

Setting Up Midjourney

Start generating image quickly with AI from Midjourney!

Midjourney is an incredible AI image generator known for its ability to create beautiful images easily with its default configuration. It is also unique for how users interact with it. Instead of a custom web interface or desktop application, Midjourney is accessed through the chat app Discord. Popular with gamers and artists, you may already have an account, but if not, keep reading on how to get an account set up to start using Midjourney!

Setting up Discord

Before we can use Midjourney, we need to sign up for a Discord account. Accounts are free and can be created quickly by completing [this simple form on their website](#). After registering, make sure to also check your email for instructions on verifying your account to fully unlock it.

With the Discord account set up, go to [Midjourney's website](#), and click "Join the Beta" at the bottom of the page. This will redirect you to an invite for Midjourney's Discord server, where you can then start creating images and chatting with other users.

Subscribing to Midjourney

But before we can get started generating images, you will first need to sign up for a paid subscription. Sadly, Midjourney no longer offers a trial plan due to previous users taking advantage of their system.

To get a subscription, first head to one of the rooms for new users starting with the phrase **newbie**, such as **newbie-22** or **newbie-56**. Then, in the message box, type **/subscribe**, and hit **Enter**. This is called a **slash command** in Discord and is how you can interact with the automated bots that both manage your Midjourney subscription as well as generate images. The **/subscribe** command will open a customized link guiding you to choose and pay for a Midjourney plan.

Confusingly, the Midjourney plans are offered in terms of hardware usage and not images generated. There are also a couple of modes for how images are generated. Users can either choose a faster, high priority Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) which is limited on all accounts, or choose a slower, low priority GPU that allows for generating an unlimited number of images if time isn't a concern.

Generating your First Image

To start creating some images, we will first have to head back to one of the **newbie** chats. Here you can see the requests for images from all users. While this can be very chaotic, getting insight into the prompts others use to generate their images can be helpful for new users.

To make the image, just type **/imagine** followed by a description of what image you want generated. For example, the following command can be used to generate an image of a ship in the ocean:

```
/imagine A wooden ship floating in the middle of the ocean.
```

After accepting the terms of service and waiting a minute, four visual variations of this prompt should appear.

Further Customization

Beneath the generated images you'll also find a series of buttons to further transform each image:

- U1, U2, U3, U4
- V1, V2, V3, V4
- Re-roll arrows

The number following the **u** and **v** corresponds to which of the images to modify. The numbers go left-to-right and then top-to-bottom. So **u2** would select the top right image of the grid while **u3** would select the bottom left one.

The **u** and **v** will each do different things to the selected image.

The **v** button creates a variation of the chosen image. It informs the generative AI that you like the general make-up of this image and want something similar, but slightly different.

The **u** chooses one image from the grid for access to additional editing and generation tools provided in a follow up message. The options for further editing are:

- **Vary** buttons that will change parts of the selected image, similar to the **v** button from earlier. However, here you can choose the strength of the variation (either **Strong** or **Subtle**) as well as to vary only one region of the image, such as a subject's hat.

- **Zoom** buttons that will grow the image in each direction, generating new visuals based on the existing image and the original prompt.
- Arrow buttons that will pan the image, growing it similarly to the **Zoom** buttons, but only in one direction.

Tips for Prompts and Wrapping Up

And that is all that's needed to generate images! From here, it is just about practicing writing clear prompts so that the Midjourney AI can best understand the image you are attempting to generate. Midjourney recommends highlighting these details in a short prompt:

Subject: person, animal, character, location, object, etc.

Medium: photo, painting, illustration, sculpture, doodle, tapestry, etc.

Environment: indoors, outdoors, on the moon, in Narnia, underwater, the Emerald City, etc.

Lighting: soft, ambient, overcast, neon, studio lights, etc.

Color: vibrant, muted, bright, monochromatic, colorful, black and white, pastel, etc.

Mood: Sedate, calm, raucous, energetic, etc.

Composition: Portrait, headshot, closeup, birds-eye view, etc.

To learn more about the specifics of how the generation of the images works or to learn a few other niche commands, consider reading the [Midjourney documentation here](#).

No matter what you end up choosing to design, Midjourney usually creates some beautiful images, so go on and have fun!