

The 50 Best ChatGPT Codes

Short phrases that make ChatGPT give you better answers. Made for beginners 50+, by Carla at 72.

What's a "code"? It's a short phrase you type at the start or end of your question. It isn't a secret password or a hidden feature. It works because it tells ChatGPT exactly how you want your answer. Copy any code, add your question, and press Enter.

How to use this guide

1. Open ChatGPT (chatgpt.com or the app on your phone).
2. Pick a code from the list.
3. Type the code, then your question. Example: **ELI5: What is the cloud?**
4. Don't like the answer? Add another code, like **SIMPLER** or **SHORTER**, and ask again.

Make it easy to understand

1. **ELI5:** Explains anything like you're five years old. *ELI5: What is Wi-Fi?*
2. **SIMPLER:** Rewrites the last answer in plainer words.
3. **NO JARGON:** Removes tech words, or explains each one in brackets.
4. **ANALOGY:** Explains it by comparing it to something from everyday life. *ANALOGY: How does the internet work?*
5. **STEP BY STEP:** Breaks a task into numbered steps you can follow one at a time.
6. **ONE STEP AT A TIME:** Gives you only step 1, then waits for you to say "next."
7. **BIGGER PICTURE:** Explains why something matters before how it works.
8. **EXAMPLE PLEASE:** Shows a real example of what it just explained.
9. **CHECK MY UNDERSTANDING:** You explain it back in your own words, and ChatGPT tells you what you got right.
10. **I'M NEW TO THIS:** Tells ChatGPT you're a beginner, so it starts from the very beginning.

Change the shape of the answer

11. **TL;DR:** A one or two sentence summary at the top.

- 12. SHORTER:** Cuts the last answer down by about half.
- 13. 3 BULLETS:** The answer in exactly three bullet points.
- 14. TABLE IT:** Puts the information in a table with rows and columns.
- 15. CHECKLIST:** Turns the answer into a checklist you can tick off.
- 16. PROS AND CONS:** Lists the good and the bad, side by side.
- 17. COMPARE:** Compares two or more options. *COMPARE: iPhone vs Android for someone who mostly texts and video calls.*
- 18. TIMELINE:** Puts events or steps in order by date or time.
- 19. BIG FONT FRIENDLY:** Short lines and short paragraphs that are easy to read on a phone.
- 20. PRINTABLE:** Formats it as a clean one-page handout you can print.

Get better, more honest answers

- 21. ASK ME FIRST:** ChatGPT asks you 3 to 5 questions before answering, so the answer fits your situation.
- 22. BRUTAL HONESTY:** Asks for a direct, honest opinion with no sugarcoating.
- 23. DEVIL'S ADVOCATE:** Argues the other side, so you can see what you might be missing.
- 24. WHAT AM I MISSING:** Points out gaps, risks, or questions you haven't thought of.
- 25. HOW SURE ARE YOU:** Tells you how confident it is and what it might be wrong about.
- 26. SHOW YOUR SOURCES:** Asks it to say where information comes from, so you can check it. Always double-check important facts.
- 27. FACT VS OPINION:** Separates what is known from what is opinion.
- 28. 3 OPTIONS:** Gives three different answers to choose from instead of one.
- 29. BEST AND WORST CASE:** Shows what could go right and what could go wrong.
- 30. EXPLAIN YOUR THINKING:** Walks through how it reached the answer.

Help me think and plan

- 31. PLAN IT:** Creates a simple plan with steps and rough times. *PLAN IT: A 5-day trip to Juneau in June.*
- 32. BRAINSTORM 10:** Ten quick ideas, no judging yet.
- 33. PICK THE BEST:** After a brainstorm, picks the top idea and explains why.

- 34. ROLE PLAY:** Practices a conversation with you. *ROLE PLAY: You're my bank. I'm calling about a strange charge.*
- 35. QUIZ ME:** Asks you questions to help you learn something.
- 36. TEACH ME IN 5 DAYS:** Breaks a new skill into five short daily lessons.
- 37. DECISION HELPER:** Asks questions, then helps you choose between options.
- 38. BUDGET IT:** Turns a list of costs into a simple budget. Not financial advice, just organizing.
- 39. WHAT SHOULD I ASK:** Gives you questions to ask a doctor, lawyer, mechanic, or salesperson.
- 40. NEXT STEP:** Tells you the one next thing to do, nothing more.

Writing and social media

- 41. WARMER:** Rewrites your message to sound friendlier.
- 42. MORE PROFESSIONAL:** Rewrites it to sound polished for work or business.
- 43. SOUND LIKE ME:** Paste a few things you've written, and it matches your style.
- 44. FIX MY WRITING:** Corrects spelling and grammar without changing your voice.
- 45. POLITE NO:** Writes a kind way to say no to something.
- 46. CAPTION IT:** Writes 5 Instagram captions for a photo or video you describe.
- 47. HOOK ME:** Writes 10 attention-grabbing first lines for a Reel or post.
- 48. HASHTAGS:** Suggests 10 hashtags that fit your post and audience.
- 49. REPURPOSE:** Turns one piece of writing into a post, an email, and a short video script.
- 50. READ IT BACK:** Checks your message for tone before you send it. *READ IT BACK: Does this email sound upset?*

Carla's favorite combos

- **I'M NEW TO THIS + STEP BY STEP + BIG FONT FRIENDLY:** My go-to for learning anything new.
- **ASK ME FIRST + PLAN IT:** For trips, projects, and anything with a lot of moving parts.
- **SOUND LIKE ME + WARMER:** For messages to family and friends.

A few honest reminders

- ChatGPT can be wrong, even when it sounds sure. Double-check anything important.

- Don't type passwords, bank details, or your Social Security number into any AI.
- For health, money, or legal questions, use ChatGPT to prepare, then talk to a real professional.

Find more beginner-friendly AI tips on Instagram: @carla_after_50