Lab 2: Steering

Overview

In this lab, you will learn how to use Kiro's Steering feature to provide contextual guidance and standards to your AI agent. Steering allows you to establish project-specific rules, coding standards, and architectural guidelines that Kiro will follow when generating code and making suggestions.

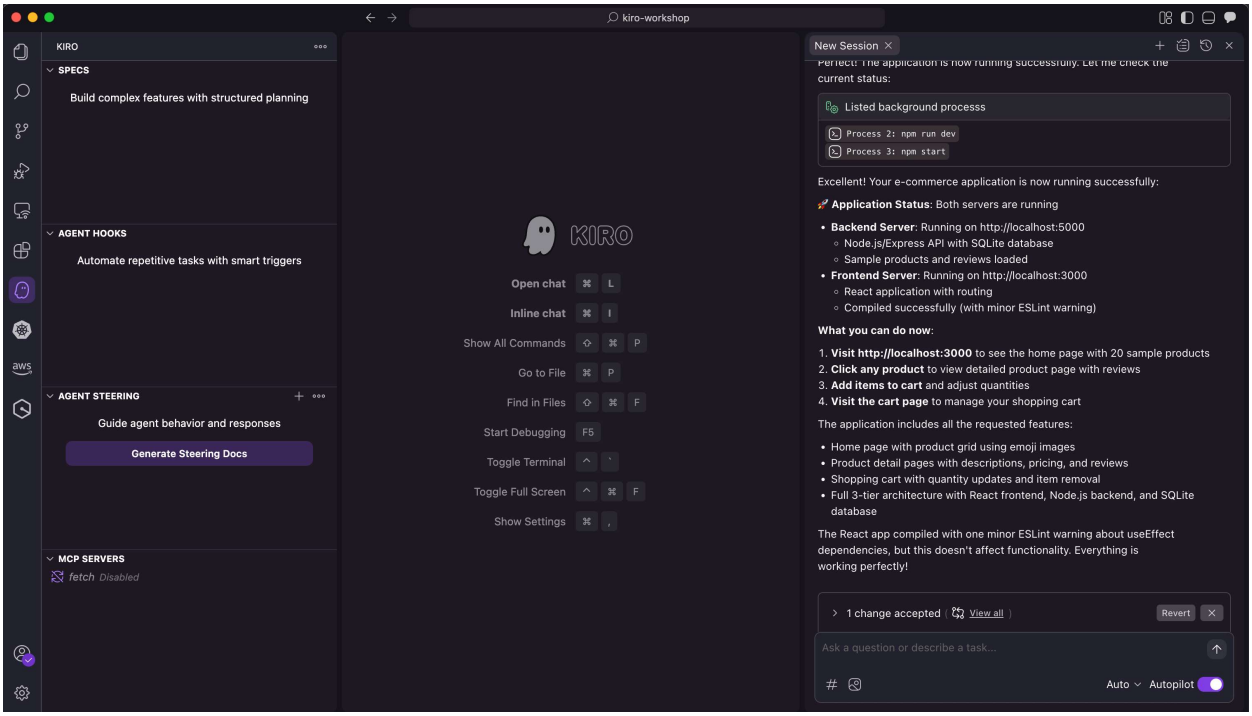
You'll discover how to:

- **Generate foundational steering documents** that define your product overview, technology stack, and project structure
- **Create custom steering files** with development standards and best practices specific to your e-commerce project
- **Configure steering inclusion rules** to control when specific guidance applies
- **Leverage steering to maintain consistency** across your codebase and ensure AI-generated code follows your established patterns

Steering acts as a persistent memory for Kiro, helping it understand your project's context, constraints, and preferences. This results in more relevant suggestions, better code quality, and faster development cycles as the AI agent becomes familiar with your specific requirements and coding standards.

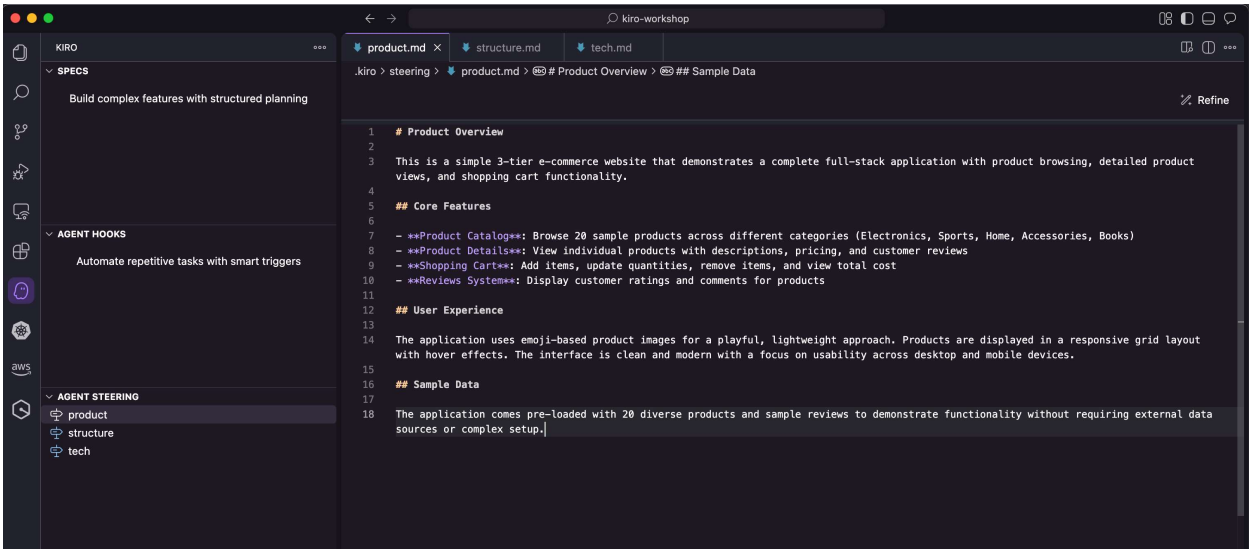
Generate Steering Docs

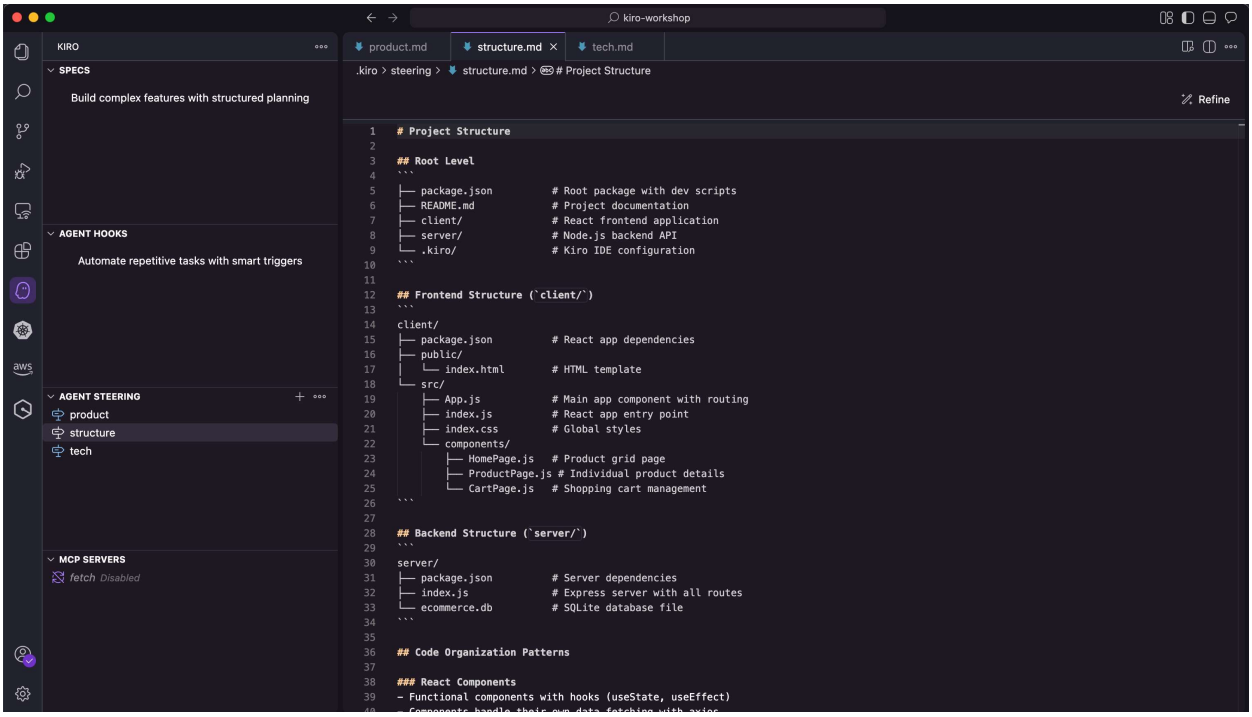
Click the Kiro Ghost icon in the activity bar (left sidebar). In **AGENT STEERING** section, click **Generate Steering Docs** button for foundational steering files to establish core project context.

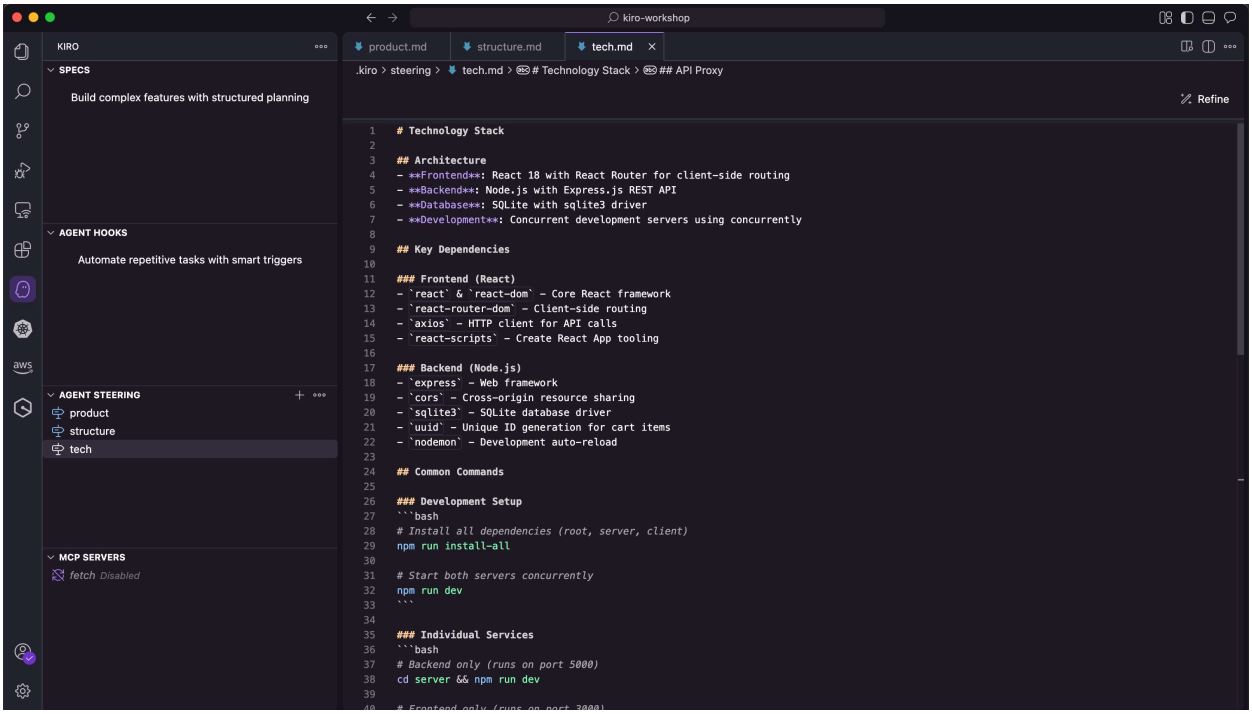


Kiro will create three foundational files:

1. **Product Overview** (`product.md`) - Defines your product's purpose, target users, key features, and business objectives. This helps Kiro understand the "why" behind technical decisions and suggest solutions aligned with your product goals.
2. **Technology Stack** (`tech.md`) - Documents your chosen frameworks, libraries, development tools, and technical constraints. When Kiro suggests implementations, it will prefer your established stack over alternatives.
3. **Project Structure** (`structure.md`) - Outlines file organization, naming conventions, import patterns, and architectural decisions. This ensures generated code fits seamlessly into your existing codebase.







Add Custom Steering Docs

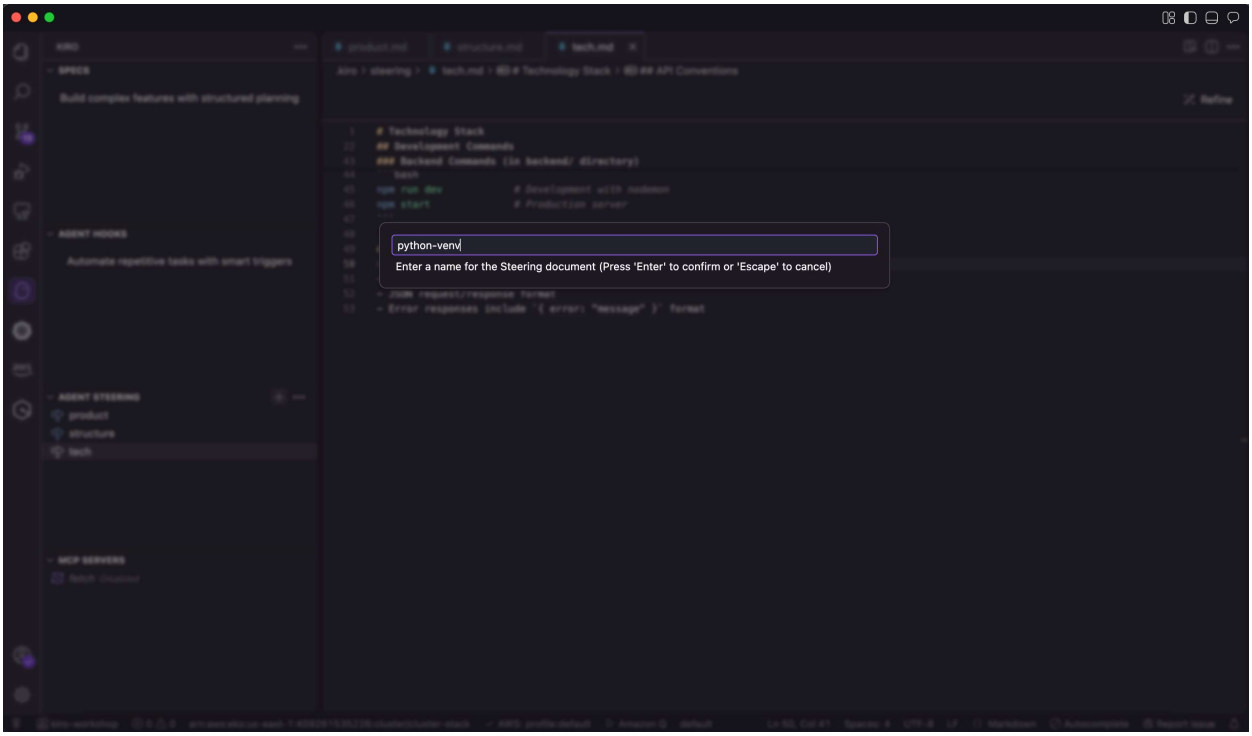
Create Custom Steering on Your Own

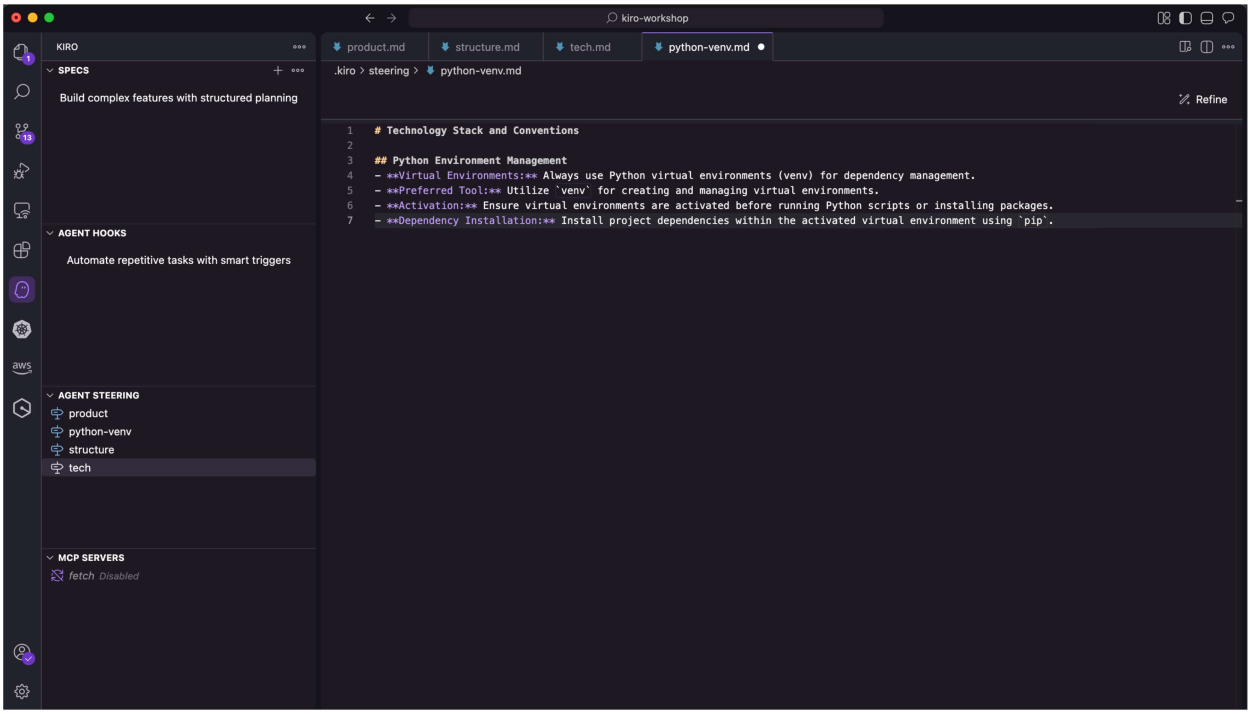
needs. For example:

1. Navigate to the Steering section in the Kiro panel
2. Click the + button to create a new .md file
3. Choose a descriptive filename (e.g. python-venv.md)
4. Copy the below guidance which is standard markdown syntax, and Save

```
# Technology Stack and Conventions

## Python Environment Management
- **Virtual Environments:** Always use Python virtual environments (venv) for dependency management.
- **Preferred Tool:** Utilize `venv` for creating and managing virtual environments.
- **Activation:** Ensure virtual environments are activated before running Python scripts or install
- **Dependency Installation:** Install project dependencies within the activated virtual environment
```



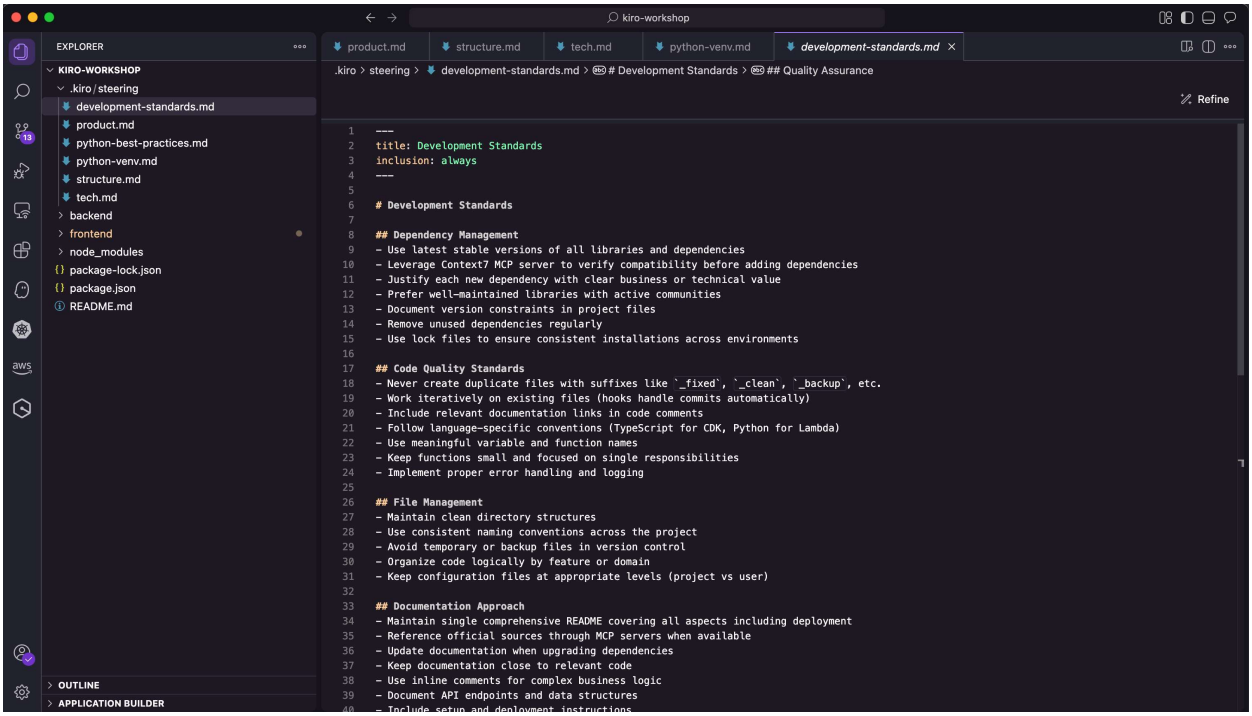


Upload Custom Steering File

You can also upload the steering file to `.kiro/steerings` directly. Download the two sample steering files:

- development-standards.md
- python-best-practices.md

and then copy the file to `.kiro/steerings`.



Steering Examples

You may find more steering examples for reference here:

- Kiro Best Practice - Steering Example

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