

160 ChatGPT

Image Cues

Copy these into your prompts



John Savage

Swipe →

How to use the cues

These are shorthand cues, not built-in Chat GPT commands. Chat GPT gets them right when you write the cue AND what it means. The meaning is the part that does the work.

1 Describe your picture first

Say what the image is: the subject, the place, what is happening. Or upload a photo you want to change.

2 Add 3 to 5 cues with their meaning

Pick one cue from a few different pages: a style, a light, a camera angle, a palette. One cue per page works better than five from the same page.

3 Change one cue at a time

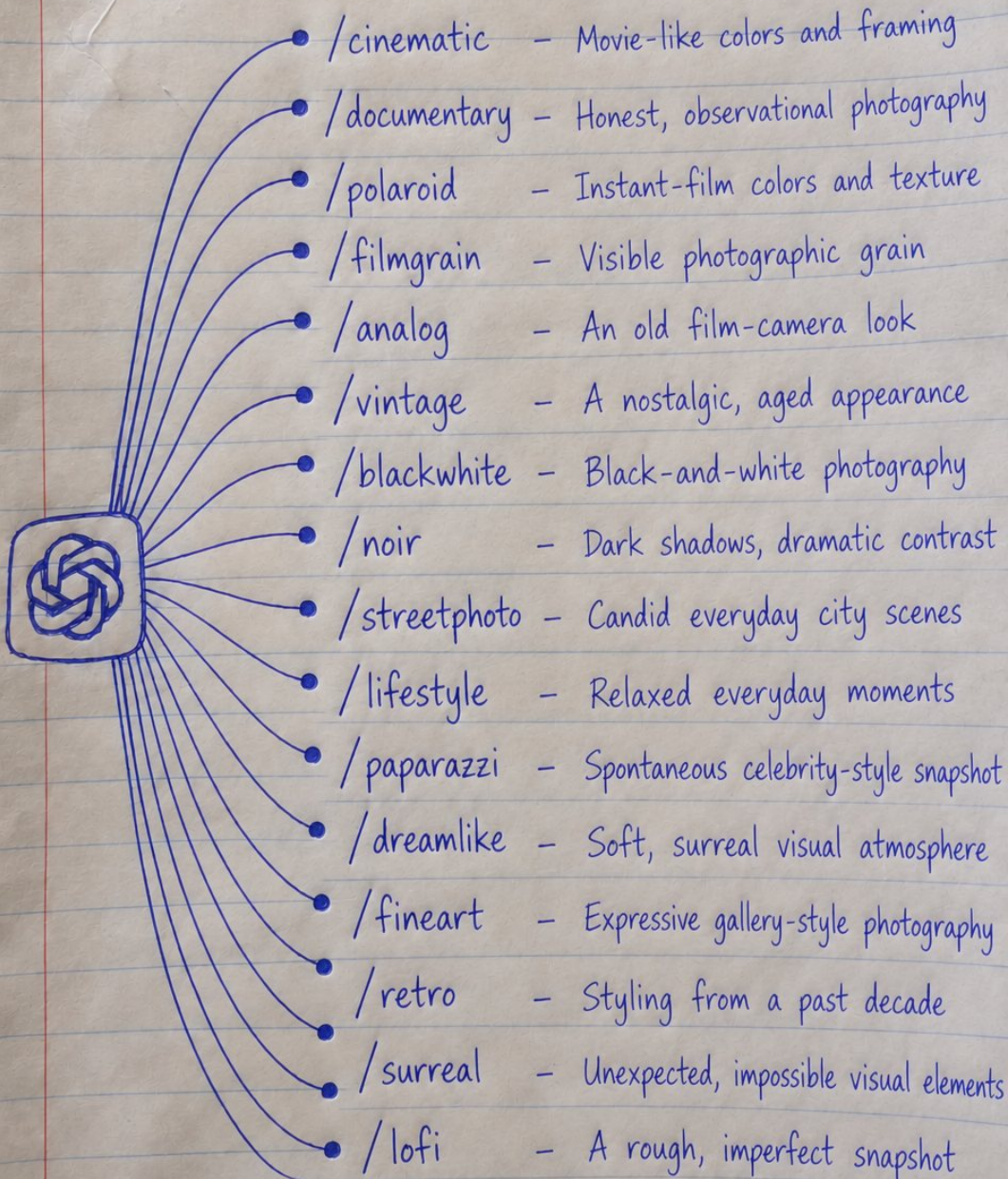
Not quite right? Keep the prompt and swap one cue (/softlight to /hardlight) to see exactly what it changes.

Example

Create a photo of a red sneaker on a stone stand.
/heroshot (make the product the star), /pedestal
(display it on a raised stand), /rimlight (light
outlining the edges), /tealorange (teal shadows and
orange highlights), /shallowdof (sharp subject, blurred
background).

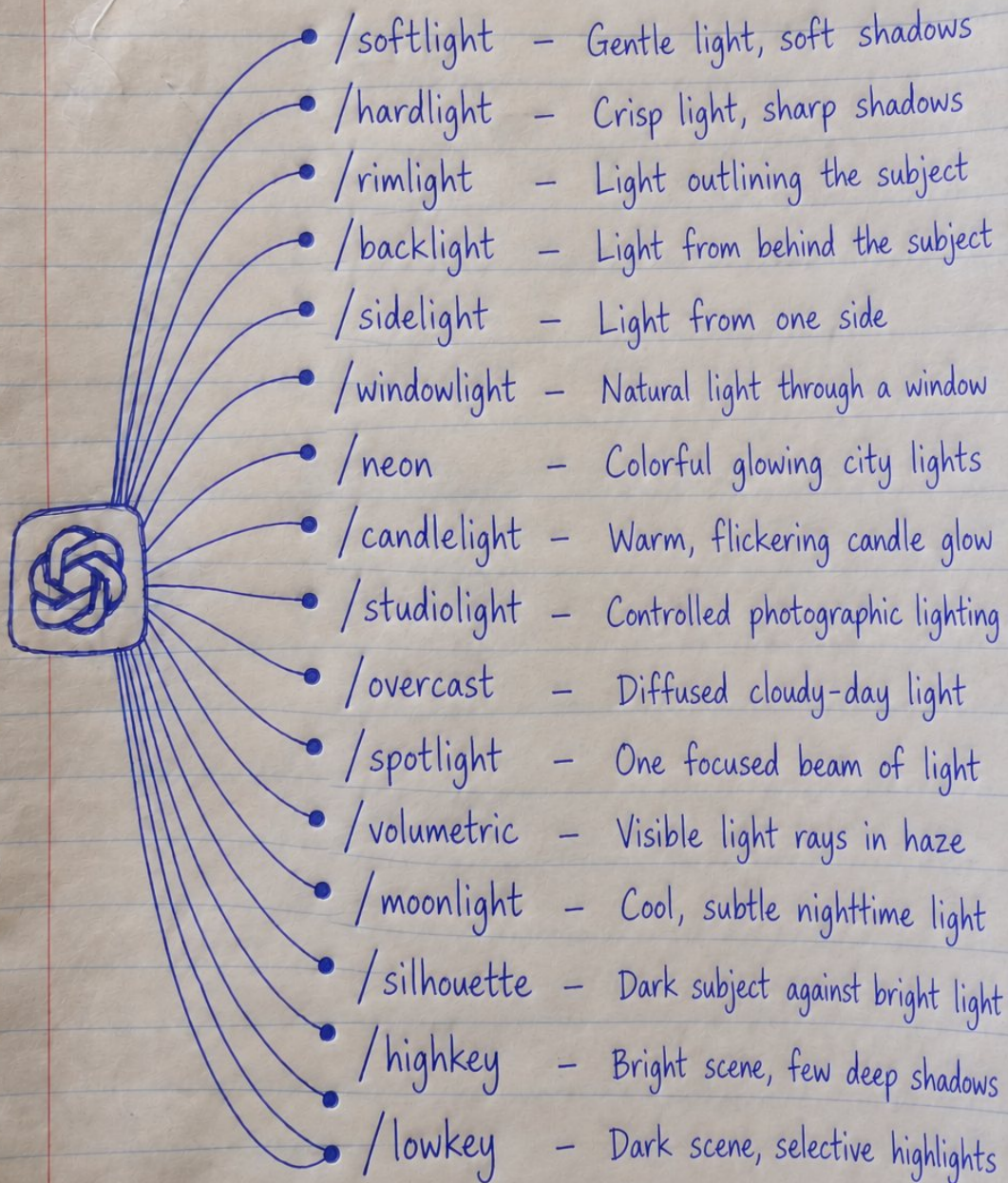
Photo Styles

Custom cues – include the meaning in your prompt



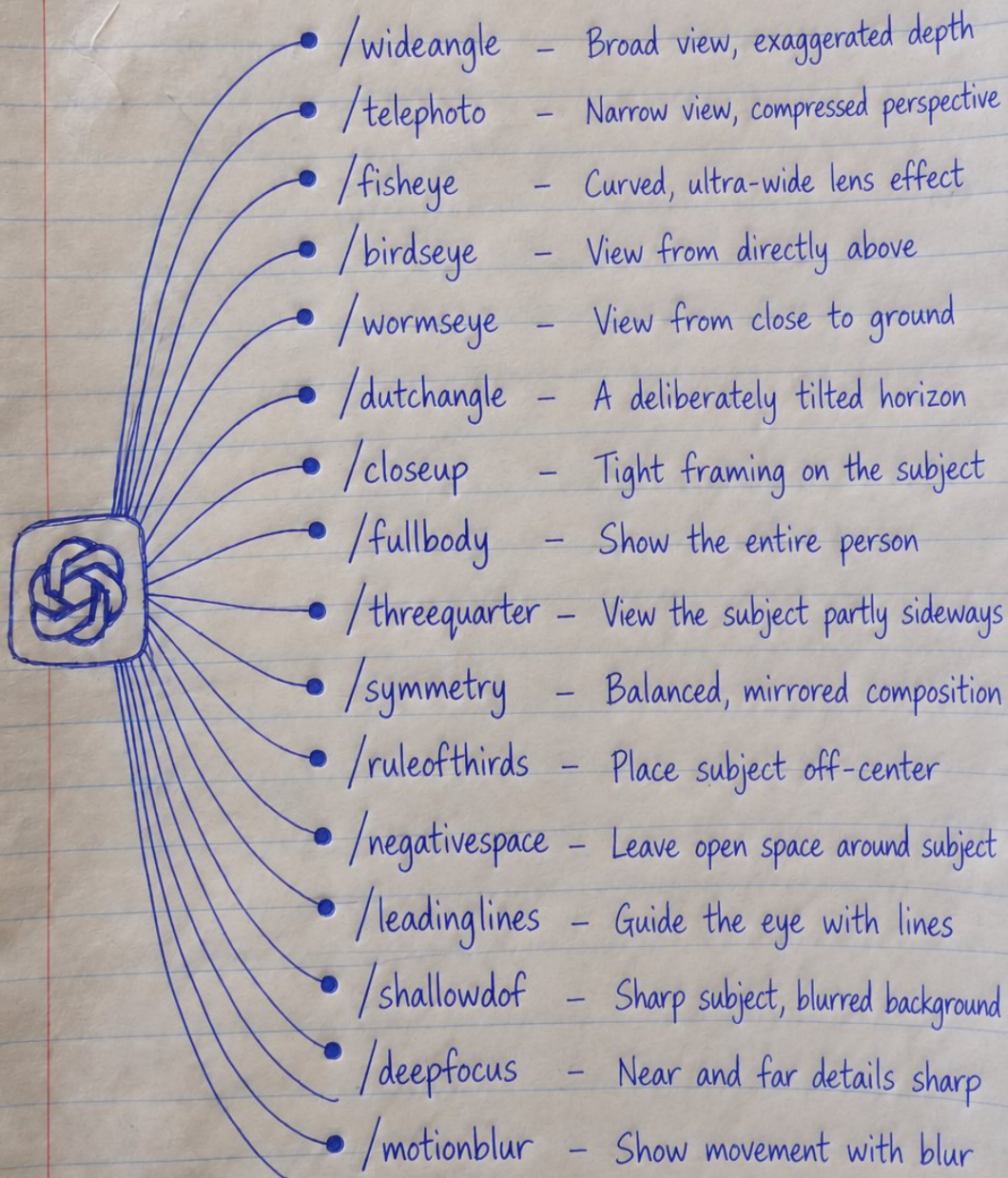
Lighting Cues

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt



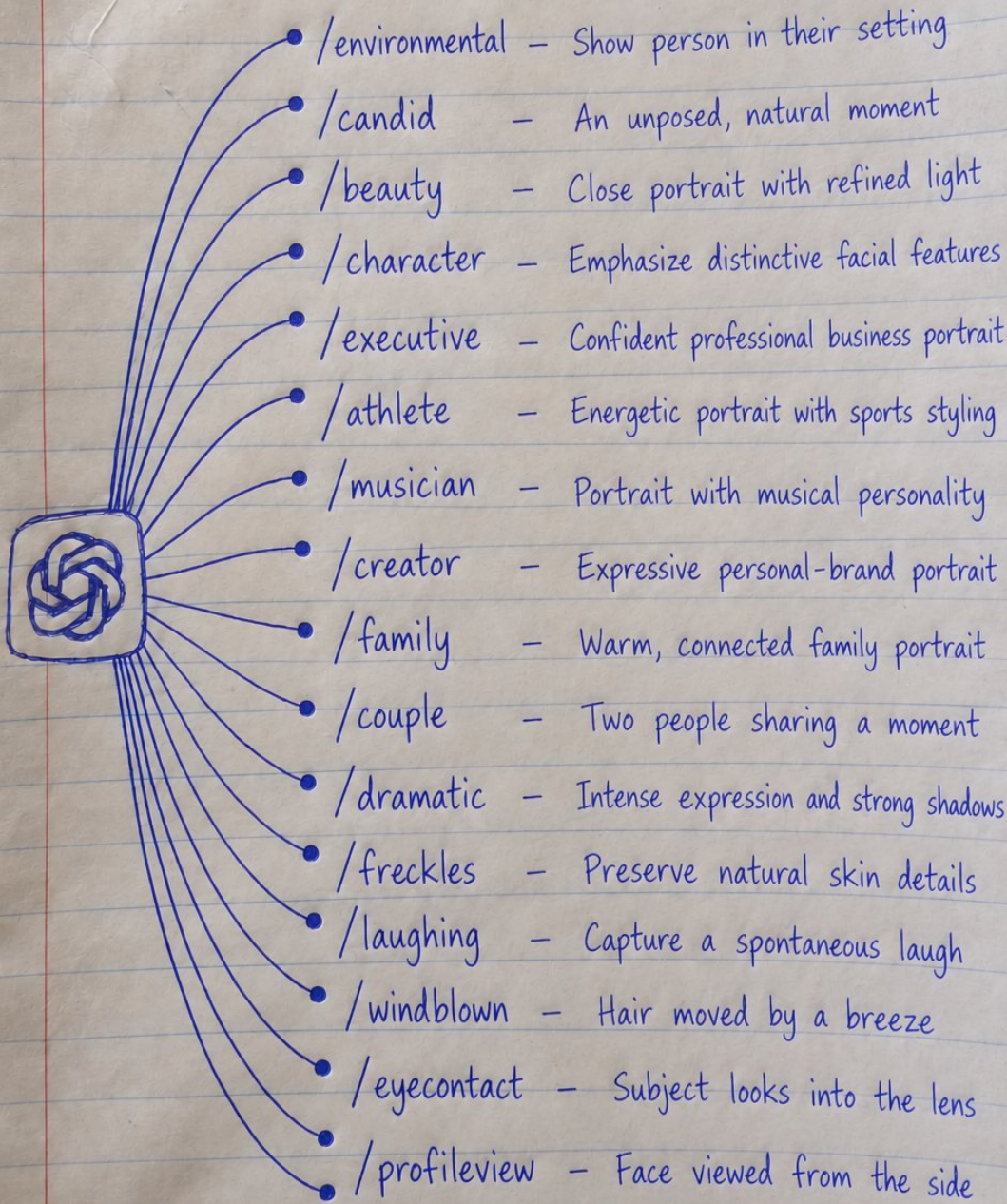
Camera & Composition

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt



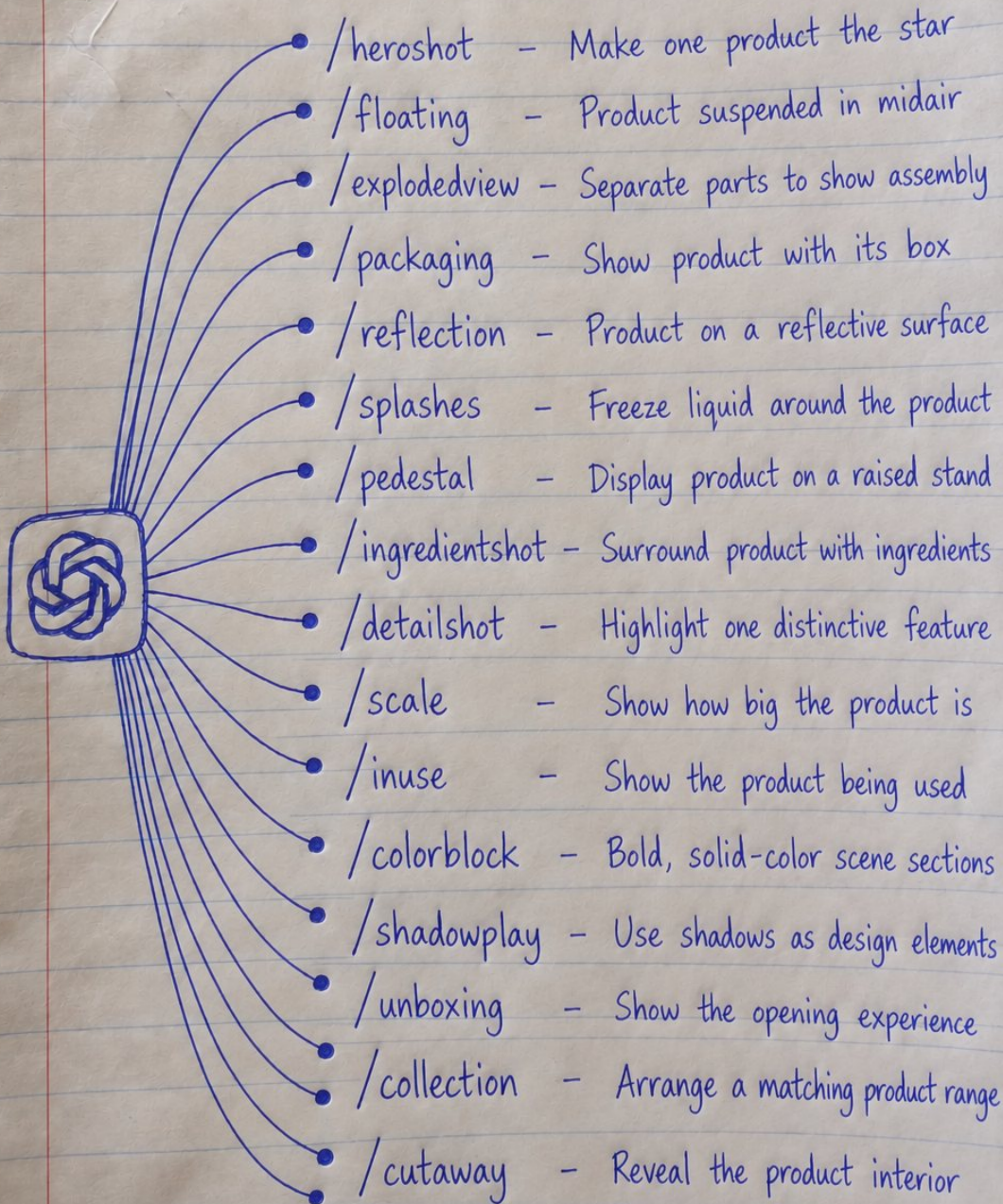
Portrait Ideas

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt



Product Photo Ideas

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt



Materials & Textures

Custom cues - include the meaning in your prompt

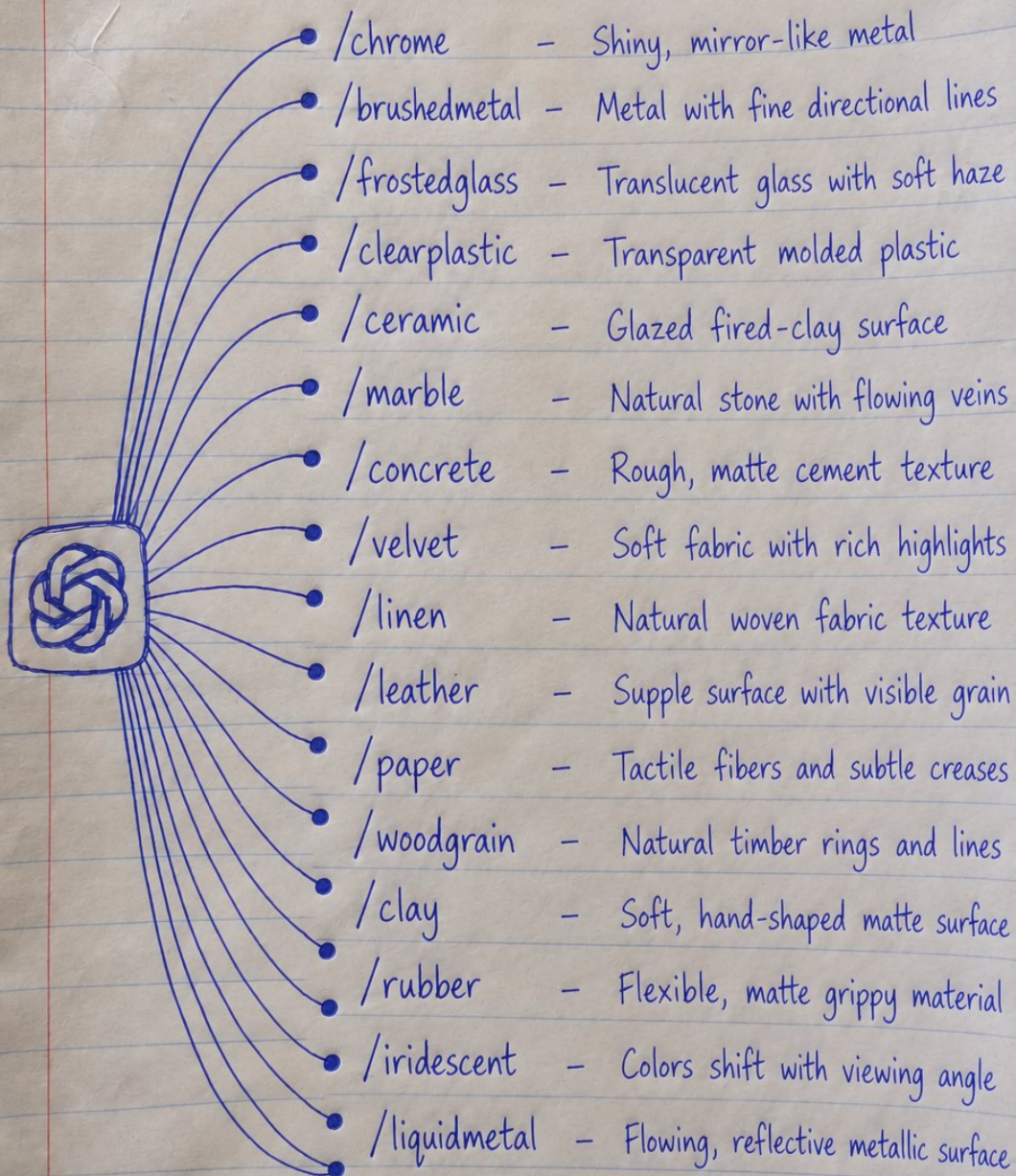
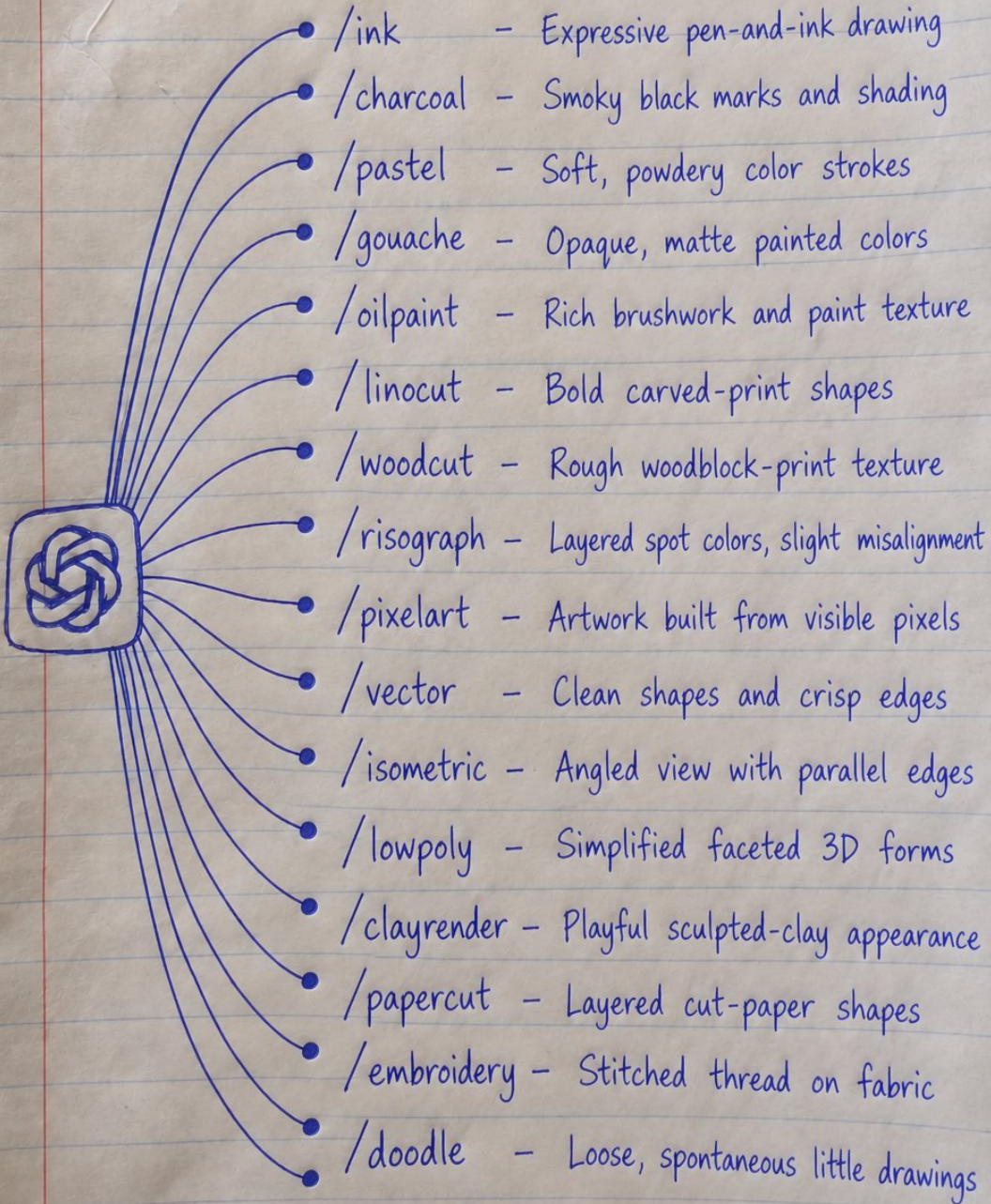


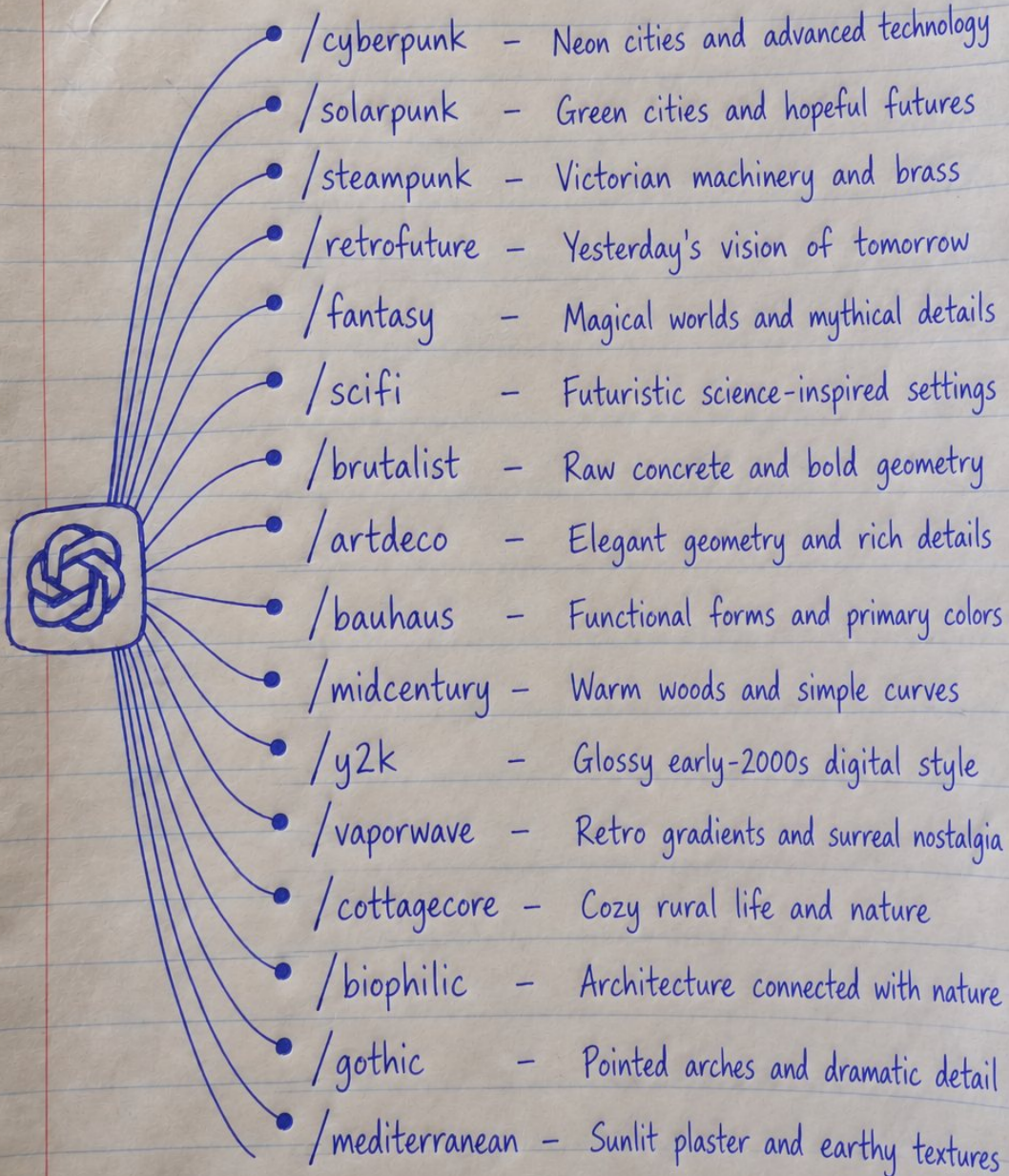
Illustration Styles

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt



Worlds & Aesthetics

Custom cues - include the meaning in your prompt



Color Palette Cues

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt

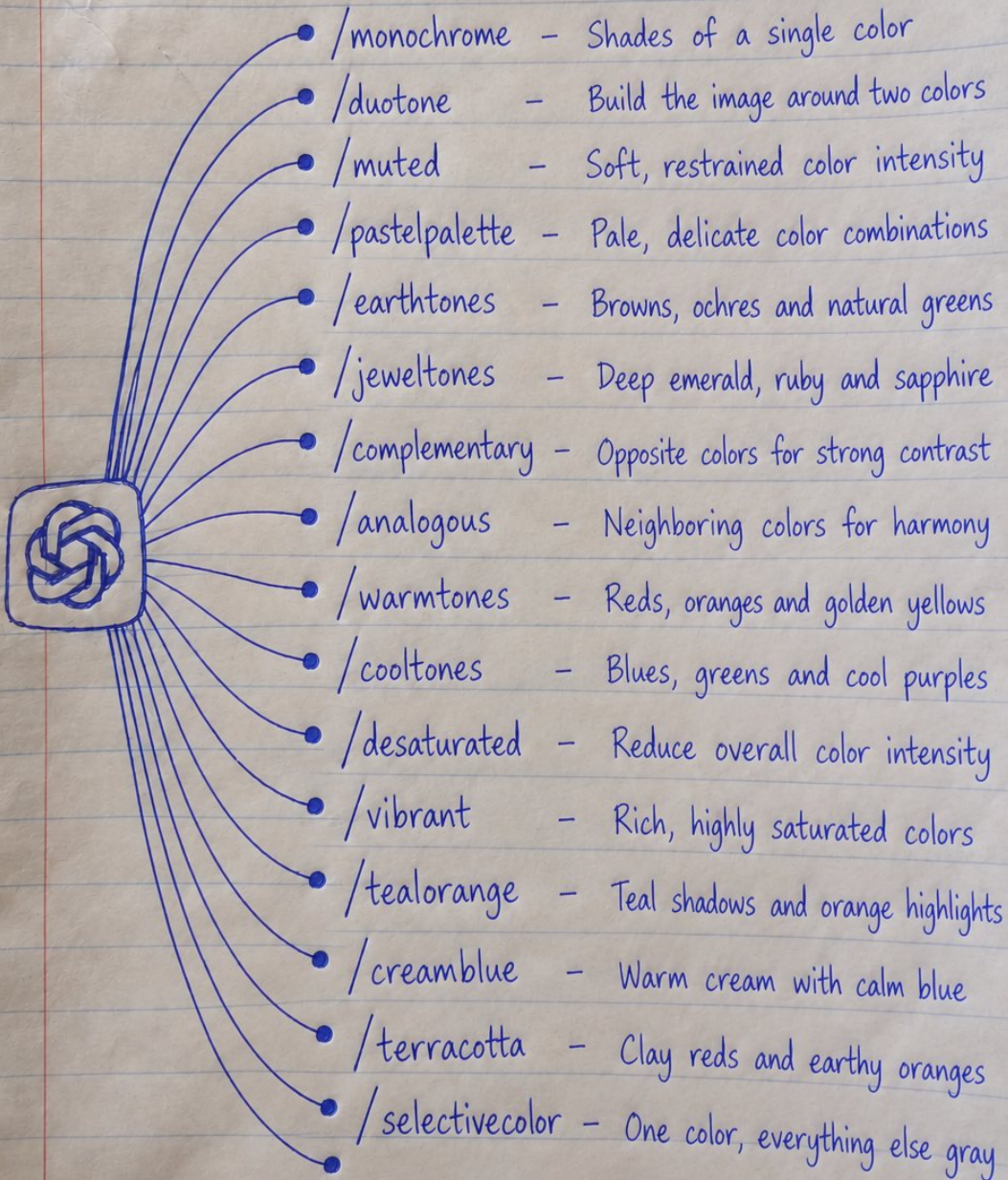


Image Editing Cues

Custom cues — include the meaning in your prompt

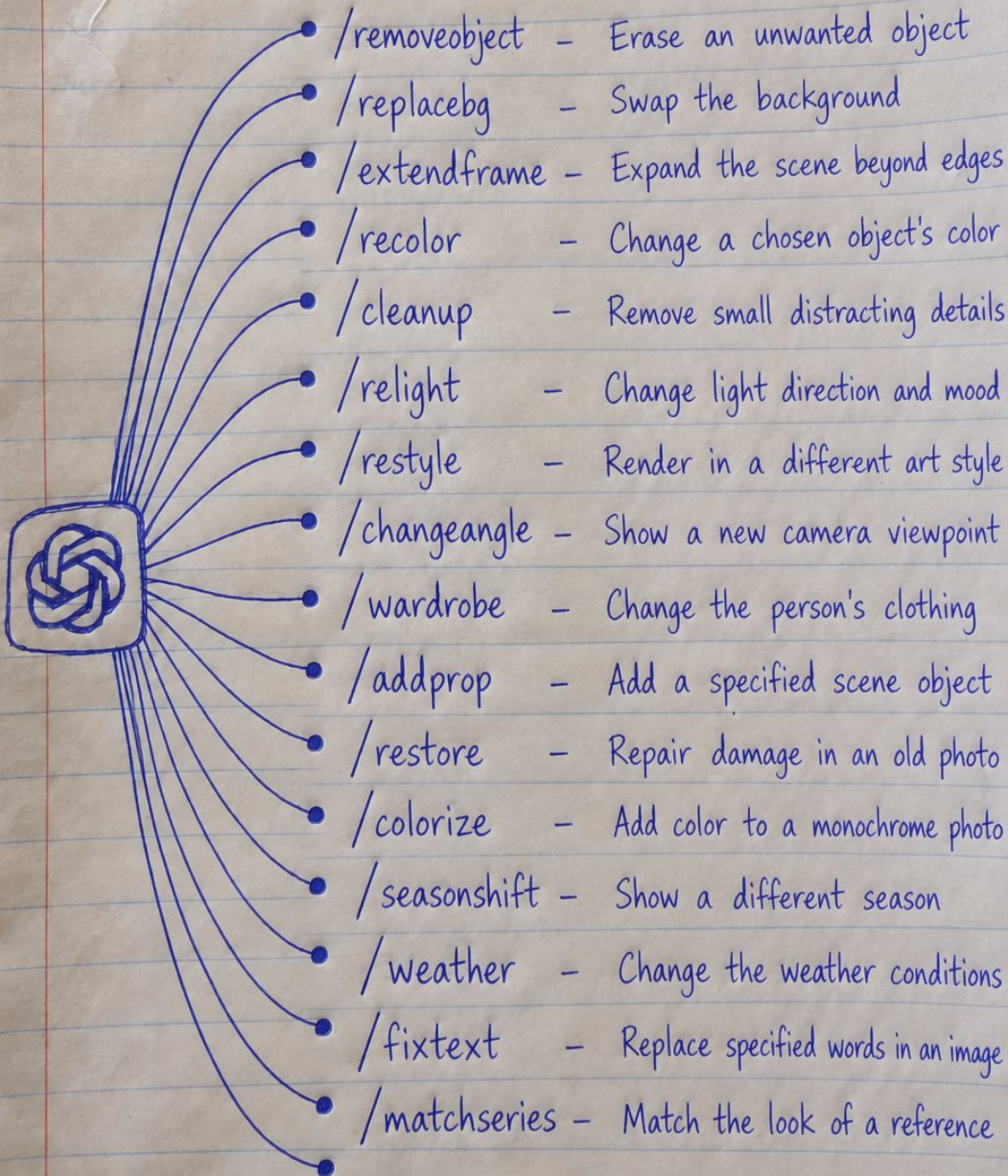


Photo Styles

/cinematic	Movie-like colors and framing
/documentary	Honest, observational photography
/polaroid	Instant-film colors and texture
/filmgrain	Visible photographic grain
/analog	An old film-camera look
/vintage	A nostalgic, aged appearance
/blackwhite	Black-and-white photography
/noir	Dark shadows, dramatic contrast
/streetphoto	Candid everyday city scenes
/lifestyle	Relaxed everyday moments
/paparazzi	Spontaneous celebrity-style snapshot
/dreamlike	Soft, surreal visual atmosphere
/fineart	Expressive gallery-style photography
/retro	Styling from a past decade
/surreal	Unexpected, impossible visual elements
/lofi	A rough, imperfect snapshot

Lighting Cues

/softlight	Gentle light, soft shadows
/hardlight	Crisp light, sharp shadows
/rimlight	Light outlining the subject
/backlight	Light from behind the subject
/sidelight	Light from one side
/windowlight	Natural light through a window
/neon	Colorful glowing city lights
/candlelight	Warm, flickering candle glow
/studiolight	Controlled photographic lighting
/overcast	Diffused cloudy-day light
/spotlight	One focused beam of light
/volumetric	Visible light rays in haze
/moonlight	Cool, subtle nighttime light
/silhouette	Dark subject against bright light
/highkey	Bright scene, few deep shadows
/lowkey	Dark scene, selective highlights

Camera & Composition

/wideangle	Broad view, exaggerated depth
/telephoto	Narrow view, compressed perspective
/fisheye	Curved, ultra-wide lens effect
/birdseye	View from directly above
/wormseye	View from close to ground
/dutchangle	A deliberately tilted horizon
/closeup	Tight framing on the subject
/fullbody	Show the entire person
/threequarter	View the subject partly sideways
/symmetry	Balanced, mirrored composition
/ruleofthirds	Place subject off-center
/negativespace	Leave open space around subject
/leadinglines	Guide the eye with lines
/shallowdof	Sharp subject, blurred background
/deepfocus	Near and far details sharp
/motionblur	Show movement with blur

Portrait Ideas

/environmental	Show person in their setting
/candid	An unposed, natural moment
/beauty	Close portrait with refined light
/character	Emphasize distinctive facial features
/executive	Confident professional business portrait
/athlete	Energetic portrait with sports styling
/musician	Portrait with musical personality
/creator	Expressive personal-brand portrait
/family	Warm, connected family portrait
/couple	Two people sharing a moment
/dramatic	Intense expression and strong shadows
/freckles	Preserve natural skin details
/laughing	Capture a spontaneous laugh
/windblown	Hair moved by a breeze
/eyecontact	Subject looks into the lens
/profileview	Face viewed from the side

Product Photo Ideas

/heroshot	Make one product the star
/floating	Product suspended in midair
/explodedview	Separate parts to show assembly
/packaging	Show product with its box
/reflection	Product on a reflective surface
/splashes	Freeze liquid around the product
/pedestal	Display product on a raised stand
/ingredientshot	Surround product with ingredients
/detailshot	Highlight one distinctive feature
/scale	Show how big the product is
/inuse	Show the product being used
/colorblock	Bold, solid-color scene sections
/shadowplay	Use shadows as design elements
/unboxing	Show the opening experience
/collection	Arrange a matching product range
/cutaway	Reveal the product interior

Materials & Textures

/chrome	Shiny, mirror-like metal
/brushedmetal	Metal with fine directional lines
/frostedglass	Translucent glass with soft haze
/clearplastic	Transparent molded plastic
/ceramic	Glazed fired-clay surface
/marble	Natural stone with flowing veins
/concrete	Rough, matte cement texture
/velvet	Soft fabric with rich highlights
/linen	Natural woven fabric texture
/leather	Supple surface with visible grain
/paper	Tactile fibers and subtle creases
/woodgrain	Natural timber rings and lines
/clay	Soft, hand-shaped matte surface
/rubber	Flexible, matte grippy material
/iridescent	Colors shift with viewing angle
/liquidmetal	Flowing, reflective metallic surface

Illustration Styles

/ink	Expressive pen-and-ink drawing
/charcoal	Smoky black marks and shading
/pastel	Soft, powdery color strokes
/gouache	Opaque, matte painted colors
/oilpaint	Rich brushwork and paint texture
/linocut	Bold carved-print shapes
/woodcut	Rough woodblock-print texture
/risograph	Layered spot colors, slight misalignment
/pixeltart	Artwork built from visible pixels
/vector	Clean shapes and crisp edges
/isometric	Angled view with parallel edges
/lowpoly	Simplified faceted 3D forms
/clayrender	Playful sculpted-clay appearance
/papercut	Layered cut-paper shapes
/embroidery	Stitched thread on fabric
/doodle	Loose, spontaneous little drawings

Worlds & Aesthetics

/cyberpunk	Neon cities and advanced technology
/solarpunk	Green cities and hopeful futures
/steampunk	Victorian machinery and brass
/retrofutur	Yesterday's vision of tomorrow
/fantasy	Magical worlds and mythical details
/scifi	Futuristic science-inspired settings
/brutalist	Raw concrete and bold geometry
/artdeco	Elegant geometry and rich details
/bauhaus	Functional forms and primary colors
/midcentury	Warm woods and simple curves
/y2k	Glossy early-2000s digital style
/vaporwave	Retro gradients and surreal nostalgia
/cottagecore	Cozy rural life and nature
/biophilic	Architecture connected with nature
/gothic	Pointed arches and dramatic detail
/mediterranean	Sunlit plaster and earthy textures

Color Palette Cues

/monochrome	Shades of a single color
/duotone	Build the image around two colors
/muted	Soft, restrained color intensity
/pastelpalette	Pale, delicate color combinations
/earthtones	Browns, ochres and natural greens
/jeweltones	Deep emerald, ruby and sapphire
/complementary	Opposite colors for strong contrast
/analogous	Neighboring colors for harmony
/warmtones	Reds, oranges and golden yellows
/cooltones	Blues, greens and cool purples
/desaturated	Reduce overall color intensity
/vibrant	Rich, highly saturated colors
/tealorange	Teal shadows and orange highlights
/creambblue	Warm cream with calm blue
/terracotta	Clay reds and earthy oranges
/selectivecolor	One color, everything else gray

Image Editing Cues

/removeobject	Erase an unwanted object
/replacebg	Swap the background
/extendframe	Expand the scene beyond edges
/recolor	Change a chosen object's color
/cleanup	Remove small distracting details
/relight	Change light direction and mood
/restyle	Render in a different art style
/changeangle	Show a new camera viewpoint
/wardrobe	Change the person's clothing
/addprop	Add a specified scene object
/restore	Repair damage in an old photo
/colorize	Add color to a monochrome photo
/seasonshift	Show a different season
/weather	Change the weather conditions
/fixtext	Replace specified words in an image
/matchseries	Match the look of a reference

10 combo prompts

1. Product ad

Create a photo of [your product]. /heroshot (make the product the star), /pedestal (on a raised stone stand), /rimlight (light outlining the edges), /jeweltones (deep emerald, ruby and sapphire), /shallowdof (blurred background).

2. Personal brand portrait

Turn my photo into a /creator portrait (expressive personal-brand portrait), /windowlight (natural light through a window), /threequarter (face partly sideways), /eyecontact (looking into the lens), /filmgrain (visible grain). Keep my face identical.

3. Movie still

A man walking through the city at night in the rain. /cinematic (movie-like colors and framing), /neon (glowing city lights), /lowkey (dark scene, selective highlights), /telephoto (compressed perspective), /tealorange (teal shadows, orange highlights).

4. Old photo rescue

/restore this old family photo (repair the damage), /colorize it (add natural color), /cleanup (remove dust and scratches). Keep every face exactly the same.

5. Exploded product

/explodedview of [your product] (separate the parts to show the assembly), /floating (parts suspended in midair), /studiolight (controlled studio lighting), /negativespace (open space around it), /monochrome (shades of one color).

10 combo prompts (2)

6. Album cover

A /dramatic portrait of a singer (intense expression, strong shadows), /noir (dark shadows, high contrast), /rimlight (light outlining the subject), /duotone (deep red and black only), /negativespace at the top for the title.

7. Travel postcard

A narrow street by the sea. /mediterranean (sunlit plaster, earthy textures), /wideangle (broad view, exaggerated depth), /highkey (bright, few deep shadows), /pastelpalette (pale, delicate colors), /lifestyle (relaxed everyday moment).

8. Poster print

Turn this photo into a /risograph poster (layered spot colors, slight misalignment), /complementary colors (opposites for strong contrast), /symmetry (balanced, mirrored composition).

9. Room makeover

Redesign the room in my photo: /midcentury (warm woods, simple curves), /biophilic (plants and natural materials), /softlight (gentle light, soft shadows), /earthtones (browns, ochres, natural greens). Keep the walls and window where they are.

10. Season and weather swap

/seasonshift this street photo to winter (show a different season), /weather: heavy snowfall, /moonlight (cool night light), /volumetric (visible light rays in the haze around the street lamps).

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