AIFreeForever

The Leonardo AI Prompt Guide for 2026

A Leonardo AI prompt is a short description of one picture that an AI image tool turns into artwork. The clearer the picture in your words, the closer the image comes to the one in your head. This guide covers the six parts of a strong image prompt, the six art styles and when to use each, mood and colour pairs, the camera angles, five checks, ten ready prompts and a page to plan your own picture.

The six parts of a strong image prompt

1. **Subject and action.** Who or what is in the picture, and what it is doing. "A knight resting beside a campfire," not "a knight."
2. **Setting.** Where it is: a forest, a city street, a castle hall, an empty room or outer space.
3. **Art style.** Digital painting, anime, realistic, line art, fantasy illustration or surreal.
4. **Mood.** Dreamlike, dark, whimsical, epic, peaceful or intense.
5. **Colours and light.** Monochrome, pastel, neon, earth tones or bold and bright, with the light you want: golden hour, moonlight or soft studio light.
6. **Camera angle.** A close-up, a wide shot, an overhead view, a first-person view or a side view.

The six art styles and when to use each

Style	How it looks	Use it for
Digital painting	Smooth, painterly, with soft brush strokes	Characters, book covers, fantasy scenes
Anime	Clean lines, bright colours, stylised faces	Characters, school scenes, action
Realistic	Like a photo, with natural light and texture	Portraits, products, real places
Line art	Clean outlines with little shading	Colouring pages, tattoos, sketches
Fantasy	Magical, rich in detail, otherworldly	Dragons, castles, game concept art

Mood and colour pairs that work

Mood + colours	What you get
Dreamlike + Pastel	Soft, floating scenes with gentle light
Dark + Monochrome	Moody pictures built from one colour and deep shadows
Epic + Bold & Bright	Big heroic scenes that grab the eye
Peaceful + Earth Tones	Calm nature scenes in warm greens and browns
Intense + Neon	High-energy night scenes with glowing light
Whimsical + Pastel	Playful, storybook pictures with a light feel

Camera angles

- **Close-up.** A face, a hand or one small detail fills the picture. Good for feelings and texture.
- **Wide shot.** The whole scene and its setting. Good for landscapes and big moments.
- **Overhead.** Looking straight down, like a bird. Good for maps, tables and patterns.
- **First-person.** The view from the subject's own eyes. Good for games and adventure.
- **Side view.** The subject in profile. Good for characters, vehicles and line art.

Five checks before you make the image

1. **One picture.** Describe one moment and one main subject. Too many ideas in one prompt confuse the tool.
2. **Most important first.** Put the subject at the start, then the style, then the details.
3. **Show, do not tell.** Write what the eye sees, not what the viewer should think.
4. **No names or words.** Describe a look instead of naming a real person or a brand, and leave out text, logos and signs.
5. **Change one thing at a time.** If the image is close but not right, change one word and try again.

Ten ready prompts to try

1. A lone armoured knight at the edge of a glowing forest at dusk, close-up of the worn helmet catching blue light, digital painting, dreamlike mood, monochrome blue palette, soft mist, highly detailed.
2. A small red fox spirit with glowing tails leaping across moonlit rooftops, anime style, whimsical mood, pastel pink and lavender sky, wide shot of the sleeping town below.
3. An abandoned greenhouse overgrown with giant ferns, sunlight through cracked glass, realistic, peaceful mood, moss green and warm brown, wide shot from the doorway.
4. A brass pocket watch floating above an open book, its gears spilling out as tiny stars, surreal style, dreamlike mood, neon violet and teal on a dark background, overhead view.
5. A young dragon tamer on a cliff above a misty valley as a huge emerald dragon glides past, fantasy illustration, epic mood, bold green and gold, wide shot, golden light.
6. A sleeping cat curled on a stack of old books, clean line art with minimal shading, peaceful mood, black ink on white, side view.
7. A busy night market street lit by paper lanterns and glowing signs without words, digital painting, intense mood, neon pink and blue, first-person view walking through the crowd.
8. A lighthouse on a rocky island during a storm, huge waves crashing below, realistic, dark mood, monochrome grey and white, wide shot, lightning in the distance.
9. A tiny mushroom village built inside a hollow tree, warm windows glowing at dusk, fantasy illustration, whimsical mood, earth tones, close-up of the front door.
10. A staircase spiralling up into a sea of clouds with floating islands around it, surreal style, dreamlike mood, pastel colours, overhead view looking down the spiral.

Plan your picture

Fill this in, then turn it into Leonardo AI prompts on the Leonardo AI Prompt Generator.

Your subject, and what it is doing

The setting, art style, mood, colours and camera angle you want

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