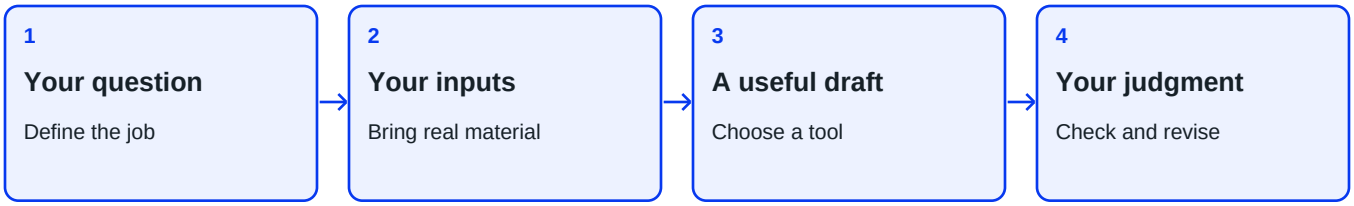
Keep making.
Keep thinking.

A field guide to AI pipelines for fashion, research and creative work.



12 workflows. 25 tools and services. 8 prompt patterns.
A playground for what you will make next.

A parting gift from
Douglas Jay Goldstein & James Pearce

Prepared for FIT Global Fashion Management
Edition 1 / 16 September 2026

Open the playground at storyengines.ctlab.fit/after-the-workshop

Start here

You do not need every tool.

Start with one assistant, a folder of material you can use, and an editor you already know. Add another tool when you can name the job it does.

What is a pipeline?

A sequence in which one step's output becomes the next step's input. A research question becomes an evidence table; the checked table becomes a memo; the memo becomes a deck. The handoff can be as simple as copying text or exporting a file.

Your first 30 minutes

Choose one workflow. Supply a small input you understand. Make one first attempt, inspect it, then change one meaningful instruction. Save both versions and explain the difference. This is a suggested practice session, not a promised production time.

How to use this guide

Every workflow names what to bring, what to leave with, possible tools, a starting prompt, a revision and a human check. Tool suggestions are alternatives. You do not need every service. Examples are fictional practice scenarios unless explicitly identified otherwise.

What the playground does

Select a workflow, explore its handoffs, build a brief and copy or download it. It does not run an AI model or spend credits. Drafts are stored on that browser only. Take the brief and actual files into your chosen tool.

From the workshop to your own work

The image relay made interpretation visible. Evidence review showed why plausible answers need checking. Model comparison exposed differences in outputs. Prompt revision turned criticism into an actionable instruction. Use those moves together.

An attractive image is not a validated product. A plausible answer is not verified evidence. A convincing prototype is not a tested service. Your judgment closes those gaps.

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Workflow 01 / 12

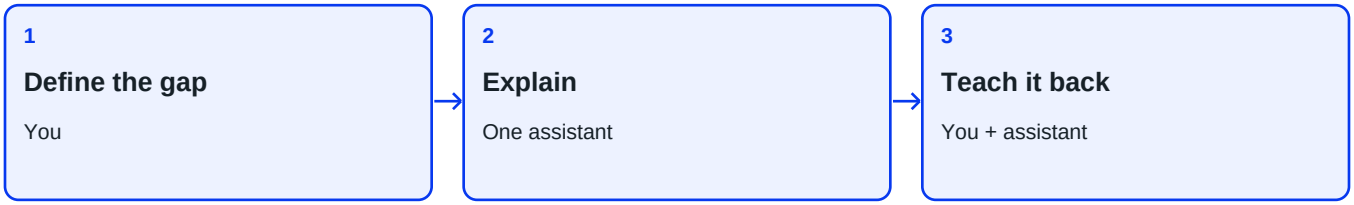
Understand something unfamiliar

Make a difficult subject legible before asking AI to make decisions about it.

Try this: You understand creative direction, but a report assumes you know sell-through, margin and markdowns.

Bring: A short passage you can use, your current knowledge and the decision ahead.

Leave with: A plain-language explanation, a glossary and three questions to take to a specialist.



Handoffs - 1: The exact passage and what you do not understand | 2: An example, a definition and its limits | 3: A corrected explanation in your own words

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini

Starting prompt

Explain the attached passage to someone who understands creative projects but is new to fashion management. Define every specialist term when first used. Use one small fictional numerical example, clearly labeled as invented. Separate what the passage says from background explanation. End with three questions I should ask before using this to make a decision.

Revision prompt

Here is my explanation in my own words: [paste]. Identify where I am wrong or oversimplifying. Correct only those parts, then ask me one question that tests understanding.

Your judgment

Check the source definition and recalculate the example. A simpler explanation must retain the limits of the original.

From the workshop: Like our workshop framing: admitting what you do not yet know gives AI a precise teaching job.

Workflow 02 / 12

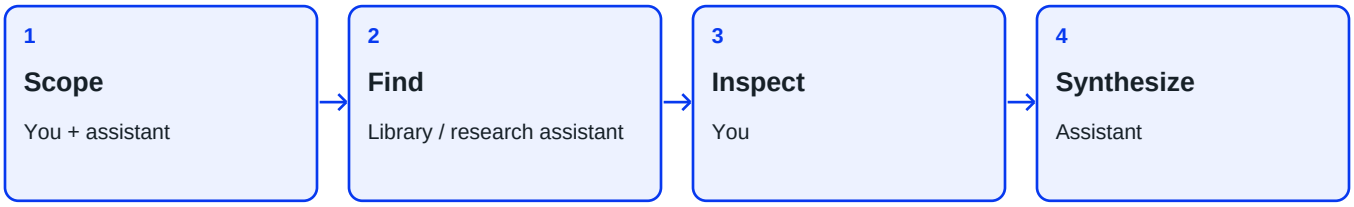
Research a question you can answer

Turn a broad topic into a defensible research brief.

Try this: Should a fictional accessories label test a repair service for existing customers in New York?

Bring: A decision, market, period, source permissions and a small initial source set.

Leave with: A source ledger and a short memo separating findings, interpretations and unanswered questions.



Handoffs - 1: One answerable question and inclusion rules | 2: Original sources with dates and authors | 3: Checked passages and source limitations | 4: A qualified answer with evidence attached

Possible tools: Perplexity, FIT Library, NotebookLM / Gemini Notebook, Zotero, ChatGPT

Starting prompt

Help investigate [question] for [audience] in [market and period]. First propose a research plan with source types and inclusion criteria. After I approve it, work only with accessible, identified sources. For each important claim record source title, publisher, date, URL or file/page, supporting passage and limitation. Distinguish observation, inference and recommendation. If evidence is missing, say what must be collected.

Revision prompt

Which recommendation rests on the weakest evidence? Look for a credible counterexample and duplicated reporting. Rewrite the conclusion so its certainty matches the evidence.

Your judgment

A press release is evidence of what a company claims. A survey applies to its sample. Several copies of one story are one underlying source.

From the workshop: Extend the Wang evidence exercise: define the question, check the record, and earn each conclusion.

Workflow 03 / 12

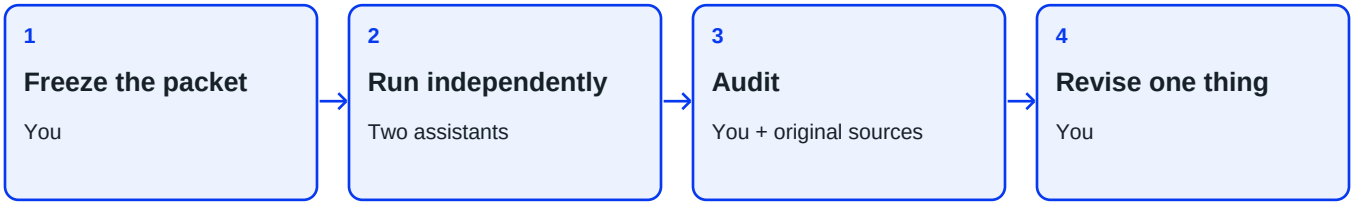
Compare AI answers fairly

Learn where a model helps and where it merely sounds confident.

Try this: Two assistants assess the same proposal to launch a limited service pilot.

Bring: The identical evidence packet, question, output format and assessment criteria.

Leave with: A comparison sheet recording supported claims, omissions, uncertainty and useful differences.



Handoffs - 1: Same files and prompt for both runs | 2: Answers A and B with model/date recorded | 3: Claim-level comparison | 4: An explained prompt change and rerun

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini

Starting prompt

Use only the attached packet. Answer [question] in 300 words. Give three findings, each with the exact file and page or section supporting it. Separate evidence from interpretation. Include the strongest counterevidence and one important unknown. Do not browse. If this packet cannot support a conclusion, say so.

Revision prompt

Your answer [specific issue]. Repeat the task with this added requirement: [one change]. Keep the original question, files and output length fixed. Explain what changed and why.

Your judgment

Agreement is not verification. Keep browsing settings comparable, record model names, and judge against sources rather than confident tone.

From the workshop: This is the workshop model comparison as a reusable evaluation method.

Workflow 04 / 12

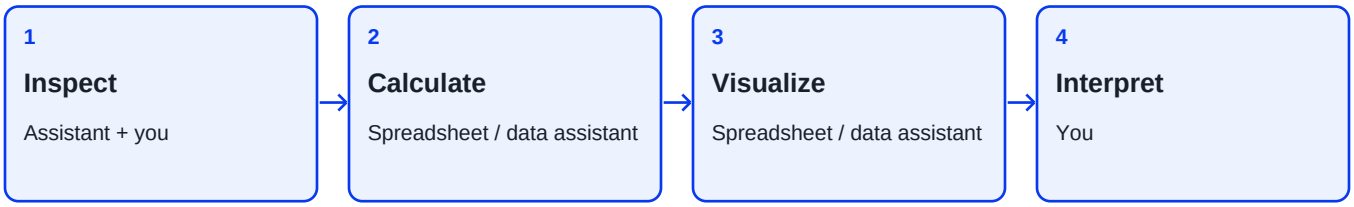
Turn a spreadsheet into a useful question

Use data analysis to locate a problem worth investigating.

Try this: A retailer wants to understand which products have unusually high return rates.

Bring: An authorized, anonymized table with orders, returns, dates and product categories.

Leave with: A reproducible calculation, a labeled chart and questions for the operations team.



Handoffs - 1: Column meanings, missing values and duplicates | 2: Counts, denominators and formulas | 3: A chart with units and time period | 4: A cautious explanation and next check

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Excel with Copilot

Starting prompt

Inspect this dataset before drawing conclusions. Describe the unit of each row, missing values and possible duplicates. Calculate return rate by category using returned units divided by sold units for the stated period; ask if those columns are unavailable. Show the counts and formula, flag small groups, and produce a labeled chart. Do not invent missing data or infer causes from association.

Revision prompt

Recalculate using [correct denominator or exclusion]. Show how that changes the ranking. Identify whether timing, small samples or category mix could explain the apparent difference.

Your judgment

Recalculate a sample manually. Do not confuse returned orders with returned units, or an incomplete returns window with good performance.

From the workshop: The prompt specifies not just a topic but the computation and the evidence needed to trust it.

Workflow 05 / 12

Find patterns in customer conversations

Organize what people said without manufacturing a representative market.

Try this: Six interviewees describe why they postpone repairing favorite garments.

Bring: Consented, anonymized transcripts with participant IDs and a defined question.

Leave with: A theme table with attributable excerpts, exceptions and follow-up questions.



Handoffs - 1: Corrected, anonymized text | 2: Proposed themes with source excerpts | 3: Exceptions and competing interpretations | 4: Questions for a next interview round

Possible tools: Descript, NotebookLM / Gemini Notebook, Claude

Starting prompt

Using these anonymized transcripts, propose themes relevant to [question]. For each theme list participant IDs, a short exact excerpt, its location and any contradictory example. Count unique participants, not mentions. Separate participants' statements from your interpretation. Do not describe this sample as the market.

Revision prompt

Find passages that do not fit the current themes. Offer an alternative grouping and explain what decision would change if we used it.

Your judgment

Listen back where transcription is unclear. Never turn invented personas or simulated interviews into customer evidence.

From the workshop: AI can organize qualitative material; you decide whether its categories respect what people actually meant.

Workflow 06 / 12

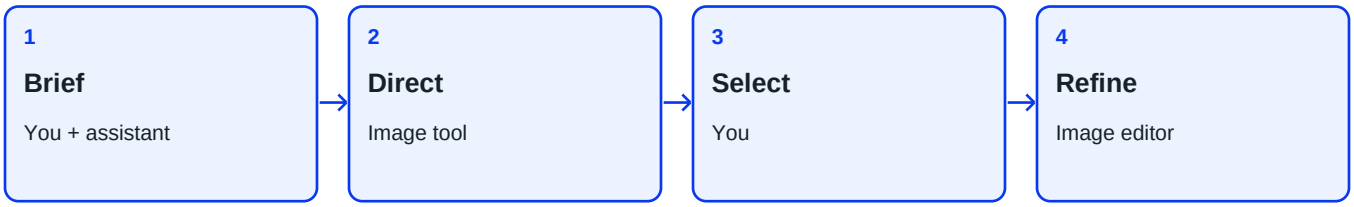
Build a visual concept with a point of view

Translate a written proposition into deliberately different visual options.

Try this: A fictional boutique requires every handbag to have its own dinner reservation. Design the bag's place setting.

Bring: A fictional brief, audience, references you can use and one rule that must survive.

Leave with: Three concept studies and a written rationale for the selected direction.



Handoffs - 1: Audience, rule and visual criteria | 2: Three controlled variations | 3: One direction with reasons | 4: A corrected, labeled concept image

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Adobe Firefly, Midjourney, Krea

Starting prompt

Create a fashion editorial concept for a restaurant where every handbag needs its own reservation and place setting. Show one diner and one empty miniature chair holding a handbag, at a linen-covered table. The absurd convention is treated with complete seriousness. Evening, warm practical lighting, restrained composition. No readable text or logos. Keep bag, person and chair distinct. This is speculative art direction, not a real product advertisement.

Revision prompt

Keep the setting, bag and lighting fixed. Change only [scale / framing / material]. Make the social rule readable without adding labels. Explain which brief requirements the image still fails.

Your judgment

Inspect anatomy, material, logo artifacts and whether the rule can be understood. A concept rendering is not a validated product or pattern.

From the workshop: The relay welcomed drift. Professional iteration identifies what may change and what must remain.

Workflow 07 / 12

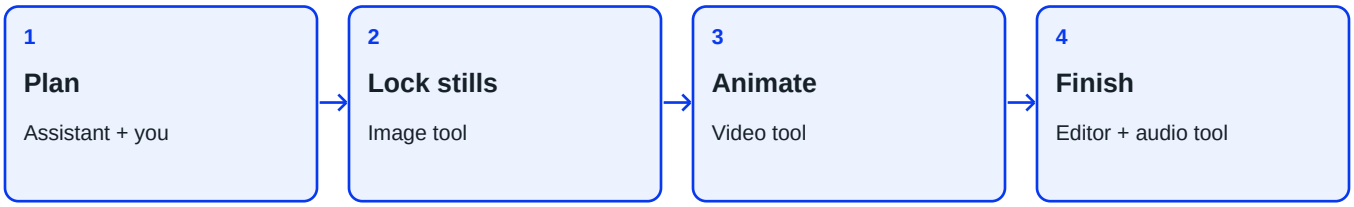
Make a short film through a real pipeline

Build moving images from an approved idea, one shot at a time.

Try this: A 20-second concept film follows a bag from its tiny restaurant chair to the coat check.

Bring: An approved brief, a three-shot storyboard, reference stills and audio rights.

Leave with: An edited, captioned film plus a production record showing how it was made.



Handoffs - 1: Shot list with duration and purpose | 2: Approved frames for continuity | 3: One motion instruction per shot | 4: Final film, captions and playback test

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Adobe Firefly, Runway, Luma Dream Machine, Higgsfield, ElevenLabs, Adobe Premiere, Descript

Starting prompt

Write a three-shot plan for a 20-second film about [concept]. For each shot provide its purpose, framing, starting image, one subject action, one camera move and approximate duration. Keep the same garment and location. Then write a separate image prompt and motion prompt for each shot. Do not imply a generated shot has already been made.

Revision prompt

For shot [number], preserve the approved starting image. Only [action] moves; the camera [movement]. Avoid additional characters or scene changes. Simplify the action if continuity breaks.

Your judgment

Approve stills before paying for motion. Review every shot for changes to the product. Add text in the editor. Test the actual export with audio on the intended screen.

From the workshop: A prompt is one handoff. The pipeline also includes selection, editing, sound, captions and technical delivery.

Workflow 08 / 12

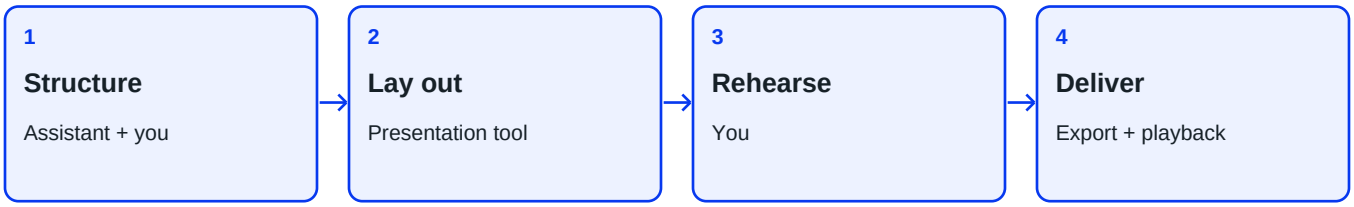
Turn checked work into a convincing deck

Make each slide do a clear job for an audience.

Try this: A buying team needs a six-slide recommendation for a small repair-service pilot.

Bring: A verified memo, source ledger, decision request and presentation conditions.

Leave with: A readable deck, presenter notes, source appendix and exported backup.



Handoffs - 1: Claim, evidence and purpose per slide | 2: Readable audience slides | 3: Matching notes and transitions | 4: Checked deck and PDF backup

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Claude, Gamma, Canva

Starting prompt

Using only this approved memo, plan six slides for [audience] deciding [decision]. For each slide give one headline claim, the evidence or visual needed, the action it asks of the audience and speaker notes. Mark unsupported claims instead of filling gaps. Include a framing slide explaining what we are doing and why. End with the decision and next step.

Revision prompt

Review for a room using several TVs. Remove repeated instructions, enlarge essential text, and move detail to notes. Check that each spoken instruction refers to something actually visible on that slide.

Your judgment

Check all source numbers and render every slide. A generated outline is not a tested presentation; verify notes, controls, media and exports.

From the workshop: Author the audience's understanding as carefully as you author the content.

Workflow 09 / 12

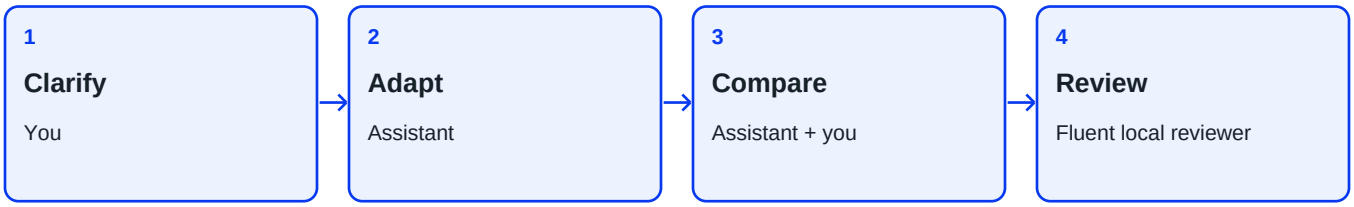
Adapt a message for another audience

Preserve the intent while testing whether the expression travels.

Try this: A repair-service message needs versions for two markets and different levels of familiarity.

Bring: Approved claims, tone, target audience, language and terms that must stay exact.

Leave with: Alternative drafts, a back-translation and questions for a local reviewer.



Handoffs - 1: Meaning and claims that cannot change | 2: Context-sensitive draft options | 3: Changes in promise, tone and implication | 4: An approved message

Possible tools: ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini

Starting prompt

Adapt this approved message for [audience and locale]. Preserve these factual claims exactly: [claims]. Produce a direct translation and a more natural adaptation. Explain differences in tone, implied promise and cultural assumptions. Flag wording that needs a fluent local reviewer. Do not invent local consumer preferences.

Revision prompt

Back-translate the adapted version. Identify any added promise, lost qualification or stereotype. Offer a revision that preserves the intended meaning.

Your judgment

Translation fluency is not market validation. Have a qualified reader check language and context before publication.

From the workshop: Synthesis includes choosing what survives a change of audience, not merely shortening or translating text.

Workflow 10 / 12

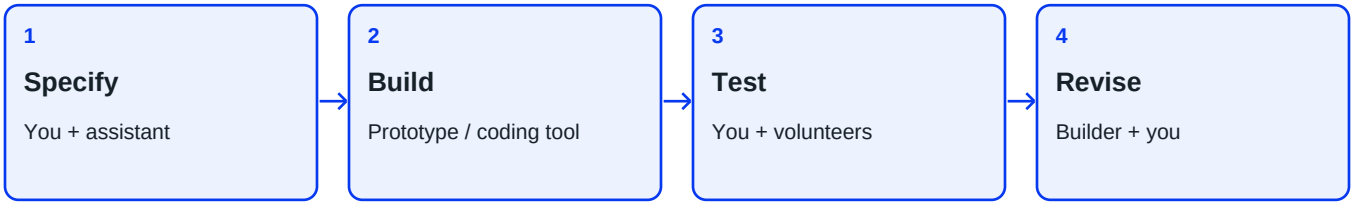
Prototype a service people can try

Turn an idea into something testable before making production promises.

Try this: Create a repair-booking journey that explains options, timing and uncertainty.

Bring: A user story, three essential screens, invented test data and acceptance criteria.

Leave with: A clickable prototype and a record of what real testers could or could not do.



Handoffs - 1: User journey and acceptance checks | 2: A small working interaction | 3: Observed failures and confusion | 4: A better prototype and known limits

Possible tools: Figma Make, Claude, Replit Agent, OpenAI Codex

Starting prompt

Prototype a garment repair booking flow with three screens: describe the problem, compare fictional service options, and review a request. Use clearly labeled sample data. No real payments or messages. Include keyboard navigation, visible labels, empty/error states and mobile layouts. Give me a test checklist for the complete journey and explain what is simulated.

Revision prompt

A tester failed at [step]. Explain the likely cause, propose the smallest fix, and test the whole journey again, including refresh, back navigation and a second device where relevant.

Your judgment

Do not put secrets in browser code. Use test data. Test real storage and permissions before any real launch; a prototype is not a production guarantee.

From the workshop: Like the workshop interfaces, a bespoke tool should make the learning or task easier to perform.

Workflow 11 / 12

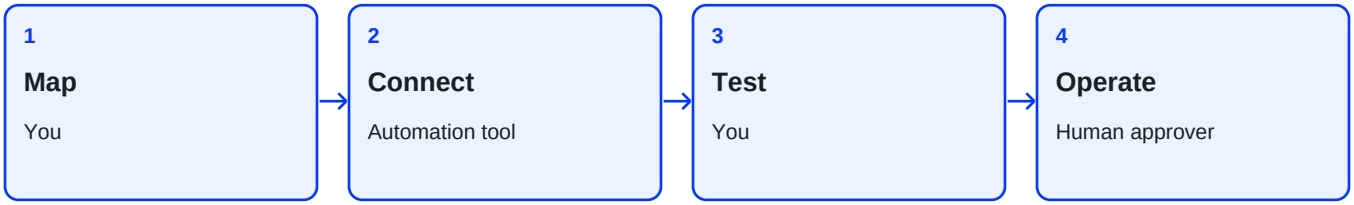
Automate a repeatable job carefully

Remove repetitive handoffs after you understand the manual process.

Try this: A weekly internal digest of approved fashion-industry sources.

Bring: A source list, collection schedule, summary format and named approver.

Leave with: A draft briefing with links, an approval step and a log of failures.



Handoffs - 1: Trigger, inputs, transformations and owner | 2: A draft-only workflow | 3: Normal, missing and duplicate cases | 4: Approved output and run log

Possible tools: Make, n8n, ChatGPT

Starting prompt

Design a draft-only weekly research digest workflow. Inputs: [approved sources]. For each item preserve title, publisher, publication date and original link. Summarize relevance to [question], separating source claims from inference. Deduplicate repeat coverage. Route the draft to a human; do not publish or send automatically. List failure cases and a simple test for each.

Revision prompt

What happens if a source is unavailable, the same item arrives twice, the model returns no evidence, or a connected account loses permission? Add a visible failure path and retry limit.

Your judgment

Check subscriptions, connector permissions and per-run/API charges. Start with a tiny sample. Keep a manual fallback.

From the workshop: An agent can perform steps; a human still defines the task, authority and standard of completion.

Workflow 12 / 12

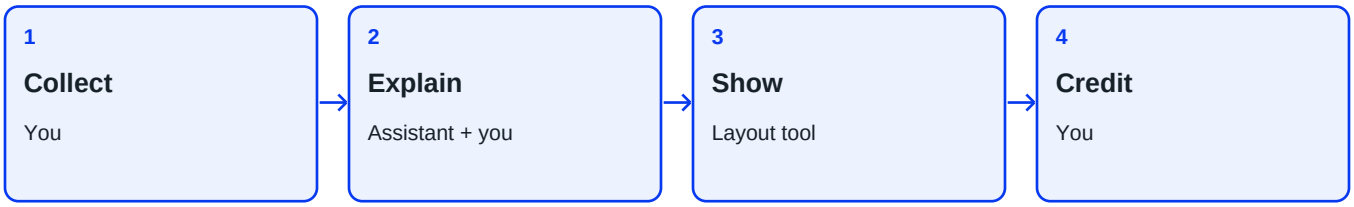
Make your process visible in a portfolio

Show judgment, iteration and authorship alongside the final artifact.

Try this: Document a concept campaign as an honest speculative case study.

Bring: Your brief, actual prompt versions, selected outputs, failures and final work.

Leave with: A case study explaining the problem, decisions, contribution and limitations.



Handoffs - 1: Dated prompts, references and versions | 2: A narrative of choices and tradeoffs | 3: Before/after with meaningful captions | 4: Tools, collaborators, assets and limitations

Possible tools: Canva, Gamma, Figma Make, ChatGPT

Starting prompt

Help structure a portfolio case study from this actual process record. Distinguish my decisions from AI-generated material and collaborators' contributions. Include the problem, constraints, two rejected directions, the revision that mattered and the final outcome. Label speculative work as speculative. Do not invent clients, user tests, performance metrics or business results.

Revision prompt

Which claims imply evidence I have not provided? Remove them or label them as hypotheses. Make the case study useful to someone evaluating my judgment rather than just my output.

Your judgment

Keep consent and source rights intact. Explain what was genuinely tested and what remains a proposal.

From the workshop: The most persuasive evidence of skill is the decision you can explain and defend.

A five-minute evidence exercise

From a tempting claim to a useful test

Invented practice example - not real market evidence

Source A · repair pop-up log

In a fictional two-hour pop-up, 18 of 30 visitors asked about repairs. Visitors self-selected into the event. No purchases were recorded.

Source B · event recap

A fictional newsletter repeats the same 18-of-30 figure and calls repair "the next growth engine." It adds no new observations.

Source C · six customer interviews

Four of six fictional participants liked repair in principle; three of those four said price or turnaround might stop them. This was a small convenience sample.

An AI suggests: Customers overwhelmingly want repairs, so the brand should launch nationally.

Before reading on

Would you launch nationally, test a priced offer with a defined customer group, or abandon the idea? Identify which sources are independent and what the sample can actually tell you.

A stronger answer

Interest appeared in this small, self-selected group, but demand and willingness to pay remain untested. The newsletter is not independent confirmation. Test a priced, time-bounded offer with a defined customer group before considering expansion.

The decision

Keep the scale of the next action proportional to the evidence. Measure actual uptake, completion time and reasons for declining. Decide the success threshold before running the test.

The important revision is a narrower claim and a test that could change your mind.

Tool directory / 1 of 7

A considered toolkit.

Official product and help links checked 16 September 2026. Capabilities, access and plans change. These are starting options, not a ranking or a shopping list.

ChatGPT

Think & research

Work with text, supplied files, data and images in a conversational workspace.

Try: Turn an approved evidence packet into a claim-by-claim comparison.

Check: Ask for source locations and calculation steps. Inspect them yourself.

Open ChatGPT / Official product or guidance

Claude

Think & research

Develop writing, analyze supplied material and make interactive artifacts.

Try: Build a simple, explorable comparison of three retail concepts.

Check: An attractive artifact can contain unsupported conclusions; audit the underlying claims.

Open Claude / Official product or guidance

Gemini

Think & research

Use a multimodal assistant for explanation, drafting and research tasks.

Try: Translate a dense category report into questions for a buying team.

Check: Confirm which sources and tools were actually used.

Open Gemini / Official product or guidance

NotebookLM / Gemini Notebook

Think & research

Ask questions of a selected collection of source materials.

Try: Compare interviews, reports and class notes in one source-based notebook.

Check: Open citations; a limited collection is not a complete view of the market. Google currently labels its help pages Gemini Notebook.

Open NotebookLM / Gemini Notebook / Official product or guidance

Tool directory / 2 of 7

A considered toolkit.

Perplexity

Think & research

Discover web sources through answers with linked references.

Try: Find starting sources on clothing repair services in a specified market.

Check: Read originals, check dates, and detect articles repeating the same announcement.

Open Perplexity / Official product or guidance

Zotero

Evidence & data

Collect, organize and cite research sources. This is a research companion, not a generative model.

Try: Keep a shared bibliography with notes on what each source can support.

Check: Correct imported metadata and keep the actual page or passage used.

Open Zotero / Official product or guidance

FIT Library

Evidence & data

Find fashion, business and scholarly databases through the library.

Try: Locate credible industry context before asking AI to synthesize it.

Check: Access differs by resource and affiliation. Follow database terms when using or uploading material.

Open FIT Library / Official product or guidance

Google Trends

Evidence & data

Explore relative search interest across time and geography.

Try: Compare repair-related search terms using the same location and period.

Check: Relative interest is not sales, market size or a representative consumer survey.

Open Google Trends / Official product or guidance

Tool directory / 3 of 7

A considered toolkit.

Excel with Copilot

Evidence & data

Use AI assistance inside a spreadsheet workflow.

Try: Explore returns by product, size and reason in an authorized dataset.

Check: Check license availability, formulas, denominators and missing records.

Open Excel with Copilot / Official product or guidance

Adobe Firefly

Images & design

Generate and edit visual concepts, including images and video.

Try: Explore three material and lighting directions for a fictional pop-up.

Check: Check the terms for the specific model used; partner models may differ.

Open Adobe Firefly / Official product or guidance

Midjourney

Images & design

Explore image directions and visual worlds.

Try: Develop a set of contrasting campaign mood studies.

Check: Visual polish does not establish product accuracy, construction feasibility or rights.

Open Midjourney / Official product or guidance

Krea

Images & design

Explore AI image and video creation and enhancement tools.

Try: Iterate on composition before commissioning finished production.

Check: Inspect enhancement for invented texture, seams and logos.

Open Krea / Official product or guidance

Tool directory / 4 of 7

A considered toolkit.

Runway

Film & sound

Generate and transform moving-image material.

Try: Animate an approved campaign still into a short, specific shot.

Check: Check continuity frame by frame and confirm credit usage before rendering.

Open Runway / Official product or guidance

Luma Dream Machine

Film & sound

Develop generated video from visual and written direction.

Try: Test the feeling of entering a speculative retail installation.

Check: Generated motion can change garment shape and spatial relationships.

Open Luma Dream Machine / Official product or guidance

Higgsfield

Film & sound

Explore image and video production tools, models and effects.

Try: Try different camera treatments for the same approved concept.

Check: Compare model-level controls, credit costs and usage terms before committing.

Open Higgsfield / Official product or guidance

ElevenLabs

Film & sound

Create speech, sound effects and music using its audio tools.

Try: Produce narration and a restrained soundtrack for a concept film.

Check: Use an authorized voice and check the plan and output license for your intended use.

Open ElevenLabs / Official product or guidance

Tool directory / 5 of 7

A considered toolkit.

Descript

Film & sound

Edit audio and video through transcripts and timeline tools.

Try: Cut a founder interview into a captioned one-minute story.

Check: Correct the transcript and review cuts so they preserve the speaker's meaning.

Open Descript / Official product or guidance

Adobe Premiere

Film & sound

Assemble, edit and finish video and audio.

Try: Combine generated shots, actual footage, titles and captions in one final cut.

Check: Watch the exported file on the actual display; editing is part of the pipeline.

Open Adobe Premiere / Official product or guidance

Canva

Present & publish

Create presentations and visual communications with AI-assisted tools.

Try: Turn an approved outline into a readable pitch and social adaptation.

Check: Check charts, citations, text size and exported layout.

Open Canva / Official product or guidance

Gamma

Present & publish

Draft presentations, documents and web pages from content or instructions.

Try: Explore a deck structure from a checked recommendation memo.

Check: Rewrite generic claims and inspect the exported presentation before delivery.

Open Gamma / Official product or guidance

Tool directory / 6 of 7

A considered toolkit.

Figma Make

Build & automate

Prototype interactive experiences from prompts and design inputs.

Try: Make a clickable repair-booking journey to test with a classmate.

Check: A working-looking demo does not prove secure storage, accessibility or production readiness.

Open Figma Make / Official product or guidance

Replit Agent

Build & automate

Build and refine apps through a conversational development environment.

Try: Prototype a garment care planner with fictional test data.

Check: Test every user journey, authentication, data handling and ongoing hosting cost.

Open Replit Agent / Official product or guidance

OpenAI Codex

Build & automate

Use a coding agent to build, explain and revise software.

Try: Create an interactive collection explorer from your own structured content.

Check: Review and test changes; authorize external actions deliberately.

Open OpenAI Codex / Official product or guidance

Make

Build & automate

Connect apps in visual automation workflows.

Try: Move approved research notes into a weekly draft briefing.

Check: Start with draft-only outputs and test failures, duplicates and permissions.

Open Make / Official product or guidance

Tool directory / 7 of 7

A considered toolkit.

n8n

Build & automate

Build connected workflows with AI and conventional automation steps.

Try: Route incoming feedback for tagging, review and reporting.

Check: Credentials, hosting and operational monitoring need an accountable owner.

Open n8n / Official product or guidance

Spend on the bottleneck

Use suitable access you already have and check FIT's library resources before buying. Test a small sample first. Image, video and audio services may charge credits for each attempt. A consumer subscription and API billing can be separate. Check current prices, export limits, watermarks, licenses and cancellation terms directly with the provider.

Put permissions at the handoff

Before uploading a file, check you may share it with that provider. Before publishing an asset, check the source material, people depicted, voice permissions and the relevant output license. Before launching an app, test access, storage and behavior with sample data.

About the links

Each entry links to an official product or help page supporting its capability description. The practice examples and workflow recommendations are our educational suggestions. No vendor sponsorship or endorsement is implied.

Prompt patterns / 1 of 2

Prompts to keep.

Replace bracketed instructions with your task. These patterns improve clarity; they do not guarantee correctness.

Build a better brief

Before doing the task, identify missing information about the outcome, audience, inputs, constraints and success criteria. Ask only questions that would materially change your approach. State reasonable assumptions explicitly. Then propose the smallest useful first output.

Make the unfamiliar legible

Explain [concept] as if we are intelligent beginners. Define jargon, give one clearly fictional example, explain where that example breaks down, and ask me to explain it back. Preserve important qualifications.

Audit the evidence

For each consequential claim in this answer, show the source and exact location that supports it. Classify it as directly supported, inferred, contradicted or unsupported. Do not invent citations. Flag repeated sources and missing context.

Synthesize without flattening

Compare these sources around [question]. Identify agreement, disagreement and differences in method, population, geography or date. Preserve exceptions. Produce a finding, its evidence, its limitation and the next question for each theme.

Prompt patterns / 2 of 2

Prompts to keep.

Replace bracketed instructions with your task. These patterns improve clarity; they do not guarantee correctness.

Revise deliberately

Evaluate this prompt against its intended task. Identify three specific weaknesses and explain their likely effects. Rewrite it without changing the goal. Mark the changes. Then suggest how I can compare the original and revised outputs against the same criteria.

Hand work to the next tool

Prepare a handoff packet for [next tool/person]: approved objective, exact input files, accepted decisions, things that must stay fixed, things that may change, output format and acceptance checks. Include unresolved questions. Do not replace actual files with descriptions of imaginary files.

Challenge a recommendation

What is the strongest evidence against this recommendation? Which assumption matters most? Describe the smallest practical test that could change our decision, what we would measure, and what result would count against it.

Keep a useful record

Summarize this session as a project handoff: objective, source files, model/tool used, prompt versions, decisions and reasons, rejected directions, unresolved risks and next step. Separate completed work from proposed work. Include no private credentials.

Reusable project worksheet

Keep a record worth revisiting.

Store this with the actual source files, prompt versions and final exports. Keep private credentials out of your notes.

The job

Project, owner, date, question or creative objective, audience and success criteria.

The evidence

Source title, publisher, date, URL or file and page. Supporting passage, limitation, independent or repeated evidence, checked by.

The run

Tool, model, settings and run date. Actual inputs provided. Prompt v1 and output v1. What failed or surprised you?

The revision

Prompt v2 and output v2. What changed, why, and how did you assess the difference?

The authorship

Human decisions, collaborator contributions, asset sources and permissions. Label speculative work and simulated data.

The delivery

Final export, where it was tested, what passed, known limitations, next step and responsible person.

Portfolio caption: I used [tools] to explore [task]. I selected and revised [decisions]. I checked [evidence or functionality]. The result is [artifact]. It does not yet establish [remaining limitation].

Keep going

The habits travel with you.

Start with the outcome

Name the decision or artifact you need. Choose the fewest tools that can get you there. One assistant, a source folder and an editor are enough for many projects.

Make the handoff explicit

A pipeline is a sequence in which one step's output becomes the next step's input. Export the actual text, table, still or audio file; do not assume tools share memory.

Separate invention from evidence

Invent freely for a speculative world. Label it. Use real, inspectable sources for real claims. Simulated customers are creative prompts, not research participants.

Change with intention

Keep what matters fixed and change one meaningful instruction at a time. Save the before and after, then explain the difference.

Keep people in the loop

You own the question, judgment and release. Check rights, data permissions, accuracy and practical usability at the handoff where each matters.

Plan for the final mile

Test the exported deck, film, file or app where it will actually be used. Keep a usable backup and record known limits.

This week: choose one workflow, make something small, revise one instruction, and show a peer what changed. Ask them what they still cannot understand or trust. Let that question guide your next iteration.

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Your playground: storyengines.ctlab.fit/after-the-workshop

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