

## **OpenAI releases 6 strategies for writing powerful prompts**

If you're trying to get better results with ChatGPT but not quite getting the answers you're looking for, OpenAI recently released a prompt engineering guide with 6 specific strategies to help you unlock ChatGPT's potential:

### **Strategy 1 — Write clear instructions:**

- Include details in your prompt to get more relevant answers
- Specify the steps required to complete a task
- Provide examples

### **Strategy 2 — Provide reference text:**

- Instruct ChatGPT to answer using a reference text, such as a link to a PDF or a website
- Instruct ChatGPT to answer with citations from a reference text

### **Strategy 3 — Split complex tasks into simpler subtasks:**

- Since there is a limit on how much text you can insert into ChatGPT, summarize long documents piece by piece to stay within the limit
- For prompts that involve multiple instructions, try breaking the prompts into smaller chunk

### **Strategy 4 — Give ChatGPT some time to think:**

- Instruct ChatGPT to work out its own solution before rushing to a conclusion
- Ask ChatGPT if it missed anything on previous passes

### **Strategy 5 — Use external tools for coding tasks**

- Use code execution to perform more accurate calculations or call external APIs

- Give ChatGPT access to specific functions

**Strategy 6 — Test changes systematically:**

- Evaluate ChatGPT's outputs with reference to gold-standard answers

For the sake of brevity, I've paraphrased and simplified many of the strategies above. If you want full details, check out OpenAI's guide to prompt engineering [here](#).