. Here is the data <> <>

42 AI is a translator, not clinician



Glucose		
d Profile		
Cholesterol	299	H
Triglyceride	250	H
HDL-C	62	H
LDL-C	210	H
protein		
in		

This slide illustrates how AI can help people make sense of complex medical information without replacing professional care. By uploading lab results and clearly defining the role the AI should take, users can receive a structured summary that highlights patterns, potential risks, and areas that may warrant further discussion. The value lies in translation and organization: technical numbers are turned into plain-language insights that are easier to review and prepare questions from. However, AI does not diagnose, prescribe, or make decisions. Results may be incomplete or misleading, and health-related outputs should always be verified with a qualified clinician. Used responsibly, AI can act as a preparatory tool, helping individuals better understand their data and engage in more informed conversations with healthcare professionals, while keeping accountability firmly in human hands.