

Better Thinking Through AI

10 Strategies for Using AI to Improve Your Thinking

01 AI Can Ask Questions

Let AI ask you questions instead of giving you answers. This helps you better understand and critique the problem.

- ✗ *"Create a marketing plan for our new product."*
- ✓ *"Before I write my marketing plan, ask me five challenging questions that board members might raise about our approach, target metrics, and potential risks."*

03 AI Can Spot Overlooked Things

Let AI reveal what you might be missing — before it becomes a problem.

- ✗ *"Review this project plan and fix any issues."*
- ✓ *"What critical considerations do teams typically miss when creating project plans?"*

05 AI Can Offer Alternatives

Don't just ask AI for an answer — ask for options.

- ✗ *"Create a marketing campaign for our product launch."*
- ✓ *"Give me five different approaches to doing a marketing campaign for our new product."*

07 AI Can Identify Patterns

Use AI to plan what you should be looking for.

- ✗ *"Analyze this customer feedback data."*
- ✓ *"What types of patterns show up in this data, and what could we miss if we only focus on the obvious ones?"*

09 AI Can Surface Related Material

Find connections you wouldn't have thought to look for.

- ✗ *"Write a presentation about hybrid work trends."*
- ✓ *"What research, articles, or case studies are related to hybrid work trends? Return these as a list."*

02 AI Can Surface Best-Practices

Let AI connect you to what works — before you reinvent the wheel.

- ✗ *"Write a post-mortem for our recent project."*
- ✓ *"What are the most effective post-mortem frameworks for distributed teams working on complex technical transitions?"*

04 AI Should Leverage Your Expertise

Let AI amplify your experience, not replace it.

- ✗ *"Create a framework for patient engagement in telehealth."*
- ✓ *"Here's a document I created outlining good practices for GP electronic health records. How might it be adapted for a remote care setting?"*

06 Use AI to Help Understand Outcomes

Use AI to think forward, not just backward.

- ✗ *"Is this reorganization a good idea?"*
- ✓ *"What are three possible outcomes if we reorganize our sales team by splitting account managers into separate groups for small-business clients and enterprise clients? Who would be most affected in each scenario?"*

08 AI Can Help Break Down Tasks

Let AI turn big goals into manageable pieces.

- ✗ *"Write a strategic plan for our department."*
- ✓ *"I need to lead our company's transition to hybrid work over the next 12 months, involving policy changes, office redesign, and new collaboration tools. Help me break this complex organizational change into manageable phases with clear dependencies and decision points."*

10 AI Can Support Learning

Use AI as a mentor, not just a machine.

- ✗ *"Explain systems thinking to me."*
- ✓ *"I want to learn about systems thinking. Can you come up with a lesson plan that works for the topic? I can spend about 30 minutes on this a day."*