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The
24:7
Dad

**12 HABITS OF
CONFIDENT FATHERS**

**EFFECTIVE AI
PROMPTING GUIDE**

EFFECTIVE AI PROMPTING RESOURCES

Use the sources in this listing to learn more about writing effective prompts for artificial intelligence (AI) Large Language Models (LLMs). They're especially helpful if you're new to prompt writing. (This guide might contain URLs that are no longer active. If you encounter an inactive URL, enter the title of the resource into your favorite search engine.)

A Note of Caution: As I point out in *The 24:7 Dad: 12 Habits of Confident Fathers*, using LLMs isn't required to be a 24:7 Dad. They're an optional tool to help you ingrain and maintain habits. There's a risk in using them. Questioning and confirming (fact-checking) their outputs is essential because LLMs can "hallucinate," producing inaccurate summaries and conclusions and fabricating sources of information. Even when you challenge an output, they can use persuasive tactics—called "persuasion bombing"—to defend their output. Effective prompting can help reduce the risk of hallucinations and persuasion bombing. Although newer versions generally decrease error rates, avoid using LLMs if you have concerns about them. It's not worth the stress or risk.

Learn Prompting: Basics Guide to Generative AI

<https://learnprompting.org/docs/basics/introduction>

This guide covers the fundamental principles of communicating with AI. It features a "3-minute reading time" introduction and focuses on using AI in daily life. It's highly interactive and provides clear, non-technical definitions of terms that you might encounter when exploring AI tools.

Zapier: AI Prompt Guide

<https://zapier.com/blog/ai-prompt/>

This guide provides a simple framework (context, information, examples, and feedback) that can be applied to any LLM. Its focus on creative and administrative tasks makes it particularly useful for streamlining household management or engaging in creative projects with children.

Harvard University Information Technology (HUIT): AI Prompts Beginner's Guide

<https://huit.harvard.edu/ai>

This portal offers a "Quick Start" guide and a set of "tips and updates" for experimenting with text-based and image-based AI tools. It offers practical, brief advice. It's a good entry point for authoritative advice without having to enroll in a full-length course.

MIT Sloan Teaching & Learning Technologies Guide

<https://mitsloanedtech.mit.edu/ai/basics/effective-prompts/>

This short article is a great starting point for learning how to write effective prompts. It covers the fundamentals, ways to optimize generative AI, and understanding its limitations. It also offers techniques for experienced prompters.

Generative AI at Vanderbilt University: Prompt Patterns

<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/generative-ai/prompt-patterns/>

This excellent guide emphasizes using patterns to craft effective prompts. The patterns serve as strategies for generating the desired response from LLMs. It describes 15 patterns with helpful examples and provides a link to a free, self-paced prompting course.

IBM's Generative AI: Prompt Engineering Basics (Coursera)

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/generative-ai-prompt-engineering-for-everyone>

When you're ready to master effective prompt writing, this free course covers essential elements of prompts, how to write them effectively with various formats, and best practices. It also aims to improve the reliability and quality of LLM outputs. The course features hands-on labs and projects, ensuring a practical learning experience.

Prompt Power: Six Tactics to Get Better Results from AI

<https://executiveeducation.wharton.upenn.edu/thought-leadership/wharton-at-work/2025/07/six-tactics-to-get-better-results-from-ai/>

This “Nano Tool” for business leaders from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania outlines six research-backed strategies for crafting effective prompts. Created for business settings, these strategies are equally useful in your personal life.