Getting Started with AI: Resources for Community Learning

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming part of everyday life — from smartphones to healthcare. This 1-page guide offers accessible, beginner-friendly resources for anyone in the community who wants to learn more about AI, its uses, and how it impacts society.

🌐 Beginner-Friendly Online Courses

- Elements of AI – https://www.elementsofai.com/
  Free global course designed for non-experts by the University of Helsinki and Reaktor.
- Google AI for Anyone – https://ai.google/education/
  Short videos and easy explanations about AI's real-world uses.
- IBM SkillsBuild – AI Fundamentals – https://skillsbuild.org/
  Free courses on AI basics, ethics, and job-ready skills.
- Khan Academy – Intro to Machine Learning –
  https://www.khanacademy.org/computing/computer-science/ai
  Visual and beginner-friendly lessons on AI and ML.

📚 Books & Guides

- You Look Like a Thing and I Love You by Janelle Shane
  A humorous and accessible intro to AI with real examples.
- Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Thinking Humans by Melanie Mitchell
  A thoughtful look at AI's possibilities and limitations.

🎧 Podcasts & Videos

- AI Alignment Podcast – https://futureoflife.org/ai-alignment-podcast/
  Explores ethics and long-term impacts of AI.
- CrashCourse AI Series – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ePf9rue1Ao
  Fun animated YouTube series covering key AI topics.

🛠 Hands-On Tools (No Coding Needed)

- Teachable Machine – https://teachablemachine.withgoogle.com/
  Train basic machine learning models using images or sound.
- ChatGPT – https://chat.openai.com/
  Use to explore how AI interacts through conversation.

- MIT Scratch + AI – https://scratch.mit.edu/
  Great for kids—create simple AI projects using blocks.

✺ Key Topics to Learn About

- What is AI (vs. automation)?
- Everyday uses of AI (phones, social media, services)
- Privacy and AI
- AI's impact on jobs and education
- Bias and fairness in AI systems
- Misinformation and deepfakes

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