

Reflection on Using AI Assistance

Throughout the development of my Automated Pet Feeder System, I engaged with Microsoft Copilot to refine both the technical and documentation aspects of the project. I began by prompting it with: *“Help me write a professional README.md file”*. Copilot responded with a well-structured template that included sections like project summary, problem-solving steps, repository structure, and submission details. This not only elevated the professionalism of my documentation but also clarified how to present my work effectively to both technical and non-technical audiences.

Later, I asked: *“Can you give examples of effective README files?”* and Copilot provided curated links and breakdowns of best practices. This helped me benchmark my own README against industry standards and inspired me to include visuals and clearer usage instructions.

The most impactful insight was how Copilot encouraged modular thinking in my word-based code. It suggested breaking down logic into tasks with meaningful variable names and comments, which improved readability and made testing easier. It also helped me reflect on ethical considerations and real-world implementation using Arduino.

Overall, Copilot acted as a collaborative partner—guiding me through documentation, logic refinement, and presentation. It influenced my final solution by helping me think more critically about user experience, system reliability, and how to communicate my ideas clearly.

Github Link: https://github.com/Tasmin223/PetFeeder-Project_Assignment-01