

Hey guys, this is a long one. But it's relevant to all artists. Discord has just allowed a generative AI app onto their platform. It's hidden and you can't turn it off or ban it.

Basically it allows anyone in your server to go in and plug your image into their stupid AI feature. Discord has left us no option but to complain to them. If enough of us complain and threaten to stop using discord, we can get them to back down on this.

Go to support.discord.com and submit a help request. File it under help and support. Say it's a General Question and the subject is Turn Off Domo AI. Then write them a message about how you don't want Domo on your server.

Something like this: *I'm going to keep this brief. I've been a user of discord for many years now. I'm an artist and I've built a small community of fellow artists with similar interests. I can speak for myself and everyone in my server when I say we DON'T want Domo AI anywhere near discord. We've enjoyed using discord for a long time and would like to continue using it to hang out and share our work. But as long as generative AI apps are authorized in discord, none of us can feel safe using your product. Right now, I'm seeing different people say a hundred different things about how Domo actually operates. But the overall consensus is that 1. You can't turn it off and 2. Even if you "kick" the app, individual users can still use it to steal your images. This is not okay. If discord doesn't back down from the use of AI or AT THE VERY LEAST allow us to turn the damn thing off (bare minimum), then we will have to move over to using a different app. We plan on doing so by August if this is not fixed.*

Then Submit. It takes all of 5 minutes but they need to see a BUNCH of people complaining about this

(Put this in your own words BY THE WAY. Companies have spam filters that pick up on similar prompts.)

I have an update.

Discord replied to me. It wasn't a copy and paste letter. It was someone actually reaching out and responding to my individual complaint.

The bad news: They were very dismissive. The message boiled down to "sorry you don't like our app. Too bad."

The good news: They clearly still currently have a department that reads and responds to complaints. You know what that means? It means we can use this to our advantage! It'll be VERY hard for them to ignore an influx of complaints!

See, discord, here's the thing. You seem to be confusing "This decision literally threatens my livelihood as an artist" with "weehhh I don't like this app!"

We don't just dislike your ai garbage machine. We HATE it.

It stands as an obstacle to creativity itself. It is an abomination of corporate greed and must be eliminated IMMEDIATELY.

So, this is what we're going to do:

1. Read discord's response to your original complaint carefully.
2. Focus in like a laser on the crux of the issue and exactly what they're misunderstanding.
3. Craft a short, polite, yet very strong response.

Let's take a look at my correspondence as an example. Here is discord's message to me:

Hey Ren,

Thank you for reaching out and sharing your concern with us! We completely understand your feelings about AI-generated art and the impact it can have on the creative community.

We take feedback like yours seriously, and we truly value the comfort and trust that users like you place in the Discord platform.

Regarding the DomoAI bot, we aim to provide a variety of bots in the app directory that serve different purposes. However, we understand that certain bots or features may not align with everyone's preferences or values, and we're sorry to hear this one has caused discomfort in your community.

While we cannot delete bots from the directory based solely on personal preference, we do encourage users to provide feedback directly through the appropriate channels for bot reviews. If this bot is causing harm or disrupting user experiences, we recommend reporting it through the bot's page in the app directory or by submitting a ticket to us for further investigation.

Your feedback is important, and we appreciate you taking the time to express your concerns. If you have any other questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out!

Best,
Lorenz D

Alright, so a couple things. In the first sentence, they claim to understand my concern AI-generated art being integrated into discord. They follow up by saying they're taking my concerns seriously.

And yet, the very next sentence contradicts that sentiment immediately by framing my concern as a "personal preference". That, and they basically state that they're not going to lift a finger to protect artists from art theft.

The next little chunk here instructs me to go into the bot's page and provide a review of DomoAI, IF the app starts causing harm. There's a problem with this suggestion that, naturally, discord is overlooking. Namely, that art theft is VERY HARD for individual artists to catch. We're busy running our daily lives. We don't have a department of copyright protection to comb the internet and track down all our stolen images. That means, oftentimes, we're ripped off and we don't even know it. Furthermore, once this bot has caused harm, it'll already be too late for thousands of artists who work on and around discord.

The other problem is that, and I don't know this for sure, but I can hazard a guess, that complaining through the app's complaint page will likely be ignored even harder. The bot's app directory is likely run by either the company who designed

DomoAI or a branch of discord's operators with little to know power or interest in changing it.

Now, despite that, we're still going to submit a complaint through the app directory. We're just ALSO going to reply to this email and keep submitting complaints to discord DIRECTLY.

Here is a link to discord's app directory and the [DomoAI](#) app. To find it, I just googled Discord App Directory. Then, in the search bar of the directory, I searched "Domo". Small note, but it looks like the DomoAI company is still active on Twitter, which, if you needed any more proof this is a massive grift, there ya go. If you TOO still have a Twitter account, that would be another great way to make your complaints heard. Comment on their posts or send them a DM calling them out.

The app claims to use a /gen command to create "instant images" and to "promote creativity" in your servers. Now as we know, this is a load of crap. The images genAI produces are a sausage of ground up and recycled stolen art made by real people. It promotes creativity in the same way the mafia promotes healthy business.

So, I clicked the three dots on at the top right and clicked "Report App"

Now, this takes me to basically the same page I sent my first complaint, which is hilarious, and great for us because we followed the instructions.

This time, under "What can we help you with?", I'm gonna go for "Contact Discord Privacy".

Then, under "What do you need assistance with?" I'm going to click on "Object to the processing of your data on discord".

Now, in the description section, I'm going to write another complaint, this time focusing on AI's breaches of privacy. Here's what I'm going to write:

Hello,

I'm writing to complain about the DomoAI app. AI has a well-earned reputation for combing and stealing data on the apps it's integrated with. I want DomoAI removed from discord to protect my personal information.

I use discord to communicate and share art with my small community of artists and clients. Among the personal information we exchange is venmo and paypal info, non-watermarked artworks, and private names. This is the kind of information that might be dangerous if it's in the wrong hands AND, to boot, it raises the question of genAI stealing art that humans have made and using it without crediting the artist to create

images, which is copyright infringement and endangers artists' livelihoods. Please take this app down immediately.

*Thank you,
Ren*

I tried to keep this one short. Alright, once you've composed this complaint, hit submit. And no, the articles don't answer our questions. If anything, they confirm our fears. The top articles literally states that DomoAI is going to comb through our messages to collect its data. Gross!

On to my reply to the email.

I'm going to address the same issues with Lorenz D that I addressed in my report of the DomoAI app. But, I'm going to reply directly to things Lorenz said and I'm going to focus very narrowly on one specific issue, the heart of the matter as it were.

Please remember that Lorenz D, or any other employee that we respond to, is just an employee who's being paid to protect the company. They have no control over discord's decisions Discord makes and should be treated with dignity and respect. Trust me, that will help our argument.

So here's what I'm going to write:

Dear Lorenz,

Thank you for your prompt response to my complaint. I appreciate that Discord is taking my concerns seriously.

Unfortunately, this is more than a matter of app preference for me. The implementation of the DomoAI app is a serious threat to the livelihoods and privacy of every artist who uses Discord as a way to network with and receive payments from clients. The article I found on your website states that DomoAI combs through our messages to collect data, among other things.

Now, as an artist, I sometimes share the non-watermarked versions of my images with clients through discord. But, more importantly, my clients sometimes exchange financial details with me over Discord as well, details like our paypal or venmo usernames. This is no longer just a copyright infringement concern. It is a PRIVACY concern. We don't know how GenAI will use the information it collects, and, what's scary is, neither are most of the developers of GenAI software. That data could wind up in the wrong hands.

I urge Discord to seriously reconsider the implementation of this app. If Discord becomes unsafe for artists, we will have to move to another app.

*Thank you for your time,
Ren*

Now, this message is still fairly long, but that's okay. It's the first message we're sending directly to a person, so it can be long without undermining our point. If this correspondence continues, however, we will want our followup emails to be just one or

two sentences max, just hammering home that one point of data and security. Come on, let's do this!