What is....

Prompting Engineer?

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System Prompt:

Sets the behavior and tone of the AI. Think of it as the "character settings" or job description. **Example**: "You are a helpful customer support assistant who answers clearly and politely."

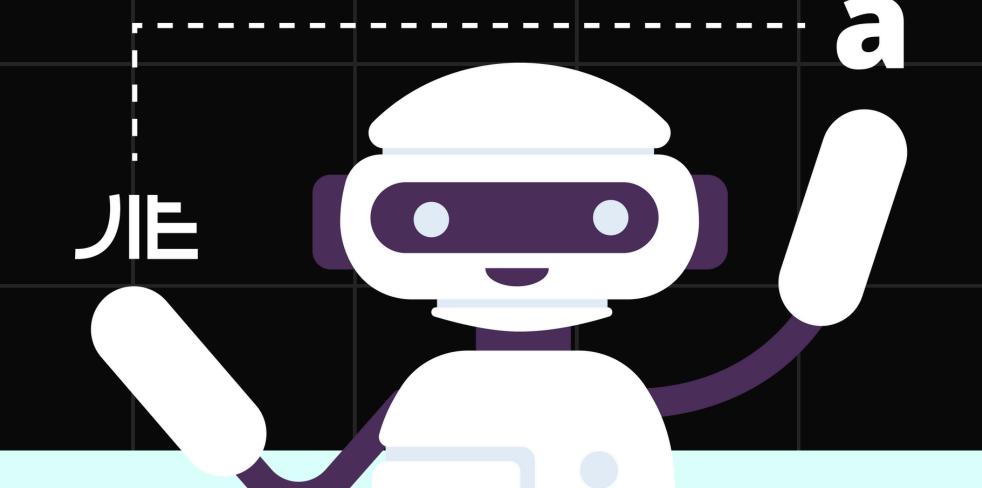
User Prompt

This is the task or question the user wants help with. It drives the model's response. **Example**: "Summarize this support ticket in one sentence."

Message History

The previous messages exchanged between the user and the Al. It provides memory and context for coherent replies. **Example**: Previous questions, answers, or corrections.

Structure under the hood of a Prompt



markdown

System: (sets the model's behavior and role)

User: (previous user message)

Assistant: (model's previous response)

User: (current message triggering a new response)

System:
You are a helpful and concise medical assistant. Always respond with factual information,
User:
Can you explain what hypertension is?

Assistant:
Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, is a condition in which the force of the
User:
Can it be cured permanently?

Differences between prompting in workflow and talking with ChatGTP

In a chat interface like ChatGPT, you can clarify, rephrase, or guide the model interactively. But in automated workflows—like those built in n8n—your prompts must work autonomously, without any human-in-the-loop.

No second chances:

Agents can't ask follow-up questions. The prompt must be self-sufficient and unambiguous.

Arbitrary inputs:

The data can come from emails, databases, APIs... it's unpredictable. Your prompt must handle edge cases gracefully.

Structured outputs required:

Unlike casual chat, the AI must respond in a specific format—like clean JSON, tags, or defined fields—that other nodes can process.

No forgiveness in production:

A poorly written prompt might send a wrong classification, trigger the wrong webhook, or even email the wrong person. One token off, and your pipeline could break.

