■ How to Get Complete, Working Code from an Al Assistant

(Guidelines for software development projects — R, Python, JavaScript, or mixed packages)

1■■ Start Every Project in Full-Code Mode

Begin your session with a clear setup statement:

Prompt Example:

"You are in $Full-Code\ Mode$. Produce complete, runnable code — no placeholders, no TODO, no omitted sections.

Assume I want a ready-to-run, installable project (R package, Python module, or web app).

Do not simplify or restyle working code unless I ask you to. Ask for confirmation only when necessary, then proceed without asking again."

2■■ Five Rules for Reliable, Executable Results

- Say "complete, functional code only." Never accept partial code with ... or fill-ins.
- Specify exactly what should change ("Modify only the JS file.").
- Ask for full file structure to verify all components exist.
- Confirm once, then let it run no multiple confirmations.
- Keep outputs as code blocks, not rendered previews.

3■■ Collaboration Rules for Teams

- 1. Freeze working code unless someone explicitly approves changes.
- 2. Label each version (e.g., layoutWidget_0.5.6) before editing.
- 3. Use clear scopes like "Edit only JS" or "Fix this error in R."
- 4. Share exact console error messages.
- 5. If the AI can't run code, ask for a **build script** to run locally.

4■■ Avoiding Phantom Builds

If the AI says it is "building," "packaging," or "executing," make sure it actually can. If not, say:

"If you can't execute code, generate a full local build script that creates the same files."

That prevents long waits and ensures usable output.

5**■■** Optional Debugging Guardrail

"Treat all existing code as production code. Only change what is necessary to fix the described problem. Keep all other behavior identical."

6■■ Example: Starting a Reliable Coding Session

Prompt Example:

"You are in Full-Code Mode. We are building an R package with an $\mbox{HTML}\mbox{widget}$ written in D3.js.

Provide complete runnable files - no placeholders.

I want to install it locally with devtools::install_local() and run demo_layoutWidget().

Do not modify visuals or rename files unless requested.

When ready to create the .zip, ask once for confirmation, then proceed."

■ Summary — The LLM Developer Contract

No placeholders: Code runs as-is

No silent changes: Predictable behavior
One confirmation: No endless waiting
Transparency: You know what's being done
Self-contained output: All files ready to build