

Mastering Negative Prompts: A Guide to Refining AI-Generated Content

Negative prompts are a technique used in various content generation systems, including AI like DALL-E or text-to-image software, to specify what you do not want to appear in the generated content. It's a way to guide the algorithm away from certain elements or themes. The purpose of using negative prompts is to refine the output by preventing undesired results.

Here's a brief overview of how to use negative prompts effectively:

1. **Be Specific:** Use precise language to exclude particular subjects, styles, or elements that you don't want to appear in your content. For example, if you don't want any text in an image, you might include "no text" as a negative prompt.
2. **Use Recognizable Terms:** The AI or system should be familiar with the terms you're using to exclude elements. For instance, "no modern buildings" would be more effective than a vague term like "no newfangled structures."
3. **Balance with Positive Prompts:** Negative prompts should be used in conjunction with positive prompts to give the AI a clear direction. If you use only negative prompts, the AI might be left without enough information to generate anything coherent.
4. **Avoid Overuse:** Too many negative prompts can overly constrain the AI, leading to generic or overly simplified outputs. It's important to find a balance to allow for creativity within the bounds you set.

As for brackets, in the context of negative prompts:

- Single parentheses (): These are typically used for simple, non-critical exclusions. They're like a soft 'do not include' request to the AI.
- Double parentheses (()): These might indicate a stronger desire to exclude something, potentially a step up from the single brackets in terms of importance or emphasis.
- Triple parentheses ((()))): While in some online contexts, triple parentheses have taken on specific and sometimes problematic connotations, in the context of content generation or AI prompts, they could be interpreted as a very strong signal to avoid the enclosed content. However, because of their potential to be misinterpreted or because they can be associated with negative online behavior, it's often better to use clear language rather than rely on such symbols.

In practice, the interpretation of brackets can vary depending on the AI or system you're using. Some systems may not recognize brackets as having any special significance and simply treat the text inside them as regular text. Always check the guidelines or documentation for the specific content generation system you're using to understand how it interprets negative prompts and brackets.

Category	Included Prompts
Artistic Quality Concerns	<i>bad art, lazy art, low quality, low effort, rushed art, bad fan art, immature, ugly, bad composition, bad proportions, bad anatomy, mangled, distorted, gross proportions, kitsch, bad art, bad taste, unnatural, staged</i>
Image Composition and Quality Issues	<i>overexposed, underexposed, low res, lowres, blurry, blur, smeared, fog, out of focus, high Depth of field, dark, black background, black rectangle, monochrome, colorblind, noisy, grainy, dead pixel, dusty, dirty, long exposure time, distorted, fisheye camera, wide angle camera, telescopic interference, out of frame, watermark, signature, cut off text, half letter, latent space, contour, glare, lens flare</i>
Negative Emotional States or Phases	<i>depressed, blue phase</i>
Intellectual Property and Fan Creations	<i>Digimon, Sonic, original character, OC, cartoon</i>
Social Media, Internet Culture, and Memes	<i>4chan, Twitter, TikTok, (((stock image))), (((stock photo))), (((stock-photo))), stock image, stock photo, stock-photo</i>
Offensive or Sensitive Content	<i>fascist, racist, Machiavellian, pepe the frog, blackface, (((twitter))), (((4chan))), ((Tik Tok)), ((tiktok)), (((twitter))), controlled, dictated, dominated, uniform</i>
Cultural and Historical References	<i>medieval, religion, religious, holy, sacred, Russian, Machiavellian</i>
Miscellaneous Descriptors	<i>boring, monotone, normal, common, striped, borders, white border, cutout, collage, children, stuffed animal</i>
Technical and Specific Art Flaws	<i>wrong distance, far away object in front of nearer object, duplicate, horrific, mutated, mutation, deformed, disfigured, morbid, long body, asymmetric, poorly drawn face, cloned face, cloned head, asymmetric ears, asymmetric earrings, floating hair, long neck, cross eyed, staring, stare, stare into the camera, look at the camera, blinking, winking, makeup, lipstick, eye liner, eyeliner, floating branch, floating rock, floating bush, floating tree, green skin</i>

Inappropriate Content

extra tail, missing tail, extra limb, too many fingers, extra fingers, malformed limbs, malformed hands, poorly drawn hands, mutated hands, mutated fingers, mutilated hands, missing limb, missing arm, missing leg, floating limb, disconnected limb

Additional Negative Art Descriptors

unbalanced, jarring, clashing colors, incoherent, nonsensical layout, garish, jumbled, chaotic, disarray, cluttered, mismatched, haphazard, ill-conceived, thoughtless, graceless, inelegant, crude, rough, sketchy, unfinished look, amateurish, uninspired, derivative, trite, clichéd, predictable, banal, insipid, vapid, pedestrian, lackluster, dull, hackneyed, tawdry, tasteless, gaudy, cheap, tacky, ostentatious, flamboyant, excessive, overdone, melodramatic, overdramatic, cartoonish, exaggerated, caricatured, grotesque, bizarre, odd, weird, strange, peculiar, surreal, unrealistic, abstract, non-representational, nonobjective.

