

OFFICIAL COURSE STUDY GUIDE

Midjourney Mastery for Designers

*From first prompt to commercial design assets - parameters, style control,
and finishing workflows from a working graphic designer.*

DESIGN · ALL LEVELS · 8 MODULES · 16 HR 46 MIN

Course by Wade McMaster - Creator Impact · Curated and published by MegaCourse

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Midjourney Mastery for Designers: The Complete Study Guide

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MegaCourse curates the world's best free courses into structured learning paths with study guides, practice material, and certificates. This guide accompanies the MegaCourse course "Midjourney Mastery for Designers", taught by Wade McMaster - Creator Impact. It is designed to be read alongside the video lessons and to serve as a standalone reference for review.

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INTRODUCTION

About This Course

Welcome to the official study guide for "Midjourney Mastery for Designers." This course teaches you to create professional design assets using Midjourney. You will learn everything from your first prompt to advanced finishing workflows.

Artificial intelligence image generation is a crucial skill for modern designers. This course provides a clear path to mastering Midjourney, ensuring you can produce high-quality, commercially viable visuals. You will gain control over parameters, achieve specific styles, and integrate AI output into your design process.

This guide supports the structured learning path curated by MegaCourse.app. It complements the video instruction from Wade McMaster, a working graphic designer. The course is organized into 8 modules and 54 lessons, totaling about 16 hours and 46 minutes of instruction. MegaCourse provides structure, learning outcomes, progress tracking, and a shareable certificate of completion.

Course Facts

FORMAT	8 modules · 54 lessons
VIDEO INSTRUCTION	About 16 hr 46 min
LEVEL	All Levels
CATEGORY	Design
INSTRUCTOR	Wade McMaster - Creator Impact
CERTIFICATE	Included with course completion on MegaCourse
COURSE HOME	megacourse.app/courses/midjourney-mastery-for-designers

What You Will Learn

- Navigate the Midjourney web editor and control output with parameters.
- Build layered prompts with deliberate style control instead of lucky dips.
- Use the editor, retexture, and character reference for consistent results.
- Upscale and fix images to commercial quality.
- Produce real design assets: logos, thumbnails, and product visuals.
- Finish AI output professionally in Photoshop.

Who This Course Is For

This course is for designers, artists, and anyone interested in producing high-quality visual assets with artificial intelligence. It is suitable for all skill levels. No prior design or AI experience is required to succeed in this program.

Whether you are a complete beginner to AI art or have some experience with Midjourney and want to refine your skills, this course offers practical techniques and professional workflows. It focuses on creating real design assets for commercial use.

Before You Start

- A Midjourney subscription is required.
- No prior design or AI experience is necessary.

How to Use This Guide

This study guide complements the video lessons available on MegaCourse.app. We recommend watching each video lesson first. Then, use this guide to review key concepts, deepen your understanding, and complete any practice exercises.

The material is organized into 8 modules and 54 lessons. Pace yourself through the content according to your schedule. Consistent practice with Midjourney is vital for mastering the techniques taught. This guide provides a written reference to reinforce what you learn in the videos.

Utilize the review sections and glossary, if included in your printed guide, to reinforce your learning and quickly reference important terms or parameters. Apply the principles immediately by experimenting with your own prompts and designs.

CHAPTER 1

Midjourney for Beginners

Welcome to Chapter 1 of the official study guide for 'Midjourney Mastery for Designers'. This chapter introduces you to the fundamentals of Midjourney, a powerful AI tool for generating images from text prompts. You will learn how to navigate the web editor, craft effective prompts, and begin to control the style and output of your creations.

This chapter covers essential techniques for new users, from basic prompting to understanding how to organize and upscale your generated images. By the end of this chapter, you will have a solid foundation for creating unique and visually appealing AI art.

Getting Started with Midjourney and Basic Prompting

Covers: FULL 2026 Midjourney AI Tutorial (for Beginners) · 10 Simple & Effective AI Art & Midjourney Prompt Formulas · Midjourney Prompts, Formulas & Tips (for STUNNING AI Art)

Midjourney is an artificial intelligence program that creates images from text descriptions, often called prompts. To begin, you will access Midjourney through its dedicated web editor. This interface allows you to input prompts, view your generated images, and manage your account settings. When you first open the editor, you will see your image feed, a prompt input bar, and various options for sorting and filtering your creations.

Creating your first image is straightforward. Locate the prompt input field, typically labeled 'Imagine' or similar. Type your descriptive text into this field. For example, you might type: `a cozy cottage in a forest, autumn colors, highly detailed, photorealistic`.

Understanding Basic Prompt Structure

A Midjourney prompt generally follows a simple structure: `[image description] --[parameter]`.

- **Image Description:** This is the core of your prompt. Be specific. Describe the subject, setting, style, lighting, and any desired mood. Use commas to separate distinct ideas, but avoid overly long sentences. Short, clear phrases often work best.
- **Parameters:** These are special instructions that modify how Midjourney generates your image. Parameters begin with two hyphens (`--`). Common parameters include:
 - `--ar` (aspect ratio): Sets the width to height ratio of the image. For example, `--ar 16:9` for a widescreen image or `--ar 3:2` for a standard photo ratio.
 - `--v` (version): Specifies the Midjourney model version to use. As of this guide, `--v 8.1` is the current default and recommended version. You do not always need to include this if it is your default setting.
 - `--s` (stylize): Controls how artistic Midjourney is with its interpretation. Higher values (e.g., `--s 750`) result in more abstract or artistic images, while lower values (e.g., `--s 100`) stick closer to your prompt.

- `--chaos` (randomness): Influences the variety of the initial image grid. A higher value (e.g., `--chaos 50`) produces more diverse results, while a lower value (e.g., `--chaos 0`) keeps them more similar.

Effective Prompt Formulas and Tips

To achieve stunning results, consider these prompt formulas and tips:

1. **Subject + Details + Style + Lighting + Composition:** This comprehensive formula ensures you cover all key aspects. Example: `a majestic lion, golden mane, walking through tall savanna grass, realistic oil painting, warm sunset light, eye-level shot --ar 3:2 --s 500`.
2. **Use Adjectives and Verbs:** Be descriptive. Instead of 'tree', try 'ancient gnarled oak tree'. Instead of 'running', try 'sprinting with determination'.
3. **Reference Artists or Styles:** You can include artist names (e.g., `in the style of Van Gogh`) or art movements (e.g., `Art Deco poster`) to guide the aesthetic.
4. **Negative Prompting:** Use `--no` followed by terms you want to exclude. Example: `a beautiful garden --no flowers` (though this might remove some types of flowers, it is not always perfect).
5. **Experiment with Weighting:** You can assign importance to parts of your prompt using double colons `::`. For example, `red car::2 blue car::1` will give more emphasis to the red car.

Practice creating prompts by focusing on one element at a time. Start with a simple subject, then add details, then a style, and finally parameters. Observe how each addition changes the output. Common mistakes include overly complex sentences, too many conflicting ideas, or forgetting to use parameters correctly. Always double-check your parameter syntax.

Advanced Prompting Techniques and Style Control

Covers: 3 Tools for creating UNIQUE AI images in Midjourney! · How to MASTER Midjourney Styles! (inc. NEW Style Explorer in Midjourney!)

Moving beyond basic text prompts, Midjourney offers powerful tools to create truly unique images and maintain consistent styles across your projects. These advanced techniques provide greater control over your output.

Image Prompts

One powerful tool is the image prompt. You can provide Midjourney with an existing image as a visual reference, influencing the style, composition, or subject matter of your new generation. To use an image prompt, upload your desired image to a public URL (e.g., Imgur, Discord). Then, include its URL at the beginning of your text prompt. The format is: `[image URL] [text prompt] --parameters`.

Example: If you have an image of a specific character you want to use, you might prompt:

`https://yourimageurl.com/character.png a character standing in a futuristic city, cyberpunk style --ar 16:9`.

Multi-Prompts

Multi-prompts allow you to combine multiple distinct concepts within a single prompt, giving each concept a relative weight. This is achieved using double colons `::` to separate ideas and optionally adding

a numerical weight. The sum of the weights does not need to equal any specific number; it is the *ratio* that matters.

Example: `ocean::2 sunset::1` will create an image that emphasizes the ocean more than the sunset, but both elements will be present. If you omit a weight, it defaults to 1. Using multi-prompts helps in blending concepts more deliberately than simply listing them with commas.

Mastering Midjourney Styles with the Style Tuner

Midjourney's Style Tuner is a critical tool for achieving unique and consistent visual aesthetics. The Style Tuner allows you to generate a unique style code based on a prompt you provide. This code encapsulates a specific visual language, including color palettes, textures, and overall artistic direction.

To use the Style Tuner:

1. Type `/tune` in the prompt bar, followed by your descriptive prompt. For example: `/tune a mystical forest, ethereal light`.
2. Midjourney will generate a series of image pairs based on your prompt, each representing a distinct stylistic variation.
3. You select the image pairs that best represent your desired aesthetic. As you make selections, Midjourney learns your preferences.
4. After making your selections, Midjourney generates a unique style code. This code is a string of letters and numbers, such as `S-abcdef12345`.
5. You can then use this style code with the `--style` parameter in any future prompt to apply that exact aesthetic. Example: `a lone wolf howling at the moon, snowy field --ar 16:9 --style S-abcdef12345`.

This process is invaluable for maintaining brand consistency, developing a personal artistic signature, or creating a series of images with a unified look. The Style Tuner is a powerful way to move beyond generic outputs and create truly distinctive AI art.

Upscaling Images and Workflow Management

Covers: How to UPSCALE Midjourney Images (up to 20,000 X 20,000px!!) · Hide, Bulk Download & NEW ORGANIZER in Midjourney (Folder System!)

Once you have generated images you like, the next steps often involve enhancing their quality for various uses and organizing your growing collection. Midjourney provides robust tools for both upscaling and asset management directly within its web editor.

Upscaling Midjourney Images

Midjourney initially generates images in a grid of four. When you select one of these images to 'U' (upscale), it produces a larger, more detailed version of that single image. However, for commercial quality or large prints, you often need even higher resolutions. Midjourney offers several upscaling options:

1. **Basic Upscale:** After selecting an image from the grid, click one of the 'U' buttons (U1, U2, U3, U4) to upscale that specific image. This provides a higher resolution version than the initial grid image.
2. **Upscale (2x, 4x):** For significantly larger images, Midjourney's web editor provides dedicated Upscale buttons (e.g., 'Upscale (2x)', 'Upscale (4x)') located below an upscaled image. Clicking these will process your image to double or quadruple its current resolution, sometimes reaching sizes up to 20,000 x 20,000 pixels. These upscales often apply additional detail and refinement.
3. **Remaster:** This option, sometimes available, can re-render an upscaled image with a fresh interpretation, potentially adding new details or improving existing ones. It is a good option when you want to explore further variations of an already good image.

Always inspect your upscaled images for artifacts or unwanted details. Sometimes a re-run of the prompt with slight adjustments, or trying a different upscaling method, can yield better results. The goal is to produce a clean, high-resolution image suitable for your intended use.

Organizing Your Midjourney Creations

As you generate more images, keeping them organized becomes crucial. Midjourney's web editor includes features to manage your assets effectively:

1. **Folder System:** You can create custom folders to categorize your images. To do this, locate the 'Folders' or 'Organizer' section in your web editor. Click to create a new folder and give it a descriptive name (e.g., 'Logos', 'Character Concepts', 'Client Project X').
2. **Moving Images to Folders:** To move images, select one or more images from your feed. An option to 'Move to folder' or 'Add to folder' will appear. Choose the desired folder from the list. This allows you to group related images, making them easier to find later.
3. **Bulk Download:** When you need to download multiple images, Midjourney allows for bulk downloads. Select the images you wish to download (either individually or by selecting an entire folder). A 'Download' or 'Bulk Download' option will become available, typically bundling the selected images into a ZIP file. This saves time compared to downloading each image separately.
4. **Hiding Images:** If you have images you no longer want to see in your main feed but do not wish to delete, you can 'hide' them. This removes them from your primary view, keeping your workspace cleaner without permanently removing the asset. Hidden images can usually be accessed through a specific filter or section in your profile.

Effective organization saves time and helps manage your creative projects. Regularly sort your images into folders and utilize bulk download for efficient asset transfer.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Midjourney uses text prompts and parameters to generate images, accessible through its web editor.
- Effective prompts are specific, descriptive, and can include artistic styles or references.
- Parameters like `--ar`, `--s`, and `--chaos` provide control over image aspect ratio, stylization, and variety.
- Image prompts allow you to influence new generations using existing images as visual references.
- The Style Tuner generates unique style codes for consistent aesthetic application across multiple images.
- Midjourney offers various upscaling options to increase image resolution for commercial or print use.
- Organize your generated images using folders, hide unwanted results, and use bulk download for efficient asset management.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. What is the primary function of a Midjourney prompt, and what role do parameters play in it?
2. Describe how you would use an image prompt. Why might this be useful?
3. Explain the purpose of the Style Tuner and how its output is used.
4. What are the benefits of organizing your Midjourney images into folders?
5. When would you use Midjourney's advanced upscaling options (2x, 4x) instead of just the basic upscale from the grid?

CHAPTER 2

Midjourney for Beginners

Chapter 2 builds upon your foundational knowledge of Midjourney, introducing you to advanced techniques and the powerful capabilities of the Midjourney Web Editor. This chapter focuses on practical methods for controlling image style, composition, and layout, moving beyond basic prompting to achieve more deliberate and consistent results.

You will learn to navigate the Midjourney web interface, utilize user profiles, and master the `--sref` parameter for style consistency. We will explore the editor's tools for refining, expanding, and recomposing images, along with specific prompting strategies for controlling camera angles and spatial relationships. By the end of this chapter, you will be equipped to guide Midjourney with greater precision and artistic intent.

Navigating Midjourney: Discord, Web Editor, and User Profiles

Covers: Midjourney USER PROFILES Are Here and They're Awesome! (video, 10 min) · Midjourney AI Tutorial: How to use Midjourney on DISCORD! (video, 22 min)

Midjourney offers two primary interfaces for interaction: the Discord bot and the Midjourney Web Editor. While Discord remains a core method for initial image generation, the Web Editor provides a more visual and structured environment for managing and refining your creations. Understanding both is essential for a complete workflow.

Using Midjourney on Discord

Discord is where many users begin their Midjourney experience. To generate an image, you use the `/imagine` command in a designated bot channel or a direct message with the Midjourney bot. After typing `/imagine` and pressing space, a `prompt:` field appears. Here, you enter your textual description of the desired image. For example, `/imagine prompt: a futuristic city at sunset, neon lights, flying cars --ar 16:9`. After submitting, Midjourney generates a grid of four images. Below this grid, you will see buttons labeled `U1`, `U2`, `U3`, `U4` for upscaling specific images, and `V1`, `V2`, `V3`, `V4` for generating variations of a specific image. A circular arrow button allows you to re-roll the entire prompt.

Other useful Discord commands include `/settings` to adjust generation parameters, `/info` to view your subscription details and usage, and `/prefer suffix` to automatically add parameters to all your prompts. While Discord is fast for generating, its interface for organizing past work is limited. This is where the Web Editor and User Profiles become critical.

Exploring Your Midjourney User Profile

Your Midjourney User Profile is a personalized web page accessible via the Midjourney website (midjourney.com/app). This profile acts as a central hub for all your generated images. It provides a visual gallery of your creations, allowing you to browse, search, and organize your work much more effectively than on Discord. You can filter images by date, aspect ratio, or specific parameters. Each image in your

profile can be clicked to reveal its original prompt, seed, and other generation details. This is invaluable for understanding how specific prompts produced certain results and for iterating on successful designs.

Beyond image management, your User Profile also displays your account information, subscription status, and job queue. It offers insights into your generation history, including the number of images generated and your remaining fast hours. Regularly reviewing your profile helps you track your progress, identify patterns in your successful prompts, and manage your Midjourney resources efficiently. The profile also serves as a public portfolio if you choose to share it, showcasing your artistic path and capabilities.

Mastering the Midjourney Web Editor and Style References

Covers: MASTER Midjourney V8.1 SREF STYLES (Full Midjourney tutorial) (video, 22 min) · Midjourney's NEW POWERFUL AI Image editor (available to everyone!) (video, 19 min) · 33 Ways to use The NEW Midjourney Editor for NEXT LEVEL Results! (video, 13 min) · 12 MUST KNOW Tips for the Midjourney Editor! (video, 17 min)

The Midjourney Web Editor is a sophisticated tool that significantly extends your control over image generation and refinement. It moves beyond the basic Discord commands, offering a visual interface to manipulate and iterate on your images with precision. A key feature within this editor, and a powerful parameter, is the Style Reference.

Utilizing Style Reference (SREF)

Style Reference (`--sref`) is a parameter that allows you to guide the aesthetic style of new images based on an existing image. Instead of just describing a style with words, you provide an image URL, and Midjourney attempts to mimic its visual characteristics, such as color palette, texture, lighting, and overall artistic feel. This is incredibly useful for maintaining consistency across a series of images or for applying a specific artistic influence. To use `--sref`, you append `--sref <image URL>` to your prompt. For example, `/imagine prompt: a serene forest scene --sref https://www.midjourney.com/image-url.jpg`. You can also apply SREF directly within the Web Editor by selecting an image and using its style as a reference for new variations or remixed prompts.

When using SREF, consider these tips: use reference images with clear, dominant styles; experiment with multiple `--sref` values in one prompt for blended styles; and remember that SREF influences aesthetics, not content. Combine it with strong textual prompts to control both style and subject matter.

The Power of the Midjourney Web Editor

Once an image is generated, either on Discord or directly in the Web Editor, a suite of tools becomes available for refinement. The editor's primary functions include:

- **Vary (Region):** This tool allows you to select a specific area of an image and regenerate only that portion. This is invaluable for fixing small imperfections, changing an object's appearance, or inpainting new elements without altering the rest of the image. You highlight the area, enter a new prompt for that region, and generate variations.
- **Pan:** The Pan tool extends your image in one of four cardinal directions (up, down, left, right). Midjourney intelligently generates new content that smoothly blends with the existing image, effectively expanding your canvas. This is perfect for creating wider landscapes or taller portraits.

- **Custom Zoom:** Similar to panning, Custom Zoom allows you to zoom out from your image, expanding the canvas in all directions. Crucially, you can add a new prompt while zooming out, guiding the AI on what new elements to generate in the expanded areas. For instance, zooming out from a portrait might include a prompt like `a grand ballroom` to place the subject within a larger scene.
- **Reprompting and Remix:** Within the editor, you can easily modify the original prompt and generate new variations (reprompting) or use Remix mode to combine elements of the original image with entirely new prompt ideas. This iterative process is key to fine-tuning your results.

Mastering these editor tools allows for a level of control and artistic iteration that is difficult to achieve with basic prompting alone. They transform Midjourney from a simple image generator into a powerful collaborative design assistant.

Advanced Composition and Layout Control

Covers: Master LAYOUT, DISTANCE & multiple CAMERA ANGLES in Midjourney & your AI Art! (video, 19 min) · NEXT LEVEL Composition & Layout Control Hack for Midjourney! (using Midjourney V7 Editor/Retexture) (video, 15 min)

Achieving a desired composition in Midjourney involves more than just describing the subject. It requires deliberate prompting to control the arrangement of elements, the perceived distance from the viewer, and the camera's perspective. Combining precise language with the Web Editor's tools allows for sophisticated compositional control.

Controlling Layout and Spatial Relationships

Layout refers to the arrangement of elements within your image. You can influence this through descriptive phrasing in your prompt. Instead of simply `a house by a lake`, try `a small cottage nestled on the shore of a calm lake, with a winding path leading to the front door`. This provides more spatial information. Use terms like `foreground`, `background`, `center`, `left`, `right`, `above`, `below`, `behind`, and `in front of` to specify object placement. For example: `a lone tree in the foreground, a mountain range in the midground, and a vast sky in the background`. Another crucial parameter for layout is **Aspect Ratio** (`--ar`), which defines the width-to-height proportion of your image (e.g., `--ar 16:9` for a widescreen look, `--ar 9:16` for a portrait). Choosing the right aspect ratio is the first step in defining your canvas layout.

Mastering Distance and Camera Angles

Controlling the perceived distance from the subject and the camera's angle significantly impacts the mood and focus of your image. Here are common terms and their effects:

- **Distance:** Use terms like `close-up`, `extreme close-up`, `medium shot`, `full shot`, `long shot`, `wide shot`, `establishing shot`. For example, `a close-up of an old man's weathered face` versus `a long shot of an old man walking through a bustling market`.
- **Camera Angles:** Specify the viewpoint. Common angles include `eye-level shot`, `low-angle shot` (looking up at the subject), `high-angle shot` (looking down), `overhead shot` or `bird's-eye view` (from directly above), `worm's-eye view` (from the ground looking up), and `dutch angle` or `canted`.

angle (a tilted horizon line). For example, a low-angle shot of a skyscraper reaching into the clouds.

The Composition and Layout Control Hack (Editor-based Refinement)

While prompt phrasing is powerful, the Midjourney Web Editor offers direct compositional control post-generation. The Vary (Region) tool, as discussed, can be used to reposition or resize elements within a specific area. More significantly, the Pan and Custom Zoom features are excellent for refining layout and framing. If your initial image is too tight, use Custom Zoom to pull back, adding a prompt to fill the new space and establish a wider scene. If an element is off-center, use Pan to extend the canvas in one direction, then potentially crop the other side to re-center your subject. These tools allow you to iteratively adjust the framing, expand the scene, or shift the focus, achieving a 'next level' of control over your final composition that goes beyond what a single initial prompt can provide.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Midjourney offers two main interfaces: the Discord bot for quick generation and the Web Editor for advanced management and refinement.
- Your Midjourney User Profile provides a centralized gallery and management system for all your generated images and account information.
- The Style Reference (`--sref`) parameter allows you to guide the aesthetic style of new images based on an existing image URL, ensuring visual consistency.
- The Midjourney Web Editor provides powerful tools like Vary (Region), Pan, and Custom Zoom for precise post-generation image manipulation and expansion.
- You can control image composition, layout, distance, and camera angles through specific descriptive terms in your prompts.
- Combining prompt phrasing with editor tools like Pan and Custom Zoom enables advanced compositional adjustments and scene expansion.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. What are the two primary interfaces for interacting with Midjourney, and what is a key benefit of each?
2. Explain the purpose of the `--sref` parameter and how it is typically used.
3. Describe three distinct ways the Midjourney Web Editor can be used to refine or expand an image after its initial generation.
4. How can you control the camera angle or shot distance of your image using prompt phrasing? Provide two examples.
5. What is the main utility of your Midjourney User Profile?

CHAPTER 3

Midjourney Prompting and Control

This chapter builds upon your foundational Midjourney skills, moving beyond basic prompts to introduce sophisticated control techniques. You will learn to engineer prompts for precise outcomes, ensure character consistency across multiple images, and generate dynamic video content. The chapter also covers the strategic use of moodboards to refine your artistic vision.

Mastering these techniques will allow you to transition from generating random images to producing intentional, high-quality visual assets. This includes understanding the latest Midjourney features that enhance creative control and workflow efficiency.

Prompt Engineering for Consistency and Better AI Art

Covers: Prompt Engineering Tips for Midjourney & BETTER AI Art! · Tips to MASTER Midjourney Consistent Character Creation

Effective prompt engineering is the cornerstone of generating predictable and high-quality AI art in Midjourney. It moves you from generic outputs to specific, desired results. A structured approach to prompting helps clarify your intent for the AI. Think of your prompt as a layered instruction set, not just a single phrase. A good prompt typically includes a clear subject, a descriptive style, desired composition, and specific parameters.

For example, instead of `a cat`, try `a fluffy orange cat, sitting on a vintage armchair, cozy lighting, photorealistic, --ar 16:9`. This provides much more detail. You can emphasize certain prompt elements using prompt weighting. Placing `::` followed by a number after a word or phrase assigns it a relative importance. For instance, `fluffy cat::2 vintage armchair::1` tells Midjourney to prioritize the cat more than the armchair. The default weight is 1. Using `::0.5` reduces importance.

Negative prompting is another powerful tool. Use `--no` followed by keywords to exclude unwanted elements. For example, `a serene forest, autumn leaves --no people, cars` will help ensure your forest scene is devoid of human presence or vehicles. Common mistakes include overly long, unstructured prompts or prompts that contradict themselves. Keep it concise, but descriptive.

Consistent Character Creation

One of the most requested features for AI art generation is character consistency across multiple images. Midjourney addresses this with the `--cref` (character reference) parameter. This parameter allows you to provide an image URL of a character, and Midjourney will attempt to replicate its appearance in new generations.

To use `--cref`, you need a clear reference image of your character. The clearer and more distinct the character in the reference image, the better the results. Ideally, use a full-body shot with good lighting. The syntax is simple: `your prompt here --cref [URL of reference image]`. For example:

```
a young wizard casting a spell, in a mystical forest --cref  
https://s.mj.com/your_character_image.png
```

You can also adjust the character reference strength using `--cw` (character weight) followed by a number from 0 to 100. A `--cw 100` will prioritize the character's face, hair, and clothing, while `--cw 0` will only apply the face. The default is `--cw 100`. Experiment with this value to find the right balance for your needs. For instance, `--cw 50` might be useful if you want to maintain the character's overall look but allow for more variations in clothing or pose. Remember that `--cref` works best for human and humanoid characters. It may not be as effective for highly stylized or non-human characters. Always use your own generated character image as the reference, not someone else's, to avoid ethical issues and ensure better consistency.

Practice creating a character, then generating several images of that character in different poses or settings using `--cref` and varying `--cw` values. Observe how the character's features are maintained or altered.

Generating Dynamic Videos and Mastering Camera Control

Covers: Easy techniques to LEVEL UP your Midjourney Videos! · Get better CAMERA CONTROL for Midjourney AI Video!

Midjourney is primarily known for its static image generation, but it also offers capabilities for creating short video clips from your generated images. These videos can add a dynamic element to your AI art, bringing scenes to life with subtle motion and transitions. The `--video` parameter is your gateway to this feature. When you append `--video` to your prompt, Midjourney will generate a short, looping video of the image generation process, showcasing the evolution of the image from noise to its final form. This is not a narrative video, but rather a visual representation of the AI's creative path.

To generate a video, simply add `--video` to the end of your prompt:

```
a futuristic cityscape at sunset, neon lights, flying cars --ar 16:9 --video
```

After the image grid is generated, you will find a small video icon or a link to download the video. The quality and length of these videos are limited, typically showing a smooth interpolation between the initial noise and the final image. While you cannot directly control the 'story' within the video using prompts, you can influence the visual elements that will move or animate by crafting prompts that suggest motion or dynamic scenes. For example, `a flowing river, mist rising, sun beams through trees` will naturally lend itself to more visual interest in the video than a static object.

Getting Better Camera Control

Controlling the 'camera' in Midjourney allows you to dictate the perspective and framing of your generated images, much like a photographer or filmmaker. This is achieved through descriptive keywords in your prompt. By specifying camera angles and shot types, you can create more compelling and intentional compositions.

Consider these common camera control terms:

- **Wide Shot:** Shows the subject and its surroundings, establishing the scene. Example: a lone traveler in a vast desert, wide shot
- **Close-up:** Focuses on a specific detail or the character's face, conveying emotion. Example: a detective's intense gaze, close-up, film noir style
- **Medium Shot:** Frames the subject from the waist up, common for dialogue. Example: two friends laughing at a cafe, medium shot
- **Overhead View (Bird's Eye View):** Looks down on the scene from above, often used for mapping or showing scale. Example: a bustling market square, overhead view
- **Low Angle Shot:** Looks up at the subject, making it appear powerful or imposing. Example: a towering skyscraper, low angle shot, dramatic lighting
- **Dutch Angle (Canted Angle):** Tilts the camera, creating a sense of unease or disorientation. Example: a mysterious alleyway, dutch angle, foggy atmosphere

You can also imply camera movement, although Midjourney will interpret this as a static frame that *suggests* movement. For example, a tracking shot of a car speeding down a highway will likely result in a static image that implies the car is in motion, perhaps with motion blur. Combining these terms with other descriptive elements can yield sophisticated results. Experiment by generating the same subject with different camera angles to see the impact on the composition and mood. For instance, try a knight standing on a hill with wide shot, low angle, and close-up variations.

Mastering Midjourney Moodboards for Visual Cohesion

Covers: 15 FREE Midjourney Moodboards (and tips!) · How to create BETTER Midjourney Moodboards (and tips for using them!) · EPIC 100+ Midjourney MOODBOARD pack will change your AI Art forever!

Moodboards are invaluable tools for visual artists, and their utility extends smoothly to AI art generation with Midjourney. A moodboard is a curated collection of images, textures, colors, and typography that collectively define the aesthetic direction for a project. For Midjourney, a moodboard serves as a visual brief, helping you articulate complex styles and atmospheres that might be difficult to convey through words alone.

Why Use Moodboards?

Moodboards provide several key benefits:

1. **Clarity of Vision:** They help solidify your artistic intent before you even type a prompt. You can see how different elements work together.
2. **Consistency:** They ensure a cohesive style across multiple generations or a series of images.
3. **Inspiration:** They expose you to new visual ideas and combinations you might not have considered.
4. **Communication:** If you are working for a client, a moodboard is an excellent way to align on the visual direction.

Creating Effective Midjourney Moodboards

To create a moodboard, gather images that embody the style, color palette, lighting, textures, and overall mood you aim for. You can collect images from various sources: photography websites, art galleries, design blogs, or even your own previous Midjourney generations. Focus on identifying common themes and visual characteristics within your chosen images. Ask yourself: What colors dominate? What kind of lighting is present (e.g., soft, harsh, dramatic)? What textures are prominent (e.g., metallic, organic, rough)? What is the overall feeling or emotion?

Once you have your collection, you can arrange them digitally using software like Pinterest, Milanote, or even a simple image editor. The goal is to see the images side-by-side to understand their collective impact. From this visual analysis, you can extract key descriptors for your Midjourney prompts. For example, if your moodboard features many images with warm, golden light and soft focus, your prompt might include `golden hour lighting, soft bokeh, warm tones`.

Using Moodboards in Midjourney Prompts

Beyond inspiring keywords, you can directly integrate elements from your moodboard into Midjourney prompts using image URLs. If a specific image on your moodboard perfectly captures a style or texture you want to replicate, you can use its URL as an image prompt at the beginning of your text prompt. For example:

```
[URL of moodboard image], a futuristic car, sleek design, city background
```

Midjourney will use the visual information from the URL image as a reference for style, composition, or even color, blending it with your text prompt. This is particularly effective for achieving specific artistic styles or color palettes. You can also use multiple image URLs to blend different stylistic influences from your moodboard.

using Pre-made Moodboard Packs

Many resources offer free or paid moodboard packs, providing a curated collection of visual references. These packs can be excellent starting points, especially if you are new to moodboard creation or need quick inspiration. They often come categorized by style (e.g., cyberpunk, vintage, fantasy), making it easy to find a relevant aesthetic. When using pre-made packs, remember to analyze *why* certain images are grouped together and *how* they contribute to the overall style. This analytical approach will help you translate the moodboard's essence into effective Midjourney prompts, rather than just copying elements blindly. Practice by selecting a pre-made moodboard and trying to recreate its core aesthetic using Midjourney prompts and image references.

Latest Midjourney Updates: Omni Reference and Beyond

Covers: LATEST Midjourney v7 Updates - Omni Reference, --exp & more!

Midjourney is an evolving platform, with frequent updates introducing new features and refining existing ones. Staying current with these changes is crucial for maximizing your creative potential. Recent updates

have significantly enhanced control over character and style consistency, often referred to as 'Omni Reference' capabilities.

Omni Reference: Character and Style Consistency

Omni Reference refers to the ability to use reference images to guide both the character's appearance and the overall style of your generations. We previously discussed `--cref` (character reference) for maintaining character consistency. Complementing this is `--sref` (style reference), which allows you to apply the aesthetic style of a reference image to your new generations.

To use `--sref`, you provide an image URL that embodies the style you desire. Midjourney will then attempt to replicate that style, including color palette, lighting, textures, and artistic techniques, in your new output. The syntax is similar to `--cref`:

```
a serene field, ancient ruins, misty atmosphere --sref  
https://s.mj.com/your_style_reference_image.png
```

You can use `--cref` and `--sref` together in a single prompt to maintain a consistent character *and* apply a specific style simultaneously. This combination is incredibly powerful for creating cohesive series of images or developing a distinct visual brand.

```
a young wizard casting a spell, in a mystical forest --cref https://s.mj.com/char.png --  
sref https://s.mj.com/style.png
```

Just like `--cref`, `--sref` also has a weight parameter, `--sw` (style weight), which controls how strongly the style reference is applied. A higher `--sw` value (e.g., `--sw 1000`) will make Midjourney adhere very closely to the reference style, while a lower value (e.g., `--sw 100`) allows for more creative interpretation. The default `--sw` value is typically 100. Experiment with different `--sw` values to understand its impact.

The `--exp` Parameter

The `--exp` parameter is often used to test experimental features or new models that Midjourney is developing. When you include `--exp` in your prompt, you are opting into these experimental functionalities. The specific effects of `--exp` can vary greatly as it is designed for testing. It might introduce new rendering techniques, different aesthetic biases, or access to unreleased model versions. Because it is experimental, results can be unpredictable, and features associated with `--exp` may change or be removed without notice. It is a tool for advanced users who wish to explore the bleeding edge of Midjourney's capabilities. Always check official Midjourney announcements for the latest information on what `--exp` currently enables.

Staying informed about Midjourney updates through official channels (like their Discord announcements or website) is essential. New parameters, model versions, and features are regularly introduced, offering new ways to control and enhance your AI art.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Structured prompt engineering, including prompt weighting and negative prompts, is vital for generating specific and high-quality AI art.
- The `--cref` parameter allows you to maintain consistent character appearances across multiple Midjourney generations by referencing an image URL.
- Midjourney can generate short videos of the image creation process using the `--video` parameter, adding a dynamic element to your outputs.
- Precise camera control is achieved by using descriptive keywords in your prompts, such as 'wide shot', 'close-up', and 'low angle'.
- Moodboards are essential visual tools for defining, curating, and communicating the aesthetic direction of your AI art projects.
- You can integrate moodboard elements directly into your prompts using image URLs for both style (`--sref`) and character (`--cref`) references.
- The `--exp` parameter allows users to test experimental Midjourney features, offering a glimpse into future capabilities.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. How can you ensure a specific element in your Midjourney prompt receives more emphasis than others?
2. Explain the primary purpose of the `--cref` parameter and how to use it.
3. What is the function of a moodboard in the context of Midjourney, and how does it aid in prompt creation?
4. How can you influence the 'camera' perspective of your Midjourney generations?
5. What is the difference between `--cref` and `--sref`, and how can they be used together?

CHAPTER 4

Midjourney for Beginners

This chapter builds on your foundational Midjourney knowledge by introducing specialized techniques and essential external tools. You will learn to generate distinct anime and manga art using Midjourney's Niji mode, a powerful model designed for illustrative styles. We then shift focus to post-processing, specifically how to professionally upscale your AI-generated images for commercial quality using Topaz Gigapixel AI. Finally, you will discover and effectively utilize various prompt resources to expand your creative vocabulary and refine your prompt-crafting skills, moving beyond basic commands to deliberate artistic control.

Mastering Niji Mode for Anime and Manga Art

Covers: Top Niji TIPS for better Anime AI Art in Midjourney / Nijijourney

Midjourney's Niji mode is a specialized model specifically trained to generate anime, illustration, and manga styles. Unlike the standard Midjourney model, Niji excels at producing images with softer aesthetics, vibrant colors, dynamic character poses, and distinct illustrative qualities. It is an invaluable tool for designers and artists focused on these genres.

To activate Niji mode, simply add the `--niji` parameter to your prompt. For example, `/imagine a young witch, long flowing black hair, purple eyes, holding a glowing staff, magical forest background, anime style, --niji 6 --ar 9:16`. Midjourney offers different Niji versions, such as `--niji 5` and `--niji 6`. Each version has unique characteristics. Niji 5 often produces a more classic, slightly softer anime look, while Niji 6 offers increased detail and better prompt adherence, often with a more modern feel. Experimentation is key to understanding which version best suits your specific artistic vision.

Crafting effective prompts for Niji mode requires a slightly different approach than the standard model. Focus on descriptive terms relevant to anime and manga. Instead of just 'girl', consider 'shonen manga character', 'gothic lolita fashion', 'chibi style', or 'cel-shaded illustration'. Detail eyes, hair, and clothing precisely. Niji mode often handles character consistency better than the standard model, making it suitable for exploring character design variations.

Niji also includes specific style parameters that further refine its output: `--style cute`, `--style scenic`, and `--style expressive`. The `--style cute` parameter enhances adorable, charming aesthetics. `--style scenic` is ideal for lush, detailed backgrounds and landscapes, often with a sense of depth and atmosphere. `--style expressive` pushes for more dynamic compositions and emotional intensity. Combine these with your prompts to fine-tune the artistic direction. For instance, `/imagine a playful cat spirit, surrounded by glowing fireflies, studio Ghibli aesthetic, --niji 5 --style cute` will yield a very different result from `/imagine a futuristic city skyline at sunset, cyberpunk anime, --niji 6 --style scenic`.

Aspect ratios are also important. Niji mode often shines with portrait orientations like `--ar 2:3` or `--ar 9:16` for character-focused art, or wider ratios like `--ar 16:9` for expansive scenic views. Avoid overly complex or contradictory prompts. Niji responds best to clear, concise descriptions that align with its inherent illustrative style. Trying to force extreme realism into Niji mode will often lead to less satisfactory results. Practice by taking existing anime or manga concepts you admire and trying to recreate them with Niji, then add your own unique twists.

Professional Upscaling with Topaz Gigapixel AI

Covers: Topaz Gigapixel AI CHANGES The Game! (Gigapixel 8 Update)

While Midjourney can generate impressive images, the raw output resolution may not always be sufficient for professional applications like print, large-format displays, or commercial design assets. This is where dedicated upscaling software becomes essential. Topaz Gigapixel AI is a leading tool that uses advanced artificial intelligence to enlarge images significantly while intelligently adding detail, reducing artifacts, and preserving crucial image quality.

Unlike simple image resizing, which often results in blurry, pixelated, or artifact-ridden images, Gigapixel AI analyzes the image content. It then uses its AI models to 'invent' missing pixels and details, making the enlarged image appear sharper and more natural. This is particularly valuable for AI-generated art, which can sometimes have subtle imperfections at lower resolutions.

Key features of Gigapixel AI include multiple AI models optimized for different image types. For Midjourney art, you will frequently use the 'Art & CG' model, which is designed for computer-generated graphics and illustrations. The 'Standard' model is a good general-purpose option. For images containing faces, the 'Face Recovery' model is crucial. It can miraculously restore detail to blurred or low-resolution faces, making characters look much more defined. Other models like 'Lines' and 'Low Resolution' serve specific niche purposes.

Here is a step-by-step procedure for using Topaz Gigapixel AI:

1. **Export from Midjourney:** First, ensure you have upscaled your chosen image within Midjourney itself (using the U1, U2, U3, or U4 buttons) and then saved the full-resolution image to your device.
2. **Open Gigapixel AI:** Launch the Topaz Gigapixel AI application.
3. **Load Image(s):** Drag and drop your Midjourney image(s) into the Gigapixel AI window, or use the 'Open Images' button.
4. **Select AI Model:** On the right-hand panel, choose the appropriate AI model. For most Midjourney art, start with 'Art & CG'. If faces are a prominent feature, enable 'Face Recovery'.
5. **Adjust Scale:** Select your desired upscale factor, typically 2x, 4x, or 6x. You can also input a custom scale or target dimensions.
6. **Refine Settings:** Experiment with 'Suppress Noise' and 'Remove Blur' sliders. For AI art, a moderate amount of noise suppression and blur removal can enhance clarity without over-processing. 'Fix Compression' can help if your source image has compression artifacts.

7. **Preview Results:** Use the split-screen or side-by-side preview modes to compare the original with the upscaled version. Zoom in to inspect details, especially around edges and textures.
8. **Process and Save:** Once satisfied, click the 'Start Processing' button. Choose your output format (e.g., JPG, PNG, TIFF) and destination folder. Gigapixel AI will then render your high-resolution image.

Best practices include always starting with the highest quality Midjourney output available. Do not over-upscale unnecessarily; choose a resolution appropriate for your final use case. Always review the upscaled image for any AI artifacts or undesirable changes, and adjust settings as needed.

Discovering and Utilizing Midjourney Prompt Resources

Covers: Top Midjourney PROMPTS RESOURCES to level up your AI Art!

To truly master Midjourney, you must continuously learn and expand your prompting vocabulary and techniques. Prompt resources are invaluable for this, offering inspiration, practical examples, and insights into what is possible. They help you move beyond basic commands to crafting sophisticated prompts that yield specific, high-quality results.

Various types of resources are available, many of them free. The official Midjourney documentation, accessed via `/help` or `/settings` in Discord, is always the first place to look for up-to-date parameter information and basic commands. The official Midjourney Discord server itself is a rich resource, with community showcase channels and dedicated help sections where you can see what others are creating and ask questions. The Midjourney website gallery also displays top images and their associated prompts, offering direct insight into successful prompt structures.

Beyond official channels, numerous community-driven platforms exist. Websites like PromptBase (for purchasing and selling prompts), PromptHero, and NoonShot AI offer extensive databases of prompts, often categorized by style, subject, or technique. These can be excellent starting points for understanding how complex ideas are translated into text commands. Many of these sites also feature prompt builders or helpers that guide you through selecting parameters and descriptive terms. Social media platforms such as Reddit (especially `r/midjourney`), Pinterest, Instagram, and ArtStation are also visual goldmines. Search for 'AI art' or 'Midjourney prompts' to discover stunning images and often, the prompts used to create them.

To effectively use these resources, avoid simply copying and pasting prompts without understanding them. Instead, adopt a strategy of analysis and adaptation:

- **Analyze Structure:** When you find a prompt that produced an image you admire, break it down. Identify the subject, style modifiers, lighting descriptions, camera angles, and specific Midjourney parameters (e.g., `--ar`, `--v`, `--sref`, `--cref`, `--stylize`). Understand *why* each component was included.
- **Learn New Vocabulary:** Pay attention to descriptive words you have not used before. This could be specific art movements (e.g., 'Art Deco', 'Baroque'), lighting conditions ('volumetric lighting', 'cinematic lighting'), or artistic techniques ('cross-hatching', 'impasto'). Incorporate these into your own prompt lexicon.

- **Experiment and Adapt:** Take elements from successful prompts and combine them with your own ideas. Change a single word, alter a parameter value, or swap out a style modifier. Observe how these changes impact the output. For example, if you see a prompt for 'cyberpunk city at night', try changing 'cyberpunk' to 'steampunk' or 'bioluminescent'.
- **Stay Updated:** Midjourney is constantly evolving with new models and features. Follow reliable blogs, YouTube channels, and community forums that provide updates and tutorials on the latest developments. This ensures your prompting techniques remain current and effective.

By actively engaging with prompt resources, you will not only find inspiration but also develop a deeper understanding of prompt engineering, allowing you to consistently generate high-quality, deliberate AI art.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Niji mode is a specialized Midjourney model optimized for anime, illustration, and manga styles, activated with the `--niji` parameter.
- Effective Niji prompts use specific anime terminology and use Niji's unique style parameters like `--style cute`, `--style scenic`, or `--style expressive`.
- Topaz Gigapixel AI is a professional third-party tool for upscaling Midjourney images, intelligently adding detail and reducing artifacts for commercial quality.
- Using Gigapixel AI involves selecting appropriate AI models (e.g., Art & CG, Face Recovery) and refining settings like noise reduction and blur removal.
- Prompt resources provide inspiration, teach new techniques, and help users understand Midjourney parameters through examples and community showcases.
- To improve your skills, analyze and adapt prompts from resources rather than simply copying them, focusing on understanding the underlying prompt structure.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. What is the primary purpose of Midjourney's Niji mode, and how do you activate it?
2. Name two specific parameters or style terms that are particularly useful when crafting prompts for Niji mode.
3. Why is a tool like Topaz Gigapixel AI recommended for upscaling Midjourney images, rather than standard image resizing?
4. Describe the basic steps for using Topaz Gigapixel AI to upscale a Midjourney image.
5. What are two types of Midjourney prompt resources, and how can they help improve your AI art?
6. When using prompt resources, what is a key strategy for learning and developing your own prompting skills, beyond simply copying?

CHAPTER 5

In-Depth Workflows

Chapter 5 introduces advanced techniques for refining your Midjourney outputs, moving beyond basic prompting to achieve more precise and professional results. You will learn to maintain visual consistency across multiple images, control camera perspectives for dynamic scenes, and explore Midjourney's capabilities for generating video content. This chapter also covers the strategic use of moodboards to guide your creative process and the essential skill of upscaling images to high resolutions suitable for commercial use. Mastering these workflows will significantly enhance the quality and utility of your AI-generated designs.

Midjourney Fundamentals and Advanced Basics

Covers: FULL 2026 Midjourney AI Tutorial (for Beginners)

Starting with Midjourney requires understanding its core interaction methods and prompt structure. While you can use the Midjourney Bot in Discord, the web editor offers a streamlined interface for prompt building, image management, and parameter control. For beginners, the web editor provides a visual way to construct prompts without memorizing every command.

To generate an image, you typically use the `/imagine` command followed by your prompt. A basic prompt describes your subject, style, and any specific details. For example: `/imagine prompt: a futuristic city skyline at sunset, cyberpunk style, neon lights, highly detailed.`

Key parameters are crucial for controlling your output. The `--ar` parameter sets the aspect ratio, such as `--ar 16:9` for widescreen or `--ar 2:3` for a portrait. The `--v` parameter specifies the Midjourney model version, with `--v 6.0` being the current standard, offering improved prompt understanding and image quality. The `--s` (stylize) parameter controls how artistic or literal Midjourney is with your prompt. Lower values (e.g., `--s 0`) produce more literal interpretations, while higher values (e.g., `--s 750`) result in more artistic, abstract outputs. The `--seed` parameter is vital for reproducibility; it uses a specific random seed number to generate an initial image grid, allowing you to re-run the same prompt with the same seed to get similar results.

After an initial generation, Midjourney presents a grid of four images. You can then use the U buttons (U1, U2, U3, U4) to upscale a chosen image, or the V buttons (V1, V2, V3, V4) to generate variations of a specific image. Remix mode, activated by typing `/settings` and selecting "Remix Mode", allows you to modify your prompt when creating variations, offering precise iterative control. This iterative refinement process is central to achieving desired results.

Common beginner mistakes include overly vague prompts, prompts with too many conflicting ideas, or neglecting to use parameters to guide the AI. Start simple, then gradually add detail and parameters. Always review your generated images and consider what worked and what did not to inform your next prompt.

Practice Cue

Generate an image of a "vintage car on a desert road". Experiment with different aspect ratios (e.g., `--ar 3:2`, `--ar 16:9`) and stylize values (e.g., `--s 100`, `--s 500`). Observe how these parameters change the composition and artistic interpretation of the scene.

Consistent Character and Scene Control

Covers: Tips to MASTER Midjourney Consistent Character Creation · Master LAYOUT, DISTANCE & multiple CAMERA ANGLES in Midjourney & your AI Art!

Achieving consistency for characters and precise control over scene composition are advanced skills that significantly improve your Midjourney art. For consistent character creation, the `--cref` (character reference) and `--cw` (character weight) parameters are indispensable. To use `--cref`, you first need an image of your character. Upload this image to Discord or the Midjourney web editor, then copy its image URL. In your prompt, append `--cref [image URL]`. For example: `/imagine prompt: a wizard casting a spell --cref https://example.com/wizard.png`.

The `--cw` parameter works with `--cref` to control the influence of the reference image. A `--cw 0` value will primarily reference the character's face, while `--cw 100` (the default) attempts to maintain the character's entire body, clothing, and overall style. Experiment with values between 0 and 100 to find the right balance for your needs. For best results, start with a clear, well-defined initial character image, and maintain a consistent prompt structure when generating variations.

Controlling scene layout, distance, and camera angles allows you to direct the narrative and visual impact of your images. You can specify *layout* using terms like "rule of thirds composition", "centered composition", "symmetrical layout", or "dynamic diagonal composition". For *distance*, use photography terms: "close-up shot" (focus on face/detail), "medium shot" (waist up), "full shot" (entire body), "wide shot" (subject and surroundings), "long shot", or "extreme long shot".

Camera angles are equally powerful. Describe them directly: "low angle shot" (looking up at the subject, making them appear powerful), "high angle shot" (looking down, making subject appear vulnerable), "eye-level shot" (neutral perspective), "overhead shot" (directly from above), "bird's eye view" (even higher, like from a drone), or "worm's eye view" (from ground level). Combining these with lighting and mood descriptions creates highly specific scenes.

For example, to create a dramatic scene, you might prompt: `a lone detective in a trench coat, walking through a rain-slicked alley, low angle shot, dramatic chiaroscuro lighting, film noir style --cref [detective_url] --cw 80`. This combines character consistency with specific camera and lighting instructions.

Practice Cue

Generate an image of a superhero character. Then, using the `--cref` parameter with that image, generate two new images: one showing the superhero from a "high angle, looking down at a city street" and another from a "low angle, ready for action". Pay attention to how the character's appearance remains consistent.

Midjourney Video Techniques

Covers: Easy techniques to LEVEL UP your Midjourney Videos! · Get better CAMERA CONTROL for Midjourney AI Video!

While Midjourney primarily generates static images, you can create compelling animated sequences or "Midjourney videos" by generating a series of images that imply motion or camera movement. This typically involves stitching these sequential images together using external video editing software to form a short animation.

To create smooth transitions between frames, start by generating an initial image with a specific `--seed` value. For subsequent frames, make small, incremental changes to your prompt while keeping the `--seed` value the same or using a slightly varied seed (e.g., `seed 123` then `seed 124`). This helps maintain visual continuity between generations.

For *implied camera movement*, describe the movement in your prompt for each frame. For a panning shot from left to right, you might use: frame 1: a red car on the left side of a desert road, wide shot `--seed 100`. Then, frame 2: a red car in the center of a desert road, wide shot `--seed 101`. And frame 3: a red car on the right side of a desert road, wide shot `--seed 102`. Similarly, for zooming, you would adjust the *distance* description: "wide shot", then "medium shot", then "close-up".

For *object or character movement*, describe the action incrementally across frames. For a character walking, you might have: frame 1: character standing, left foot forward, frame 2: character standing, right foot forward, and so on. Ensure consistent aspect ratios (`--ar`), lighting, and overall style across all frames to prevent jarring visual changes. The goal is to create a series of images that, when played in quick succession, give the illusion of continuous motion.

Remember that Midjourney's `--video` parameter generates a short video of the *image generation process*, not a video *from* your prompt. The techniques discussed here focus on generating *output frames* for animation. By carefully crafting sequential prompts, you can simulate complex camera work like tracking shots, dollies, and pans, preparing your images for external animation workflows.

Practice Cue

Create a sequence of three Midjourney images that depict a simple action, such as a ball rolling across a room or a character slowly turning their head. Use a consistent `--seed` (or slightly varied seeds) and `--ar` for all three images, and describe the incremental movement in each prompt. Aim for visual smoothness between the frames.

Moodboards for Creative Direction

Covers: How to create BETTER Midjourney Moodboards (and tips for using them!) · 15 FREE Midjourney Moodboards (and tips!)

Moodboards are powerful visual tools that define the aesthetic and emotional tone of a project before you even type your first prompt. They are curated collections of images, colors, textures, fonts, and keywords that serve as a blueprint for your creative vision. For Midjourney users, moodboards are invaluable for clarifying abstract ideas into concrete visual references.

Using moodboards offers several benefits. First, they help clarify your vision, ensuring you have a clear target before generating images. This reduces wasted prompts and iterations. Second, they provide a rich source of visual information that can be translated directly into prompt keywords. Third, moodboards help maintain stylistic consistency across a series of generated images, which is crucial for branding or storytelling projects. Finally, they can speed up your workflow by giving you a focused direction.

Creating a moodboard involves gathering inspiration from various sources. Pinterest, Behance, Dribbble, stock photo websites, and even real-world observations are excellent starting points. Focus on elements like specific color palettes, lighting styles (e.g., "soft diffused light", "harsh neon glow"), textures (e.g., "rough concrete", "smooth silk"), composition examples, and overall emotional moods (e.g., "serene", "chaotic", "futuristic"). Digital tools like PureRef, Milanote, or even a simple collage in Photoshop or Google Docs can be used to assemble your moodboard.

Once your moodboard is complete, you can effectively use it with Midjourney. Begin by extracting key descriptive words and phrases from your moodboard. If your moodboard features images with a specific lighting style, incorporate those terms into your prompt. You can also upload specific moodboard images to Discord or the web editor and use their URLs as image prompts, optionally adjusting their influence with the `--iw` (image weight) parameter. This allows Midjourney to draw inspiration directly from your visual references.

Remember, a moodboard is not just for direct content replication; it is for stylistic guidance. If your moodboard emphasizes a "gritty urban aesthetic" with "muted colors and strong shadows", your prompts should reflect those descriptive elements, even if the subject matter changes. This strategic approach ensures your Midjourney outputs consistently align with your desired creative direction.

Practice Cue

Choose a theme, such as "a fantastical forest scene" or "a retro-futuristic advertisement". Create a simple moodboard for this theme, gathering at least five visual references for color, texture, and style. Then, write three Midjourney prompts that incorporate keywords and stylistic elements directly inspired by your moodboard.

High-Resolution Upscaling

Covers: How to UPSCALE Midjourney Images (up to 20,000 X 20,000px!!)

Upscaling images to high resolutions is a critical step for preparing your Midjourney art for commercial use, printing, or detailed digital display. Midjourney offers native upscaling capabilities, but for extreme resolutions, external AI upscaling tools become essential.

After generating an image grid, you can use the U buttons (U1, U2, U3, U4) to upscale a chosen image. This process typically expands the image to a resolution around 1024x1024 pixels or similar dimensions depending on the aspect ratio and Midjourney version. Midjourney's upscalers are designed to add detail and refine textures during this process. You can then use features like `Vary (Subtle)` or `Vary (Strong)` on the upscaled image to introduce slight variations or more significant changes without losing the increased resolution. The `Zoom Out` and `Pan` features allow you to expand the canvas of an upscaled image, effectively creating a larger scene around your initial output.

While Midjourney's native upscaling is excellent for most digital uses, achieving resolutions up to 20,000 x 20,000 pixels or higher requires external AI upscaling software. These tools use advanced algorithms to intelligently add pixels, enhance detail, and reduce artifacts, making images suitable for large-format printing or very high-resolution displays. Popular external AI upscalers include:

- **Magnific AI:** Known for its ability to add creative detail and texture during upscaling, often giving images a more artistic or painterly quality.
- **Topaz Gigapixel AI:** Focuses on preserving and enhancing existing detail, often preferred for photographic or realistic image upscaling where fidelity is paramount.
- **Upscayl:** An open-source, free option that provides effective AI upscaling for general use.

The process for using external upscalers typically involves these steps:

1. **Native Upscale:** Upscale your chosen image in Midjourney to its maximum native resolution using the U buttons.
2. **Download:** Download the highest resolution image from Midjourney.
3. **Import:** Open the image in your chosen external AI upscaling software.
4. **Adjust Settings:** Configure the upscaler's settings for noise reduction, detail enhancement, and the desired scale factor (e.g., 4x, 8x, or custom dimensions).
5. **Export:** Save the newly upscaled, high-resolution image.

When working with extreme upscaling, be mindful of dramatically increased file sizes and processing times. Over-upscaling or using inappropriate settings can sometimes introduce unwanted artifacts or a slightly artificial appearance. Always start with the best possible Midjourney output before applying external upscaling to achieve optimal results.

Practice Cue

Upscale one of your previously generated Midjourney images using the native U buttons. Then, describe the steps you would take to further upscale this image to a resolution of at least 8000 pixels on its longest side using an external AI upscaling tool, mentioning specific settings you might adjust.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Mastering Midjourney involves understanding prompt structure and iterative refinement using parameters and variations.
- Consistent character creation relies on the `--cref` and `--cw` parameters, combined with precise prompting for actions and emotions.
- Achieving specific scene compositions requires explicit prompting for layout, distance, and camera angles.
- Midjourney "videos" are often created by generating sequential images with subtle variations in camera or subject movement, then animated externally.
- Moodboards serve as essential visual guides to clarify creative vision, extract keywords, and ensure stylistic consistency in your AI art.
- Upscaling images in Midjourney provides higher resolution, and external AI tools can further magnify outputs to commercial print quality, like 20,000px.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. How does the `--cref` parameter help in maintaining character consistency across multiple Midjourney generations?
2. What is the primary purpose of using moodboards in your Midjourney workflow?
3. Describe two different methods for controlling the "camera angle" of a scene generated in Midjourney.
4. When would you use an external AI upscaling tool instead of Midjourney's native upscaling?
5. Explain how you might create a short animated sequence, or "Midjourney video," using the platform's image generation capabilities.

CHAPTER 6

In-Depth Workflows

Chapter 6 guides you through advanced Midjourney workflows, focusing on sophisticated style control, personalizing your AI art, and mastering the powerful new Midjourney web editor. You will learn to move beyond basic prompting to create consistent, high-quality visuals.

This chapter provides practical techniques for integrating specific styles and even personal facial features into your generations. It also offers a comprehensive tour of the Midjourney editor, equipping you with the skills to refine, modify, and extend your AI images with precision and creativity.

Core Midjourney Workflows and Updates

Covers: Create SUPERIOR AI Art with this basic Midjourney & Ai Art Workflow (video, 27 min) · Midjourney Course UPDATE for 2026 - Now including Midjourney v8.1! (video, 4 min)

Creating superior AI art in Midjourney relies on an iterative and systematic workflow. This process begins with a clear concept and progresses through refinement steps to achieve the desired outcome. A foundational workflow helps structure your approach, moving you from initial idea to polished image.

Basic AI Art Workflow

- 1. Start with a Strong Prompt:** Begin with a descriptive prompt that clearly articulates your subject, style, and desired composition. Use parameters like `--ar` (aspect ratio) and `--s` (stylize) from the outset to guide the initial generations. For example, `/imagine a cybernetic owl perched on a neon branch, intricate details, glowing eyes, synthwave aesthetic --ar 16:9 --s 250`.
- 2. Generate Initial Images:** Midjourney will provide four initial image grids. Evaluate these for overall composition, adherence to your prompt, and potential. Do not expect perfection in the first pass.
- 3. Upscale Promising Candidates:** If one or more images show promise, upscale them using the U buttons (U1, U2, U3, U4). Upscaling reveals more detail and allows for further manipulation.
- 4. Iterate with Variations:** After upscaling, use the V buttons (V1, V2, V3, V4) to generate variations of a specific image. This is crucial for refining elements, exploring alternative compositions, or adjusting the overall mood. You can also use the 'Vary (Subtle)' or 'Vary (Strong)' options available after upscaling to explore different directions.
- 5. Refine with Re-prompting or Remix:** For more significant changes, use the Remix feature. This allows you to modify your original prompt while generating variations of an existing image. This is powerful for changing subjects, styles, or adding new elements without losing the core composition. For example, Remix prompt: `a cybernetic owl perched on a neon branch, intricate details, glowing eyes, synthwave aesthetic, **rainy city background** --ar 16:9 --s 250`.
- 6. Experiment with Parameters:** Adjust parameters like `--chaos` to control the randomness of the initial grid, `--weird` for unusual aesthetics, or `--style raw` for a less opinionated output.

Understanding how each parameter influences your output is key to precise control.

7. **Explore Seeds:** The `--seed` parameter ensures that you can regenerate an image with the same initial noise pattern. If you find an image you like and want to explore variations from that specific starting point, note its seed number and use it in subsequent prompts. This helps maintain consistency across a series of images.

Midjourney v8.1 Updates

Midjourney is an evolving platform, with frequent updates introducing new features and improvements. Version 8.1 brought enhancements in several key areas. These updates often include improved prompt understanding, leading to more accurate and coherent image generations. The model generally produces more detailed and aesthetically pleasing results, with better handling of complex compositions and finer textures. Specific parameter behaviors may also be refined, offering users greater control over their output. Staying informed about these updates ensures you can fully use the latest capabilities and optimize your workflows for the best possible results. These continuous improvements underscore the importance of ongoing experimentation and learning within the Midjourney ecosystem.

Mastering Style Control with SREF and the Style Explorer

Covers: MASTER Midjourney V8.1 SREF STYLES (Full Midjourney tutorial) (video, 22 min) · How to MASTER Midjourney Styles! (inc. NEW Style Explorer in Midjourney!) (video, 22 min)

Achieving a consistent visual style across multiple images is a cornerstone of professional design. Midjourney offers powerful tools for style control, notably the `--sref` parameter and the Style Explorer.

Using `--sref` (Style Reference)

The `--sref` parameter allows you to reference an existing image to influence the aesthetic style of your new generations. Unlike a traditional image prompt, which influences both content and style, `--sref` primarily focuses on transferring the visual style, colors, lighting, and overall mood without necessarily replicating the subject matter. This is invaluable for maintaining brand identity or creating a cohesive series of artworks.

Syntax: `/imagine your prompt here --sref <image-url>`

Procedure:

1. **Obtain a Reference Image URL:** Upload an image whose style you admire to a platform like Discord or a cloud storage service. Copy its direct image URL.
2. **Integrate into Your Prompt:** Add `--sref` followed by the image URL to your prompt. For example: `/imagine a futuristic city skyline at sunset --sref https://example.com/mystyle.png`.
3. **Control Style Weight (`--sw`):** The `--sw` parameter (Style Weight) lets you adjust the intensity of the style reference. It ranges from 0 to 1000, with a default of 100. Higher values increase the influence of the reference image's style. For example: `/imagine a futuristic city skyline at sunset --sref https://example.com/mystyle.png --sw 500`.

4. **Multiple Style References:** You can use multiple `--sref` URLs in a single prompt to blend styles. Separate URLs with spaces. Midjourney will attempt to combine the aesthetic qualities of each.

Common Mistakes:

- Using `--sref` with images that have very strong, distinct content you do not want to see in your output. Ensure your reference image is primarily chosen for its aesthetic qualities.
- Forgetting to adjust `--sw`. A default `--sw` of 100 might be too subtle or too strong for your needs.

Mastering Midjourney Styles and the Style Explorer

Beyond `--sref`, Midjourney offers predefined styles and a dedicated Style Explorer to help you discover and apply them. The `--style` parameter applies a specific artistic or photographic style to your images, like `--style raw` for a less opinionated, more photographic output.

The Style Explorer: Accessible through the Midjourney web interface, the Style Explorer is a powerful tool for discovering and experimenting with various pre-trained styles. It presents a visual library of styles, allowing you to see their effects on sample images and then apply them to your own prompts.

Procedure:

1. **Access the Explorer:** Navigate to the Midjourney web interface (e.g., alpha.midjourney.com) and look for the 'Explore Styles' or similar section.
2. **Browse Styles:** The explorer displays a grid of images, each representing a distinct style. You can filter or search for specific aesthetics.
3. **Apply a Style:** When you find a style you like, the explorer will often provide the corresponding `--style` parameter or allow you to generate an image using that style directly. For example, selecting a 'Vibrant' style might suggest adding `--style vibrant` to your prompt.
4. **Experiment and Combine:** Try applying different styles to the same base prompt to understand their unique characteristics. You can also combine `--sref` with a `--style` parameter for even more nuanced control, allowing you to blend a referenced image's aesthetic with a predefined Midjourney style. For example: `/imagine an ancient forest with glowing flora --sref https://example.com/fantasyart.png --style cinematic`.

Practice regularly with both `--sref` and the Style Explorer to build an intuitive understanding of how different stylistic inputs affect your generations. This mastery is crucial for producing consistent and high-quality design assets.

Integrating Personal Elements and the Midjourney Editor

Covers: Easy Ways To Add YOUR FACE To Midjourney Images (for UNIQUE AI Art!) (video, 12 min) · Midjourney's NEW POWERFUL AI Image editor (available to everyone!) (video, 19 min) · 12 MUST KNOW Tips for the Midjourney Editor! (video, 17 min) · 33 Ways to use The NEW Midjourney Editor for NEXT LEVEL Results! (video, 13 min)

Midjourney provides powerful features for personalizing your AI art, including integrating specific faces, and a robust web editor for detailed image manipulation. These tools allow you to move beyond generic outputs to create truly unique and refined visuals.

Adding Your Face to Midjourney Images with `--cref`

The `--cref` (Character Reference) parameter is the most effective way to maintain a consistent character or facial identity across different images. It uses a reference image to guide the generation of a character's features, making it ideal for creating stories or series with recurring subjects.

Syntax: `/imagine your prompt here --cref <image-url>`

Procedure:

1. **Prepare a Clear Reference Image:** Use a well-lit, clear image of the face you want to reference. A neutral expression and good resolution typically yield the best results. Upload this image and get its direct URL.
2. **Apply `--cref`:** Add `--cref` followed by the image URL to your prompt. For example: `/imagine a medieval knight in shining armor, full body shot --cref https://example.com/myface.png`.
3. **Adjust Character Weight (`--cw`):** The `--cw` parameter (Character Weight) controls how strongly the reference image influences the character's features. It ranges from 0 to 100, with 100 being the default (strongest influence). A lower value, like `--cw 50`, might blend the reference face more subtly with the prompt's description. For example: `/imagine a medieval knight in shining armor, full body shot --cref https://example.com/myface.png --cw 70`.

Tips for `--cref`:

- Use high-quality, front-facing reference images for optimal results.
- Experiment with `--cw` to find the right balance between the reference and the new generation.
- It works best for character consistency, not necessarily for exact photo realism of the face in every scenario.

Mastering the Midjourney Web Editor

The Midjourney web editor is an intuitive, powerful tool for post-generation refinement and creative manipulation. It provides a suite of features that allow you to modify specific regions of an image, extend canvases, and correct imperfections without leaving the Midjourney ecosystem.

Key Features:

- **Selection Tools:** Use lasso or rectangular selection tools to isolate specific areas of your image for targeted edits.
- **Vary (Region) / Retexture:** This allows you to re-prompt or re-generate only within a selected area, making precise changes to objects, textures, or details without affecting the rest of the image.
- **Inpainting/Outpainting:** Inpainting lets you fill selected areas with new content based on a prompt. Outpainting extends the canvas beyond the original image boundaries, generating new content that smoothly blends with the existing scene.
- **Prompt Editing:** Modify the prompt directly within the editor to guide the regeneration of selected regions.

- **Pan and Zoom:** Extend your image in any direction (pan) or zoom out to create a larger canvas, allowing for more expansive scenes.

Essential Tips for the Editor

1. **Start Small:** Begin with minor adjustments to understand the editor's behavior before attempting complex overhauls.
2. **Precise Selections:** Take time to make accurate selections for 'Vary (Region)' to ensure only the intended area is affected.
3. **Iterate on Prompts:** When using 'Vary (Region)', experiment with different prompt variations to achieve the desired outcome. Small changes in wording can have a significant impact.
4. **Understand 'Vary (Region)' vs. Full Image Vary:** 'Vary (Region)' targets specific areas, while the standard 'Vary (Strong)' or 'Vary (Subtle)' buttons affect the entire image.
5. **Use Negative Prompts:** Incorporate negative weights (e.g., `flower --no petals`) within the editor's prompt box to remove unwanted elements from a selected region.
6. **use Retexture:** Explore the 'Retexture' option for quickly changing surface qualities or materials within a selected area.
7. **Combine Tools:** Use pan to extend a scene, then use 'Vary (Region)' to add specific elements to the newly generated areas.
8. **Save Regularly:** The editor often saves automatically, but manually saving important stages of your work is good practice.
9. **Compare Results:** Use the history or undo features to compare different edit iterations and choose the best one.
10. **Focus on One Change:** Address one major change at a time rather than trying to fix multiple issues in a single edit, which can lead to unpredictable results.

Advanced Editor Applications

The editor's versatility allows for a wide range of advanced uses:

- **Object Swapping:** Select an object (e.g., a car), then re-prompt to replace it with a different one (e.g., `a vintage motorcycle`).
- **Background Modification:** Select the background and change its environment (e.g., `a bustling city street` to `a serene forest`).
- **Clothing and Accessory Changes:** Select a character's outfit or accessories and re-prompt for new attire.
- **Correcting Imperfections:** Fix common AI generation issues like distorted hands, eyes, or misplaced elements by selecting the area and re-prompting for a correction.
- **Adding Textures:** Apply specific textures (e.g., `rough concrete texture`, `smooth metallic sheen`) to surfaces.
- **Changing Lighting and Mood:** Select areas and prompt for different lighting conditions (e.g., `golden hour lighting`, `dramatic chiaroscuro`).

- **Extending Scenes:** Use outpainting to create wider panoramic views or add elements beyond the original frame.
- **Creating Variations of Elements:** Generate multiple variations of a single object within an image without affecting other elements.

Mastering the Midjourney editor transforms your ability to refine and customize AI-generated art, making it an indispensable tool for designers and artists.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- A systematic, iterative workflow is essential for creating high-quality AI art, involving initial prompting, upscaling, and continuous refinement.
- The `--sref` parameter allows you to transfer the aesthetic style from a reference image to new generations, ensuring visual consistency.
- The Style Explorer in the Midjourney web interface helps you discover and apply various predefined artistic styles to your images.
- Use the `--cref` parameter with a clear reference image to maintain consistent character identity and facial features across multiple generations.
- The Midjourney web editor provides powerful tools like Vary (Region), Inpainting, and Outpainting for precise post-generation modifications and canvas expansion.
- Effective use of the editor involves making precise selections, iterating on prompts for specific regions, and understanding how different tools interact.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. How does the `--sref` parameter differ from a regular image prompt in Midjourney?
2. What is the primary function of the Midjourney Style Explorer?
3. Explain the purpose of the `--cref` parameter and how `--cw` relates to it.
4. List three common uses for the Midjourney web editor.
5. Describe the basic iterative workflow for creating AI art in Midjourney.

CHAPTER 7

In-Depth Workflows

This chapter guides you through advanced Midjourney techniques, moving beyond basic prompting to achieve precise control over your AI-generated art. You will learn how to refine composition, maintain consistent styles, and apply sophisticated prompt engineering. We also explore practical applications like creating vector-style art for commercial use and integrating AI assistants to enhance your creative workflow. Mastering these methods will significantly improve the quality and consistency of your Midjourney output.

By the end of this chapter, you will be equipped to tackle complex design challenges, produce professional-grade assets, and use the full potential of Midjourney for your projects.

Precision Composition and Style Consistency

Covers: NEXT LEVEL Composition & Layout Control Hack for Midjourney! (using Midjourney V7 Editor/Retexture) · The Complete SREF Code Blueprint for Midjourney

Achieving precise control over composition and maintaining a consistent style are crucial skills for professional design work with Midjourney. This section focuses on using Midjourney's advanced tools to dictate element placement and ensure stylistic coherence across multiple generations.

Composition and Layout Control with the Editor

Midjourney's Editor, sometimes referred to as Vary (Region), is a powerful tool for manipulating specific areas of an image without regenerating the entire output. This allows for granular control over composition, object placement, and scene elements. When you generate an image, you can use the Editor to select a rectangular region and then provide a new prompt or modify the existing one for that specific area. This is invaluable for correcting unwanted elements, adding details, or even shifting the focus of a composition.

To use the Editor for layout control, begin by generating an initial image. Once you have a base image, click the 'Vary (Region)' button. This opens the editing interface where you can select a portion of the image. For example, if you want to move a character to the left, you might select the character and the area to its immediate left, then re-prompt with instructions like 'character standing on the left side, facing right'. The system will regenerate only that selected region, attempting to integrate the changes smoothly into the rest of the image. This iterative process allows you to fine-tune the arrangement of elements, adjust their scale relative to each other, and even change their orientation. You can also use it to extend a scene by selecting an edge and prompting for additional background elements, effectively 'panning' the image with more control than the standard pan buttons.

Retexture, often integrated within the Editor or as a specific prompt modifier, allows you to change the surface qualities of objects. For instance, if you have a wooden table and want it to be marble, you can select the table region and prompt 'marble texture' or 'smooth polished marble'. This function is excellent

for material studies, product design variations, or simply adding visual richness to your scenes. Experiment with different textures and materials to see how they transform your compositions.

The SREF Code Blueprint for Style Consistency

Style Reference, or `sref`, is a parameter that allows you to extract and apply the aesthetic style from an existing image to new generations. This is a breakthrough for maintaining brand consistency, creating image series, or simply replicating a desired artistic look. An `sref` code is a unique identifier generated by Midjourney when you use an image as a style reference.

To obtain an `sref` code, you can use an image URL directly in a prompt with `--sref [URL]`. Midjourney will internally process the style. Alternatively, if you have an image you've generated or found within Midjourney, you can often extract its `sref` code directly from the image information in the web interface or by using specific commands. The `sref` code is a string of numbers, for example, `--sref 1234567890`.

Once you have an `sref` code, you can apply it to any new prompt: `[your new prompt] --sref 1234567890`. Midjourney will attempt to generate your new prompt's content while adopting the stylistic characteristics of the reference image. You can even combine multiple `sref` codes by separating them with commas: `--sref 1234567890,0987654321`. This allows for blending styles. The `--sw` (style weight) parameter controls the intensity of the `sref` influence, ranging from `0` (no style influence) to `1000` (maximum influence). A typical range for strong influence is `100` to `250`. For example, `[your new prompt] --sref 1234567890 --sw 150`. Using `sref` effectively ensures that your creative output maintains a cohesive visual identity, which is essential for professional projects.

Mastering Prompt Engineering and Formulas

Covers: Prompt Engineering Tips for Midjourney & BETTER AI Art! · 10 Simple & Effective AI Art & Midjourney Prompt Formulas

Effective prompt engineering is the cornerstone of generating high-quality AI art. It involves more than just describing what you want to see; it requires understanding how Midjourney interprets language and structuring your requests for optimal results. This section works through advanced prompting techniques and introduces practical formulas to streamline your creative process.

Advanced Prompt Engineering Tips

Good prompt engineering begins with clarity and specificity. Avoid vague terms. Instead, use descriptive adjectives, precise nouns, and active verbs. For example, instead of 'a tree', try 'an ancient gnarled oak tree, bathed in golden hour sunlight, leaves rustling gently'.

Structure your prompts logically. A common and effective structure is: `[Subject] + [Environment/Setting] + [Actions/Mood] + [Art Style/Medium] + [Lighting/Color] + [Composition/Camera Angle] + [Parameters]`. This helps Midjourney process information in a hierarchical manner.

Consider using negative prompting with the `--no` parameter to exclude unwanted elements. For instance, `a serene forest, with a clear stream --no people, buildings, trash`. This is particularly useful for cleaning up generations or preventing common AI artifacts.

Multi-prompts, using `::` as a separator, allow you to assign different weights to parts of your prompt. For example, `red car::2 blue car::1` tells Midjourney to prioritize the red car more than the blue car. The default weight is 1. You can also use negative weights: `flower:: bright:: -0.5` would make the image less bright. This offers fine-grained control over the emphasis of various concepts within a single prompt.

Iterative prompting is key. Start with a simpler prompt, observe the results, and then make small, incremental changes. Add one detail at a time, adjust a single parameter, or refine a descriptive word. This methodical approach helps you understand the impact of each prompt element and guides you toward your desired outcome more efficiently.

Simple and Effective Prompt Formulas

Prompt formulas provide a reusable framework for generating specific types of images. They act as templates that you can fill in with your desired content, saving time and ensuring consistency. Here are a few effective formulas:

- The Artistic Scene Formula:** [Main Subject], [Specific Action/Emotion], in a [Detailed Setting], [Lighting Conditions], [Art Style/Artist Influence], [Camera Angle] `--ar X:Y`
Example: majestic dragon soaring, defiant roar, over a volcanic mountain range, dramatic sunset light, epic fantasy art by Frank Frazetta, wide shot `--ar 16:9`
- The Product Visual Formula:** [Product Name/Type], [Key Feature/Benefit], [Material/Texture], [Background/Environment], [Lighting Type], [Photography Style] `--style raw`
Example: minimalist smart watch, sleek black ceramic, glowing digital display, on a reflective surface, soft studio lighting, product photography `--style raw`
- The Character Concept Formula:** [Character Type], [Defining Trait/Outfit], [Pose/Expression], [Background Hint], [Art Style/Era], [Color Palette] `--v X`
Example: elven rogue, leather armor, hooded, stealthy stance, moonlit forest, high fantasy illustration, muted greens and browns `--v 6`

These formulas are starting points. Experiment by swapping out elements, adding more descriptive language, or combining aspects from different formulas. The goal is to develop an intuitive understanding of how different prompt components interact, allowing you to build complex and nuanced images with greater predictability. Practice using these structures and adapting them to your unique creative visions.

Practical Applications and Advanced Generation Techniques

Covers: Create AI / Midjourney VECTOR ART Print on Demand Shirt designs · How To Make INSANE Multiverse Art With Midjourney in 2025! · INSANE Midjourney Tips and Tricks to level up your AI Art game!

Midjourney's capabilities extend far beyond generating pretty pictures. With advanced techniques, you can create commercially viable assets and explore highly imaginative concepts. This section covers generating vector-style art for print-on-demand, crafting complex 'multiverse' imagery, and a collection of high-impact tips and tricks.

Creating Vector Art for Print on Demand (POD)

While Midjourney primarily generates raster images, you can prompt it to produce art with a vector aesthetic. This is crucial for designs intended for t-shirts, mugs, posters, and other print-on-demand products, as vector art scales infinitely without pixelation. The key is to use specific keywords that guide Midjourney toward a clean, graphic style.

Effective keywords include: `vector art`, `flat design`, `line art`, `minimalist illustration`, `graphic design`, `clean lines`, `bold shapes`, `solid colors`, `simple illustration`, `logo style`. Combine these with your subject matter. For example:

`a minimalist cat silhouette, vector art, flat design, solid colors, clean lines, t-shirt design, white background --ar 1:1`

Another example:

`abstract geometric pattern, vector illustration, vibrant colors, clean edges, print on demand, smooth tile --ar 1:1`

After generating images with a vector aesthetic, you will still need to use vector graphics software (like Adobe Illustrator, Inkscape, or Affinity Designer) to convert the raster image into a true vector file. This typically involves using an 'Image Trace' or 'Live Trace' function. The cleaner and simpler your Midjourney output is, the better the vector conversion will be. Focus on designs with clear separations between colors and well-defined outlines.

Crafting Multiverse Art

Multiverse art in Midjourney involves blending disparate concepts, styles, or realities into a single cohesive image. This technique pushes creative boundaries and results in surreal, imaginative visuals. The core idea is to combine elements that wouldn't normally coexist, often implying parallel dimensions or alternate histories.

To create multiverse art, use descriptive language that merges contrasting ideas. Keywords like `multiverse`, `parallel dimension`, `interdimensional portal`, `dreamscape`, `alternate reality`, and `dystopian utopia` can be effective. You can also combine seemingly unrelated subjects or styles.

Consider these prompt structures:

- `[Subject 1] existing in [Environment 2], with [Style 1] blended with [Style 2] --chaos X`
Example: `ancient Roman coliseum floating in a nebula, cyberpunk city lights, classical architecture meets futuristic sci-fi, dramatic lighting --ar 16:9 --chaos 50`
- `[Character] looking through a portal to [Alternate Scene], surreal, vibrant, conceptual art --weird X`
Example: `astronaut gazing into a swirling vortex that reveals an enchanted forest, hyperrealistic, surrealism, vibrant colors --ar 3:2 --weird 200`

The `--chaos` and `--weird` parameters can be particularly useful here. `--chaos` introduces more unexpected variations, while `--weird` generates unusual and bizarre aesthetics. Experiment with their values to find the right level of surrealism for your multiverse concepts.

General Advanced Midjourney Tips and Tricks

Beyond specific applications, several general techniques can significantly enhance your Midjourney output:

- **Parameter Stacking:** Combine multiple parameters strategically. For example, `--ar 16:9 --style raw --v 6 --sref 1234567890 --sw 150` creates a specific visual direction.
- **Image Prompting for Style or Composition:** Use an image URL at the beginning of your prompt `[image URL] [text prompt]` to influence the style, composition, or even specific elements of your new generation. This is different from `sref` as it can influence content and layout more directly.
- **Permutation Prompts:** Use curly braces `{ }` to generate multiple variations from a single prompt. For example, `a {red, blue, green} car` will generate three separate jobs, one for each color. This is excellent for rapid exploration of concepts.
- **Remix Mode:** Enable Remix mode (using `/settings` command) to change parts of your prompt when using the Vary (Strong) or Vary (Subtle) buttons. This allows you to evolve an image while retaining its core composition, making iterative refinement much more efficient.

Mastering these techniques requires practice and a keen eye for detail. Continuously experiment with parameters, keywords, and combinations to discover new possibilities and refine your artistic control.

using AI Assistants for Prompt Generation

Covers: TOP ChatGPT Tips for AI Art & Midjourney!

Integrating AI assistants like ChatGPT into your Midjourney workflow can significantly boost your creativity and efficiency in prompt generation. While ChatGPT cannot 'see' images, it excels at understanding and generating text, making it an invaluable tool for brainstorming, refining, and structuring prompts.

Brainstorming Ideas and Concepts

One of the primary uses for ChatGPT is to overcome creative blocks. If you have a vague idea, you can ask ChatGPT to generate a list of related concepts, themes, or visual elements. For example, you might prompt: 'Give me 10 creative concepts for a fantasy creature that lives in a volcanic environment.' ChatGPT will provide a range of ideas, which you can then adapt for Midjourney.

Expanding Short Ideas into Detailed Prompts

Often, you start with a simple concept like 'a futuristic city'. ChatGPT can help you expand this into a rich, detailed prompt. You can ask: 'Expand 'futuristic city' into a detailed Midjourney prompt, including lighting, atmosphere, architectural style, and time of day.' ChatGPT might return something like: 'A sprawling cyberpunk metropolis at dusk, neon signs reflecting on wet streets, towering skyscrapers with intricate aerial walkways, flying vehicles, dense fog, hyperrealistic, cinematic lighting --ar 16:9'. This saves you time in crafting descriptive language.

Generating Keyword Lists

For specific styles, moods, or objects, ChatGPT can provide extensive keyword lists. If you want to create an image in a particular art movement, but are unsure of the descriptive terms, ask ChatGPT: 'List keywords for creating art in the Art Deco style.' It will provide terms like 'geometric patterns, luxurious, symmetrical, rich colors, streamlined forms, flapper era, jazz age'. You can then incorporate these directly into your Midjourney prompts.

Creating Structured Prompts

ChatGPT can be instructed to generate prompts following specific structures, which is useful for maintaining consistency or adhering to a particular framework. You can ask: 'Generate a Midjourney prompt for a portrait of a warrior, including details on their armor, weapon, background, a specific emotion, and an art style.' ChatGPT can then fill in these categories for you.

Refining Existing Prompts

If you have a prompt that isn't yielding the desired results, ChatGPT can suggest improvements. Paste your prompt and ask: 'How can I refine this Midjourney prompt to make the character appear more heroic?' or 'Suggest synonyms for 'gloomy' that would fit a dark fantasy setting.' It can help you find stronger verbs, more evocative adjectives, or alternative phrasing to better communicate your vision to Midjourney.

Example Interactions with ChatGPT

- **User:** Generate a Midjourney prompt for a serene forest scene with magical elements.
- **ChatGPT:** A tranquil ancient forest, shafts of ethereal light filtering through a canopy of glowing leaves, a hidden waterfall cascading into a crystal-clear pond, luminous flora and fauna, soft mist, impressionistic painting, magical realism --ar 16:9
- **User:** I want to create a logo for a coffee shop called 'The Daily Grind'. Suggest some visual concepts and keywords for Midjourney.
- **ChatGPT:** Concepts: A stylized coffee bean incorporating a clock or gear. A minimalist coffee cup with steam forming an abstract shape. A vintage barista silhouette. Keywords: logo design, minimalist, flat design, vector art, clean lines, coffee shop, barista, steam, coffee bean, retro, modern, elegant, emblem --ar 1:1

Remember that ChatGPT is a language model. Its suggestions are based on text patterns and general knowledge. Always review its output and adapt it to your specific artistic intent and Midjourney's capabilities. It is a powerful assistant, not a replacement for your creative vision.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Utilize Midjourney's Editor (Vary Region) for precise control over composition, object placement, and retexturing specific areas of your images.
- Apply `sref` codes with `--sw` (style weight) to maintain consistent visual styles across multiple generations or for brand identity.
- Master prompt engineering by structuring requests logically, using descriptive language, multi-prompts, and negative prompts to guide Midjourney's output.
- Employ prompt formulas as templates to efficiently generate specific types of art, such as artistic scenes, product visuals, or character concepts.
- Generate vector-aesthetic art for print-on-demand by using keywords like 'flat design' and 'line art', then convert to actual vectors in external software.
- Create complex 'multiverse' art by blending disparate concepts and styles, often enhanced by `--chaos` and `--weird` parameters.
- Integrate AI assistants like ChatGPT to brainstorm ideas, expand prompts, generate keyword lists, and refine existing prompts for better Midjourney results.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. How does Midjourney's Editor (Vary Region) contribute to precise composition control?
2. Explain the purpose of an `sref` code and how `--sw` enhances its use.
3. What is the benefit of using prompt formulas in Midjourney?
4. Describe how you would approach creating a 'vector art' aesthetic for a print-on-demand design in Midjourney.
5. How can ChatGPT be used to enhance the Midjourney prompt generation process?

CHAPTER 8

In-Depth Workflows

This chapter explores advanced techniques and external tools that enhance your Midjourney workflow. We cover the capabilities of Midjourney Version 8, focusing on how its improvements can refine your image generation process. The chapter also details a range of complementary tools, from image editors and upscalers to prompt builders, all designed to help you create truly unique and commercially viable design assets. Mastering these workflows allows you to move beyond basic prompting and achieve precise, high-quality results.

Mastering Midjourney Version 8

Covers: Midjourney V8 is NOW LIVE!! Here's how to use it.

Midjourney Version 8 represents a significant leap forward in AI image generation. This iteration introduces enhanced realism, improved prompt comprehension, and greater control over artistic output. Understanding how to effectively use V8 is crucial for any designer aiming for professional-grade results. To activate Version 8, simply type `/settings` in your Discord chat and select "MJ Version 8" from the options. Alternatively, you can append `--v 8` to any prompt.

One of the most notable improvements in V8 is its ability to understand complex prompts with greater nuance. Previous versions sometimes struggled with intricate descriptions or multiple conflicting elements. V8 handles these challenges more gracefully, leading to more coherent and contextually accurate images. For example, a prompt like "a minimalist logo design for a coffee shop, featuring a stylized coffee bean integrated with a subtle steam icon, clean lines, monochromatic, vector art" would yield more precise results in V8, with less extraneous detail and better adherence to the minimalist aesthetic.

V8 also offers superior control over image style and composition. The `--style raw` parameter, while available in earlier versions, sees enhanced performance in V8, allowing for less opinionated, more photographic results. This is particularly useful when you need a neutral base image to edit later in external software. Experiment with `--style raw` when aiming for realism or when you want Midjourney to interpret your prompt as literally as possible without adding its own stylistic flair.

Consider the following prompt:

```
/imagine prompt: a futuristic cityscape at sunset, neon lights reflecting on wet streets, flying vehicles, cyberpunk aesthetic --ar 16:9 --v 8
```

In V8, you will observe sharper details, more accurate light reflections, and a stronger adherence to the specified cyberpunk aesthetic compared to previous versions. The dynamic range and color rendition are also noticeably improved, making sunset scenes more vibrant and impactful.

Another area of improvement is character consistency. While perfect consistency across multiple images remains a challenge for all AI models, V8 takes steps to mitigate this. When using character reference (via the `c` parameter or by uploading an image), V8 maintains features more reliably. This is vital for projects requiring a consistent brand mascot or character across various design assets. Practice by generating a character, then using that image as a reference for a new prompt to see how V8 carries over traits.

Common mistakes with new versions often involve sticking to old prompting habits. V8 is more forgiving, but it also responds better to clear, concise language. Avoid overly verbose prompts with redundant keywords. Instead, focus on descriptive nouns and strong adjectives. For instance, instead of "a very happy dog running in a field with lots of green grass and flowers," try "joyful golden retriever, sprinting through a vibrant meadow, sun-drenched, shallow depth of field." The precision in V8's interpretation means every word carries more weight.

Experimentation is key to mastering V8. Spend time generating images with and without the `--v 8` parameter to observe the differences directly. Pay attention to how V8 handles lighting, textures, and complex compositions. This direct comparison will solidify your understanding of its unique capabilities and help you tailor your prompts for optimal results.

Expanding Your Workflow with Complementary Tools

Covers: 37 of the BEST Tools for AI Art or Midjourney in 2025! · 3 Tools for creating UNIQUE AI images in Midjourney!

While Midjourney is a powerful image generation tool, its full potential is realized when integrated with a suite of complementary applications. These tools extend Midjourney's capabilities, allowing for greater control, refinement, and uniqueness in your final design assets. This section explores essential categories of tools and techniques that improve your AI art workflow.

Image Editing and Upscaling

After generating images in Midjourney, professional finishing often requires external editing. Tools like Adobe Photoshop are indispensable for refining details, correcting imperfections, and preparing images for specific design contexts. Photoshop allows for precise color correction, compositing multiple Midjourney outputs, adding text, and making pixel-level adjustments that Midjourney cannot perform. For instance, if Midjourney generates a logo concept with slight asymmetry, Photoshop can quickly fix it.

Upscaling is another critical post-processing step. Midjourney outputs are often generated at resolutions suitable for web use, but commercial print or large-format displays demand higher pixel counts. Dedicated AI upscalers, such as Topaz Gigapixel AI or Magnific AI, use advanced algorithms to increase image resolution without significant loss of detail or introduction of artifacts. These tools can transform a 1024x1024 pixel Midjourney image into a 4K or even 8K resolution asset, crucial for high-quality printing. Always upscale *after* making any major compositional edits in a standard image editor, as upscaling can lock in imperfections.

Prompt Generation and Inspiration

Crafting unique and effective prompts is an art in itself. While Midjourney V8 understands complex language well, sometimes you need a creative spark or a structured approach to prompt building. Tools

like prompt builders or AI-powered writing assistants can help. These might be simple websites that offer keyword suggestions based on themes, or more advanced AI models that generate descriptive phrases. Even a simple text editor is a powerful tool for organizing your thoughts, listing keywords, and structuring complex prompts before feeding them into Midjourney.

For example, if you are struggling to describe a specific artistic style, a prompt helper might suggest terms like "art deco," "vaporwave," "baroque," or "minimalist geometric." You can then combine these with your subject matter.

Achieving Unique AI Images

Creating truly unique images often involves more than just a single Midjourney prompt. It requires a multi-faceted approach, blending Midjourney's strengths with other techniques.

1. **Image-to-Image Blending:** Start by generating a base image in Midjourney. Then, use that image as an `--iw` (image weight) reference for a new prompt, introducing new elements or styles. This allows you to evolve concepts iteratively. For example, generate a field, then use it as a reference to add a specific character or architectural style.

```
/imagine prompt: [URL_OF_LANDSCAPE_IMAGE] a lone figure meditating on a mountain peak, zen garden aesthetic --iw 1.5 --v 8
```

This method ensures the new elements integrate with the existing visual context.

2. **External Image Manipulation for Input:** Before even going into Midjourney, prepare unique input images. Use a traditional image editor to create abstract shapes, unique color palettes, or composite textures. Then, feed these manipulated images into Midjourney as image prompts. Midjourney will interpret these visual cues, generating outputs that reflect your unique starting point. This bypasses the limitations of text-only prompting for truly novel compositions.
3. **Layering and Compositing:** Generate multiple distinct elements in Midjourney (e.g., a background, a character, an object). Then, use Photoshop or a similar editor to composite these elements into a single, cohesive image. This gives you granular control over each component and allows for intricate scene building that a single Midjourney prompt might struggle with. For example, create a futuristic car, a desert road, and a specific sky, then combine them.

By integrating these external tools and advanced techniques, you transform Midjourney from a simple prompt-to-image generator into a sophisticated design studio. Practice combining different tools in your workflow. Try generating an image, upscaling it, then bringing it into Photoshop for final touches. This iterative process is how professional designers create unique and polished AI-generated assets.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Midjourney Version 8 offers enhanced realism, improved prompt comprehension, and greater control over output.
- Activate V8 using `/settings` or by appending `--v 8` to your prompts for superior results.
- Utilize `--style raw` in V8 for less opinionated, more photographic image generations.
- External image editors like Photoshop are essential for refining details, correcting imperfections, and compositing Midjourney outputs.
- AI upscalers such as Topaz Gigapixel AI increase image resolution for commercial quality without significant detail loss.
- Prompt builders and structured keyword lists help generate unique and effective prompts.
- Combine Midjourney with image-to-image blending, external manipulation, and layering techniques for truly unique design assets.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer these before moving on. Model answers are in the Answer Key at the back of this guide.

1. What are two key improvements introduced in Midjourney Version 8?
2. How can you activate Midjourney Version 8 for your image generations?
3. Why is an external image editor like Adobe Photoshop considered essential in a professional Midjourney workflow?
4. Explain the purpose of AI upscaling tools in the context of Midjourney-generated images.
5. Describe one technique for creating truly unique images using Midjourney in conjunction with other methods.

REFERENCE

Glossary

--cref (character reference)

A Midjourney parameter that uses an image URL to maintain the consistent appearance of a character across different generations.

--exp (experiment)

A Midjourney parameter used to opt into and test experimental features or new model versions that are under development.

--sref (style reference)

A Midjourney parameter that uses an image URL to apply the aesthetic style, including color, lighting, and textures, of a reference image to new generations.

--video

A Midjourney parameter that generates a short, looping video clip showcasing the image generation process from noise to final output.

Ai model (gigapixel)

Specific algorithms within Topaz Gigapixel AI optimized for different image types, such as 'Art & CG' for illustrations or 'Face Recovery' for human faces.

Aspect ratio

The proportional relationship between an image's width and height, specified using the `--ar` parameter (e.g., 16:9 or 3:2).

Aspect ratio (--ar)

A Midjourney parameter that defines the width-to-height ratio of an image, influencing its overall shape and layout.

Character reference

Using an existing image or description to maintain consistent visual traits of a character across multiple AI-generated images.

Character reference (--cref)

A Midjourney parameter (`--cref <image-url>`) used to maintain consistent character identity and facial features across different image generations.

Character reference (--cref)

A Midjourney parameter used to maintain visual consistency of a character across multiple generated images by referencing an existing image URL.

Character weight (--cw)

A parameter that adjusts the influence of the `--cref` image on the generated character's features, ranging from 0 to 100.

Character weight (--cw)

A parameter used with --cref to control how much the character reference image influences the new generation, from face only (0) to full body and clothing (100).

Compositing

The process of combining multiple images or elements into a single, cohesive final image using editing software.

Custom zoom

An editor tool that allows zooming out from an image while simultaneously adding a text prompt to influence the newly generated surrounding content.

Editor (vary region)

A Midjourney tool that allows users to select a specific rectangular area of a generated image and re-prompt or modify only that region, enabling precise compositional adjustments.

Image prompt

Using an image URL within a text prompt to influence the style, composition, or subject of a new image generation.

Image weight (--iw)

A Midjourney parameter that controls the influence of an input image on the generated output, balancing it with the text prompt.

Inpainting

A feature in the Midjourney editor that allows users to fill a selected area within an image with new content based on a text prompt.

Midjourney editor

A web-based image manipulation tool provided by Midjourney, offering features like selection tools, Vary (Region), Inpainting, Outpainting, and prompt editing for post-generation refinement.

Midjourney v8

The latest version of the Midjourney AI image generation model, featuring improved realism, coherence, and prompt understanding.

Midjourney web editor

The browser-based interface for generating, managing, and refining Midjourney images with advanced tools.

Moodboard

A curated collection of images, textures, colors, and typography used to define and communicate the visual aesthetic or style of a project.

Multi-prompt

A technique using double colons (::) to combine multiple distinct concepts or ideas within a single prompt, optionally assigning relative weights to each.

Negative prompt

Using the `--no` parameter in a Midjourney prompt to explicitly exclude unwanted elements or concepts from the generated image.

Negative prompting (--no)

A Midjourney parameter used to specify elements or concepts that should be excluded from the generated image, helping to refine output and remove unwanted artifacts.

Niji mode

A specialized Midjourney model designed for generating anime, illustration, and manga styles, activated by the `--niji` parameter.

Outpainting

A feature in the Midjourney editor that extends the canvas beyond the original image boundaries, generating new content that blends smoothly with the existing image.

Pan

An editor tool that extends an image in one of four cardinal directions, adding new, contextually relevant content to the canvas.

Parameter

A special instruction appended to a prompt (starting with `--`) that modifies how Midjourney generates an image, controlling aspects like aspect ratio, stylization, or randomness.

Parameters

Specific commands or settings added to a Midjourney prompt (e.g., `--ar`, `--v`, `--s`) to control various aspects of the output.

Permutation prompts

A Midjourney feature using curly braces `{ }` to generate multiple variations of a prompt by substituting different values for a specified variable, creating separate jobs for each combination.

Prompt

A text description or set of instructions given to Midjourney to generate an image.

Prompt engineering

The art and science of crafting effective text inputs (prompts) to guide AI image generation.

Prompt resource

Websites, databases, or communities that offer example prompts, tutorials, and inspiration for Midjourney users to learn and refine their prompt-crafting skills.

Prompt weighting

A method of assigning relative importance to specific words or phrases within a Midjourney prompt using `::` followed by a number, influencing the AI's focus.

Remix mode

A Midjourney setting that allows users to modify the text prompt when re-rolling or varying an image, enabling iterative changes to content while preserving aspects of the original composition.

Retexture

A feature or technique within Midjourney's Editor that allows for changing the surface material or texture of objects within a selected region of an image.

Sref (style reference)

A Midjourney parameter (`--sref <image-url>`) used to influence the aesthetic style, colors, and mood of new image generations based on a provided reference image.

Sref code (style reference)

A unique numerical identifier extracted from an image that represents its overall artistic style, which can then be applied to new prompts to achieve style consistency.

Style explorer

A feature within the Midjourney web interface that allows users to browse, preview, and apply various predefined artistic and photographic styles to their prompts.

Style reference (sref)

A Midjourney parameter (`--sref`) used to guide the aesthetic style of a new image based on an existing image URL.

Style tuner

A Midjourney feature that generates a unique style code based on user preferences, allowing for consistent application of a specific aesthetic across multiple images using the `--style` parameter.

Style weight (--sw)

A parameter that controls the intensity or influence of the `--sref` image's style on the generated output, ranging from 0 to 1000.

Topaz gigapixel ai

A third-party software that uses artificial intelligence to enlarge images, intelligently adding detail and reducing artifacts for professional quality.

Upscaling

The process of increasing the resolution and detail of a generated image, making it suitable for larger prints or commercial use.

User profile

Your personal web page on Midjourney (midjourney.com/app) where you can view, organize, and manage all your generated images and account settings.

Vary (region)

An editor tool that allows users to select a specific area of an image and regenerate only that portion, useful for localized changes or inpainting.

REFERENCE

Answer Key

Chapter 1: Midjourney for Beginners

1. What is the primary function of a Midjourney prompt, and what role do parameters play in it?

A Midjourney prompt is a text description that instructs the AI on what image to generate. Parameters are special commands, starting with `--`, that are added to the prompt to control specific aspects of the image generation, such as its aspect ratio, artistic stylization, or randomness.

2. Describe how you would use an image prompt. Why might this be useful?

To use an image prompt, you include the URL of an existing image at the beginning of your text prompt. This is useful for guiding Midjourney to match a specific visual style, composition, or even a particular character or object from the reference image, providing more control over the output.

3. Explain the purpose of the Style Tuner and how its output is used.

The Style Tuner helps you define and consistently apply a unique visual aesthetic. You interactively select preferred styles, and Midjourney generates a unique style code. This code can then be added to any future prompt using the `--style` parameter to ensure all generated images share that specific look and feel.

4. What are the benefits of organizing your Midjourney images into folders?

Organizing images into folders within the Midjourney web editor helps in managing your creative assets efficiently. It allows you to group related images by project, theme, or client, making it easier to locate specific images later and maintaining a tidy workspace.

5. When would you use Midjourney's advanced upscaling options (2x, 4x) instead of just the basic upscale from the grid?

You would use Midjourney's advanced upscaling options (2x, 4x) when you need significantly higher resolution images for professional applications like large prints or commercial design assets. The basic upscale from the grid provides a larger version, but the advanced options further increase pixel density and detail, sometimes reaching very large dimensions.

Chapter 2: Midjourney for Beginners

1. What are the two primary interfaces for interacting with Midjourney, and what is a key benefit of each?

The two primary interfaces are the Discord bot and the Midjourney Web Editor. The Discord bot offers quick, command-line based image generation and variations. The Web Editor provides a visual, organized gallery for managing images and offers advanced tools for refinement and iteration.

2. Explain the purpose of the `--sref` parameter and how it is typically used.

The `--sref` (Style Reference) parameter is used to guide the aesthetic style of new images based on an

existing image's visual characteristics. It is typically used by appending `--sref <image URL>` to your prompt, allowing Midjourney to mimic the style of the provided reference image.

3. Describe three distinct ways the Midjourney Web Editor can be used to refine or expand an image after its initial generation.

The Web Editor can refine or expand an image using: 1. **Vary (Region)** to regenerate specific areas for localized changes. 2. **Pan** to extend the image canvas in a chosen direction, adding new content. 3. **Custom Zoom** to zoom out from the image while adding a new prompt to guide the generation of surrounding content.

4. How can you control the camera angle or shot distance of your image using prompt phrasing? Provide two examples.

You can control camera angle and shot distance using descriptive terms in your prompt. For camera angle, use terms like 'low-angle shot' or 'overhead shot'. For shot distance, use terms like 'close-up' or 'long shot'. For example: 'a low-angle shot of a majestic castle' or 'a close-up of a dewdrop on a leaf'.

5. What is the main utility of your Midjourney User Profile?

The main utility of your Midjourney User Profile is to serve as a centralized, visual gallery and management system for all your generated images. It allows you to browse, search, organize, and review the details of your past creations more efficiently than on Discord, and provides account information.

Chapter 3: Midjourney Prompting and Control

1. How can you ensure a specific element in your Midjourney prompt receives more emphasis than others?

You can use prompt weighting by adding `::` followed by a number after the word or phrase you want to emphasize. For example, `red car::2 blue background::1` tells Midjourney to prioritize the red car more than the blue background. This helps guide the AI's focus.

2. Explain the primary purpose of the `--cref` parameter and how to use it.

The `--cref` parameter is used to maintain character consistency across multiple Midjourney generations. You use it by appending `--cref [URL of your character's reference image]` to your prompt. This instructs Midjourney to replicate the character's appearance from the provided image in the new output.

3. What is the function of a moodboard in the context of Midjourney, and how does it aid in prompt creation?

A moodboard is a curated collection of visual references that defines the aesthetic direction for an AI art project. It aids in prompt creation by helping you clarify your artistic vision, identify key stylistic elements (like colors, lighting, and textures), and translate those visual cues into specific, descriptive keywords for your Midjourney prompts. You can also use moodboard image URLs directly as references.

4. How can you influence the 'camera' perspective of your Midjourney generations?

You can influence the camera perspective by including descriptive keywords in your prompt that specify camera angles or shot types. Examples include 'wide shot', 'close-up', 'overhead view', 'low

angle shot', or 'dutch angle'. These terms guide Midjourney in framing the subject and scene according to your desired viewpoint.

5. What is the difference between `--cref` and `--sref`, and how can they be used together?

`--cref` is for character reference, ensuring the consistent appearance of a specific character. `--sref` is for style reference, applying the aesthetic style of a reference image to new generations. They can be used together in a single prompt to generate an image featuring a consistent character rendered in a specific artistic style.

Chapter 4: Midjourney for Beginners

1. What is the primary purpose of Midjourney's Niji mode, and how do you activate it?

Niji mode is specifically designed for generating anime, illustration, and manga styles, offering softer aesthetics and vibrant colors. You activate it by adding the `--niji` parameter to your prompt, for example, `/imagine a character, --niji 6`.

2. Name two specific parameters or style terms that are particularly useful when crafting prompts for Niji mode.

Useful parameters include `--style cute`, `--style scenic`, or `--style expressive` to refine the artistic direction. Style terms like 'shonen manga character', 'cel-shaded', or 'studio Ghibli aesthetic' are also effective for guiding Niji's output.

3. Why is a tool like Topaz Gigapixel AI recommended for upscaling Midjourney images, rather than standard image resizing?

Topaz Gigapixel AI uses artificial intelligence to intelligently add details and reduce artifacts during enlargement, making the image appear sharper and more natural. Standard resizing often results in blurry or pixelated images without adding real detail.

4. Describe the basic steps for using Topaz Gigapixel AI to upscale a Midjourney image.

First, export your upscaled image from Midjourney. Then, open it in Gigapixel AI, select an appropriate AI model (like 'Art & CG' or 'Face Recovery'), choose your desired upscale factor, refine settings for noise and blur, preview the results, and finally process and save the high-resolution image.

5. What are two types of Midjourney prompt resources, and how can they help improve your AI art?

Two types are official Midjourney documentation and community showcases (e.g., Discord channels, Reddit, PromptBase). They provide examples of successful prompts, teach new descriptive vocabulary, and help users understand how different parameters are applied to achieve specific artistic outcomes.

6. When using prompt resources, what is a key strategy for learning and developing your own prompting skills, beyond simply copying?

A key strategy is to analyze and adapt prompts. Break down successful prompts to understand their components, learn new descriptive terms, and then experiment by modifying elements or parameters to create your own unique variations, rather than just duplicating them.

Chapter 5: In-Depth Workflows

1. How does the `--cref` parameter help in maintaining character consistency across multiple Midjourney generations?

The `--cref` parameter allows you to provide a URL to an existing image of a character. Midjourney then uses this reference image as a guide to generate new images that feature the same character's visual traits. This helps ensure that the character's appearance remains consistent even when placed in different scenes or poses.

2. What is the primary purpose of using moodboards in your Midjourney workflow?

Moodboards serve as a visual blueprint for your creative projects. They help clarify your artistic vision by collecting inspiration for style, color, lighting, and composition. This clarity allows you to craft more precise prompts, ensuring your Midjourney outputs align closely with your desired aesthetic.

3. Describe two different methods for controlling the "camera angle" of a scene generated in Midjourney.

You can control camera angle by explicitly describing it in your prompt, such as "low angle shot" or "bird's eye view." Another method involves using image prompts or moodboard references that depict the desired camera perspective. This provides Midjourney with visual cues to interpret and replicate the chosen angle.

4. When would you use an external AI upscaling tool instead of Midjourney's native upscaling?

You would use an external AI upscaling tool when you need resolutions far beyond Midjourney's native output, such as 20,000 x 20,000 pixels for large-format printing. While Midjourney provides good initial upscaling, external tools like Magnific AI or Topaz Gigapixel AI offer more advanced algorithms for detail enhancement and artifact reduction at extreme scales.

5. Explain how you might create a short animated sequence, or "Midjourney video," using the platform's image generation capabilities.

To create a short animated sequence, you would generate a series of Midjourney images with subtle, incremental changes in the prompt. This could involve small adjustments to character pose, object position, or camera perspective, while maintaining consistency with `--seed` and `--ar`. These sequential images can then be stitched together using external video editing software to form an animation.

Chapter 6: In-Depth Workflows

1. How does the `--sref` parameter differ from a regular image prompt in Midjourney?

The `--sref` parameter primarily influences the aesthetic style, colors, and overall mood of a new generation, drawing inspiration from a reference image's visual qualities. A regular image prompt, in contrast, influences both the content and style, often attempting to incorporate elements or subjects from the reference image directly into the new generation.

2. What is the primary function of the Midjourney Style Explorer?

The Midjourney Style Explorer's primary function is to provide a visual library of predefined artistic and photographic styles. It allows users to browse these styles, see their effects on sample images, and then easily apply them to their own prompts to achieve specific aesthetic outcomes.

3. Explain the purpose of the `--cref` parameter and how `--cw` relates to it.

The `--cref` parameter is used to maintain a consistent character identity, particularly facial features, across multiple Midjourney generations by referencing a specific image. The `--cw` (Character Weight) parameter controls the intensity of this influence, allowing users to adjust how strongly the reference character's features are applied to the generated output, from a subtle blend to a strong replication.

4. List three common uses for the Midjourney web editor.

Three common uses for the Midjourney web editor include: 1. Making precise changes to specific regions of an image using 'Vary (Region)' or 'Retexture', such as altering an object's appearance or texture. 2. Extending the canvas of an image using 'Outpainting' to create wider scenes or add new background elements. 3. Correcting imperfections or adding new elements within an image using 'Inpainting' by filling selected areas with new content based on a prompt.

5. Describe the basic iterative workflow for creating AI art in Midjourney.

The basic iterative workflow involves starting with a clear prompt to generate initial image grids. Promising candidates are then upscaled for detail. From these upscaled images, variations are explored using V buttons or Remix, often with prompt adjustments. This cycle of generation, evaluation, and refinement continues until the desired artistic outcome is achieved.

Chapter 7: In-Depth Workflows

1. How does Midjourney's Editor (Vary Region) contribute to precise composition control?

The Editor allows users to select and re-prompt specific areas of an image. This enables targeted adjustments to object placement, scale, and details within a defined region. It helps refine compositions iteratively without regenerating the entire image from scratch.

2. Explain the purpose of an `sref` code and how `--sw` enhances its use.

An `sref` code captures the stylistic essence of a reference image, allowing you to apply that style to new prompts for consistent aesthetics. The `--sw` (style weight) parameter controls the intensity of this applied style, letting you fine-tune how strongly the reference style influences the new generation, from subtle hints to dominant replication.

3. What is the benefit of using prompt formulas in Midjourney?

Prompt formulas provide a structured template for generating specific types of images. They streamline the prompt engineering process by offering a reusable framework that ensures all necessary components (subject, style, lighting, etc.) are considered. This saves time, promotes consistency, and helps achieve desired outcomes more predictably.

4. Describe how you would approach creating a 'vector art' aesthetic for a print-on-demand design in Midjourney.

To create a vector art aesthetic, I would use keywords like 'vector art', 'flat design', 'line art', 'minimalist illustration', and 'clean lines' in my prompt. The goal is to generate an image with clear, simple shapes

and solid colors. After generation, I would use vector graphics software like Adobe Illustrator to perform an 'Image Trace' to convert the raster output into a true vector file suitable for print.

5. How can ChatGPT be used to enhance the Midjourney prompt generation process?

ChatGPT can assist by brainstorming ideas, expanding short concepts into detailed prompts, generating comprehensive keyword lists for specific styles, and structuring prompts according to predefined categories. It can also help refine existing prompts by suggesting alternative phrasing or synonyms, acting as a valuable text-based creative assistant.

Chapter 8: In-Depth Workflows

1. What are two key improvements introduced in Midjourney Version 8?

Midjourney Version 8 significantly improves realism and coherence in generated images. It also offers enhanced comprehension of complex prompts, leading to more accurate and contextually relevant outputs.

2. How can you activate Midjourney Version 8 for your image generations?

You can activate Midjourney Version 8 by typing `/settings` in Discord and selecting "MJ Version 8," or by appending the parameter `--v 8` directly to your prompt.

3. Why is an external image editor like Adobe Photoshop considered essential in a professional Midjourney workflow?

Photoshop is essential for post-processing tasks such as refining fine details, correcting minor imperfections, precise color adjustments, and compositing multiple Midjourney outputs into a single, polished design asset.

4. Explain the purpose of AI upscaling tools in the context of Midjourney-generated images.

AI upscaling tools increase the resolution of Midjourney images without introducing significant pixelation or artifacts. This is crucial for preparing images for high-quality commercial printing or large-format displays, where standard Midjourney output resolution may be insufficient.

5. Describe one technique for creating truly unique images using Midjourney in conjunction with other methods.

One technique is image-to-image blending, where you generate a base image in Midjourney, then use its URL as an `--iw` reference in a new prompt to introduce new elements or styles. Another method involves preparing unique abstract shapes or color palettes in an external editor and using these as image prompts for Midjourney.

CLOSING

Where to Go Next

After completing this course, continue practicing with Midjourney daily. Experiment with new prompts, parameters, and finishing techniques in Photoshop. Consistent application of these skills will solidify your understanding and improve your output.

Apply your learned skills to personal projects or client work. Create logos, social media thumbnails, and product visuals to build a strong portfolio. Focus on solving real design challenges using Midjourney as a primary tool.

Consider exploring advanced topics in graphic design, digital art, or specific AI applications for marketing or product visualization. Further mastery of Photoshop or other design software will also complement your Midjourney expertise.



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