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Sabrina Ortiz/ZDNETChatGPT is an AI chatbot with advanced natural language processing (NLP) that allows you to have human-like conversations to complete various tasks. The generative AI tool can answer questions and assist you with composing text, code, and much more. Also, how to use ChatGPT? It's currently open to use for free. OpenAI launched a paid subscription version called ChatGPT Plus in February 2023, which guarantees users access to the company's latest models, exclusive features, and updates but is not necessary for basic usage. What is ChatGPT used for? ChatGPT offers many functions in addition to answering simple questions. ChatGPT can compose essays, have philosophical conversations, do math, and even code for you. The tasks ChatGPT can help with don't have to be as ambitious. For example, my favorite use case for ChatGPT is to help create basic lists for chores, such as packing and grocery shopping, and to-do lists that make my daily life more productive. The possibilities are endless. ZDNET has published many ChatGPT how-to guides. Below are some of the most popular ones. Use ChatGPT to: is ChatGPT available for free? ChatGPT is free, regardless of what you use it for, including writing, coding, and much more. There is a subscription option, ChatGPT Plus, that costs \$20 per month. The paid subscription model gives you extra perks, such as priority access to GPT-4o, DALL-E 3, unlimited image generation, Canvas Voice Mode, and the latest upgrades. Also, ChatGPT vs ChatGPT Plus: Is it worth the subscription fee? Although the subscription price may seem steep, it is the same amount as Microsoft Copilot Pro and Google One AI Premium, which are Microsoft's and Google's paid AI offerings. How can you access ChatGPT? On April 1, 2024, OpenAI stopped requiring you to log in to ChatGPT. Now, you can access ChatGPT simply by visiting chat.openai.com. You can also access ChatGPT via an iPhone, Android, or desktop app. Once you visit the site, you can start chatting away with ChatGPT. A great way to get started is by asking a question, similar to what you would do with Google. You can ask as many questions as you'd like. Also, ChatGPT no longer requires a login, but you might want one anyway. Here's why: Creating an OpenAI account still offers some perks, such as saving and reviewing your chat history, accessing custom instructions, and, most importantly, getting free access to GPT-4o. Signing up is free and easy; you can use your existing Google login. For step-by-step instructions, check out ZDNET's guide on how to start using ChatGPT. Is there a ChatGPT app? Yes, an official ChatGPT app is available for iPhone and Android users. Make sure to download OpenAI's app, as many copycat fake apps are listed on Apple's App Store and the Google Play Store that are not affiliated with OpenAI. Also, I changed 5 ChatGPT settings and instantly became more productive - here's how: There's also a ChatGPT app for Mac OS and Windows, which lets you access the chatbot quickly via a keyboard shortcut. The Mac app was initially only available for ChatGPT Plus subscribers, but OpenAI recently made it available to all users. The Windows app is still limited to ChatGPT Plus, Enterprise, and EDU users. Is ChatGPT safe? People have expressed concerns about AI chatbots replacing or atrophying human intelligence. For example, chatbots can write an entire essay in seconds, raising concerns about students cheating and not learning how to write properly. These fears even led some school districts to block access when ChatGPT initially launched. Now, not only have many of those schools decided to unblock the technology, but some higher education institutions have been celebrating their academic offerings to AI-related coursework. Also, Two ways you can build custom AI assistants with GPT-4o - and one to free: Another concern with AI chatbots is the possible spread of misinformation. ChatGPT says: "My responses are not intended to be taken as fact, and I always encourage people to verify any information they receive from me or any other source." OpenAI also notes that ChatGPT sometimes writes "plausible-sounding but incorrect or nonsensical answers." Lastly, there are ethical and privacy concerns regarding the information ChatGPT was trained on. OpenAI scraped the internet to train the chatbot without asking content owners for permission to use their content, which brings up many copyright and intellectual property concerns. Also, How to use ChatGPT to analyze PDFs for free: There are also privacy concerns regarding generative AI companies using your data to fine-tune their models further, which has become a common practice. OpenAI lets you turn off training in ChatGPT's settings. So, is ChatGPT safe? If your main concern is privacy, OpenAI has implemented several options to give users peace of mind that their data will not be used to train models. The company even allows you to turn off your chat history. If you are concerned about moral and ethical problems, they are still being hotly debated. Will my conversations with ChatGPT be used for training? Companies train generative AI models on user inputs. Therefore, when familiarizing yourself with how to use ChatGPT, you might wonder if your specific conversations will be used for training and, if so, who can view your chats. Also, This ChatGPT update fixed one of my biggest productivity issues with the AI chatbot: OpenAI will, by default, use your conversations with the free chatbot to train data and refine its models. You can opt out of it using your data for model training by clicking on the question mark in the bottom left-hand corner. Settings, and turning off "Improve the model for everyone." Can ChatGPT help me apply for jobs? Yes, ChatGPT is a great resource for helping with job applications. Undertaking a job search can be tedious and difficult, and ChatGPT can help you lighten the load. ChatGPT can build your resume and write a cover letter. Also, How to use ChatGPT to write an essay? If your application has any written supplements, you can use ChatGPT to help you write those essays or personal statements. You can also use ChatGPT to prep for your interviews by asking ChatGPT to provide you mock interview questions, background on the company, or questions that you can ask. Can you use ChatGPT for schoolwork? ChatGPT can be an excellent resource in assisting students with their work. A popular misconception is that ChatGPT and other AI resources will do students' work for them. However, it can be used as a personal tutor or editor, giving students assistance outside of the classroom. Also, 5 free AI tools for school that students, teachers, and parents can use, too: For example, a student can drop their essay into ChatGPT and have it copyedited, upload class handwritten notes and have them digitized, or even generate study outlines from class materials. It is especially helpful for coding homework since most coding languages are very character-sensitive, and one missing semicolon can throw the entire result off. Instead of staring at the screen for ages, you can ask ChatGPT to identify errors for you, which allows you to grow. What does ChatGPT stand for? The last three letters in ChatGPT's namesake stand for Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT), a family of large language models created by OpenAI that uses deep learning to generate human-like, conversational text. Also, What does GPT stand for? Understanding GPT 3.5, GPT 4, GPT-4 Turbo, and more: The "Chat" part of the name is simply a callout to its chatting capabilities. Can ChatGPT generate images? Yes, ChatGPT can generate images using DALL-E 3. However, the limits vary depending on whether you are a ChatGPT Plus subscriber or a free user. ChatGPT Plus subscribers are allowed 50 generations per day, while free users are allotted 25. Also, The best AI image generators of 2024: Tested and reviewed: Since OpenAI discontinued DALL-E 2 in February 2024, the only way to access its most advanced AI image generator, DALL-E 3, through OpenAI's offerings is via its chatbot. Microsoft's Copilot offers free image generation, also powered by DALL-E 3, in its chatbot. This is a great alternative if you don't want to pay for ChatGPT Plus but want high-quality image outputs for free. How does ChatGPT work? ChatGPT runs on a large language model (LLM) architecture created by OpenAI called the Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT). Since its launch, the free version of ChatGPT ran on a fine-tuned model in the GPT-3.5 series until May 2024, when OpenAI upgraded the model to GPT-4o. Now, the free version runs on GPT-4o mini, with limited access to GPT-4o. Also, How does ChatGPT actually work? With a subscription to ChatGPT Plus, you can access GPT-4, GPT-4o mini, or GPT-4o. Plus, users also have priority access to GPT-4o, even at capacity, while free users get booted down to GPT-4o mini. The LLMs used in generative AI models of this type are trained on vast amounts of information from the internet, including websites, books, news articles, and more, typically via web scraping, where the entirety of the internet is scraped for information. Who owns ChatGPT currently? OpenAI launched ChatGPT on November 30, 2022. OpenAI has also developed DALL-E 2 and DALL-E 3, popular AI image generators, and Whisper, an automatic speech recognition system. Also, The best AI chatbots: ChatGPT, Copilot and worthy alternatives: As a result, OpenAI owns ChatGPT. Microsoft is a major investor in OpenAI thanks to multiyear, multi-billion dollar investments. Elon Musk was an investor when OpenAI was first founded in 2015 but has since completely severed ties with the startup and created his own AI chatbot, Grok. Is ChatGPT better than a search engine? ChatGPT is an AI chatbot created to converse with the end user. A search engine indexes web pages on the internet to help users find information. One is not better than the other, as each suits different purposes. When searching for as much up-to-date, accurate information as possible, your most reliable option is a search engine. It will provide you with pages upon pages of sources you can peruse. Also, ChatGPT has officially replaced Google Search for me - here's why: In November 2024, OpenAI has unveiled ChatGPT Search, a feature within the ChatGPT app that lets users search the web for timely, up-to-date information, complete with citations linked to sources. With ChatGPT Search, you can enter your sentence as your train of thought takes you, and the AI will understand the meaning of your query by leveraging its NLP capabilities. This means you can spend less time crafting a tailored search query but still get exactly what you want. If you are looking for a platform that can explain complex topics in an easy-to-understand manner, then ChatGPT might be what you want. If you want the best of both worlds, plenty of AI search engines combine both. The search experience is available on the ChatGPT website, desktops, and mobile apps for all ChatGPT Plus, Team users, and SearchGPT waitlist users. What is SearchGPT? This is an experimental feature from OpenAI that functions as an AI-powered search engine that is aware of current events and uses real-time information from the Internet. The experience was a prototype. OpenAI integrated the best features directly into ChatGPT Search upon launching the prototype, and users were given a waitlist to sign up for. However, shortly after, OpenAI closed its waitlist. Those users were given priority access to ChatGPT Search when it launched. What is ChatGPT Search? In November, OpenAI unveiled ChatGPT Search, a feature that lets users search the web directly within ChatGPT. For timely, up-to-date information, complete with citations linked to sources. The tool can be called on manually or activated whenever a user prompt could benefit from web-based information. What are ChatGPT's limitations? Despite its impressive capabilities, ChatGPT still has limitations. Users sometimes need to reword questions multiple times for ChatGPT to understand their intent. A bigger limitation is a lack of quality in responses, which can sometimes be plausible-sounding but are verbose or make no practical sense. Also, Police are using AI to write crime reports. What could go wrong? Instead of asking for clarification on ambiguous questions, the model guesses what your question means, which can lead to poor responses. Generative AI models are also subject to hallucinations, which can result in inaccurate responses. Does ChatGPT give wrong answers? As mentioned above, ChatGPT, like all language models, has limitations and can give nonsensical answers and incorrect information, so it's important to double-check the answers it gives you. Also, 8 ways to reduce ChatGPT hallucinations: OpenAI recommends you provide feedback on what ChatGPT generates by using the thumbs-up and thumbs-down buttons to improve its underlying model. You can also join the startup's Bug Bounty program, which offers up to \$20,000 for reporting security bugs and safety issues. Can ChatGPT refuse to answer my prompts? AI systems like ChatGPT can, and do reject inappropriate requests. The AI assistant can identify inappropriate submissions to prevent unsafe content generation. Also, 8 things ChatGPT can't do (and another 20 it refuses to do): These submissions include questions that violate someone's rights, are discriminatory, or involve illegal activities. The ChatGPT model can also challenge one's premises, answer follow-up questions, and even admit mistakes when you point them out. These guardrails are important. AI models can generate advanced, realistic content that can be exploited by bad actors for harm, such as spreading misinformation about public figures and influencing elections. Does ChatGPT plagiarize? Yes, OpenAI scraped the internet to train ChatGPT's models. Therefore, the technology's knowledge is influenced by other people's work. Since there is no guarantee that ChatGPT's outputs are entirely original, the chatbot may regurgitate someone else's work in your answer, which is considered plagiarism. Also, technically speaking, if you, as a user, copy and paste ChatGPT's response, that is an act of plagiarism because you are claiming someone else's work as your own. This act could have repercussions based on the rules enforced by your workplace or educational institution. Is there a ChatGPT detector? In short, the answer is no, not because people haven't tried, but because none do it efficiently. In January 2023, OpenAI released a free tool to detect AI-generated text. Unfortunately, OpenAI's classifier tool could only correctly identify 26% of AI-written text with a "likely AI-written" designation. Furthermore, it provided false positives 9% of the time, incorrectly identifying human-written work as AI-produced. Also, I tested 7 AI content detectors - here's getting dramatically better at identifying plagiarism: The tool performed so poorly that, six months after its release, OpenAI shut it down "due to its low rate of accuracy." Despite the tool's failure, the startup claims to be researching more effective techniques for AI text identification. Other AI detectors exist on the market, including GPT-2 Output Detector, Writer AI Content Detector, and Content at Scale's AI Content Detection tool. ZDNET tested these tools, and the results were underwhelming: all three were unreliable sources for spotting AI, repeatedly giving false negatives. Here are ZDNET's full test results. What is GPT-4? GPT-4 is OpenAI's language model, much more advanced than its predecessor, GPT-3.5. GPT-4 outperforms GPT-3.5 in a series of simulated benchmarks, such as math, reasoning, and creative writing. What is ChatGPT-4? OpenAI's latest, fastest, and most advanced flagship model. As the name implies, GPT-4o has the same intelligence as GPT-4. However, the "o" in the title stands for "omni," referring to its multimodal capabilities, which allow the model to understand text, audio, image, and video inputs and output text, audio, and image outputs. Also, 6 ways OpenAI just supercharged ChatGPT for free users: The model is 30% cheaper in OpenAI's API than GPT-4 Turbo while still matching its English and coding capabilities and outperforming it in non-English language, vision, and audio understanding - a big win for developers. What is ChatGPT-4? In September 2024, OpenAI unveiled its o1 models, which are capable of more advanced reasoning, making them ideal for math, science, and coding. For example, it scored 83% on the International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) qualifying exam. For comparison, GPT-4o correctly solved only 13% of problems. Also, What are o1 and o1-mini? OpenAI's mystery AI models are finally here: ZDNET's David Gewirtz puts o1 - preview to the test and was impressed by its ability to tackle several complex tasks with lots of detail, including writing a WordPress plugin, rewriting a search function, finding an annoying bug, and more. What are the best ChatGPT alternatives? Although ChatGPT gets the most buzz, other options are just as good - and might even be better suited to your needs. ZDNET has created a list of the best chatbots, all of which we have tested to identify the best tool for your requirements. Also, Claude AI can now analyze PDFs - here's how to try it: Despite ChatGPT's extensive abilities, other chatbots have advantages that might be better suited for your use case, including Copilot, Claude, Perplexity, Jasper, and more. What are GPTs? OpenAI once offered plugins for ChatGPT to connect to third-party applications and access real-time information on the web. The plugins expanded ChatGPT's abilities, allowing it to assist with many more activities, such as planning a trip or finding a place to eat. Also, My two favorite ChatGPT Plus features and the remarkable things I can do with them: However, on March 19, 2024, OpenAI stopped letting users install new plugins or start new conversations with existing ones. Instead, OpenAI replaced plugins with GPTs, which are easier for developers to build. With the latest update, all users, including those on the free plan, can access the GPT Store and find 3 million customized ChatGPT chatbots. Unfortunately, there is also a lot of disinformation about GPT-4. However, you can use What is Microsoft's involvement with ChatGPT? Microsoft was an early investor in OpenAI, the AI startup behind ChatGPT, long before ChatGPT was released to the public. Microsoft's first involvement with OpenAI was in 2019 when the company invested \$1 billion. The company invested another \$2 billion in the years after. In January 2023, Microsoft extended its partnership with OpenAI through a multiyear, multi-billion dollar investment. Also, ChatGPT vs. Copilot: Which AI chatbot is better for you? Neither company disclosed the investment value, but unnamed sources told Bloomberg that it could total \$10 billion over multiple years. In return, OpenAI's exclusive cloud-computing provider - Microsoft Azure, powers all OpenAI workloads across research, products, and API services. Microsoft has also used its OpenAI partnership to revamp its Bing search engine and improve its browser. On February 7, 2023, Microsoft unveiled a new Bing logo, now known as Copilot, that runs on OpenAI's GPT-4, customized specifically for search. How does Copilot compare to ChatGPT? Copilot uses OpenAI's GPT-4, which means that since its launch, it has been more efficient and capable than the standard, free version of ChatGPT, which was powered by GPT 3.5 at the time. At the time, Copilot boasted several other features over ChatGPT, such as access to the internet, knowledge of current information, and footnotes. Also, I was a Copilot diehard until ChatGPT added these 5 features: In May 2024, however, OpenAI supercharged the free version of its chatbot with GPT-4o. The upgrade gave users GPT-4 level intelligence, the ability to get responses from the web, analyze data, chat about photos and documents, use GPTs, and access the GPT Store and Voice Mode. After the upgrade, ChatGPT reclaimed its crown as the best AI chatbot. What is Gemini and how does it relate to ChatGPT? Gemini is Google's AI chat service, a rival to ChatGPT. On February 6, 2023, Google introduced its experimental AI chat service, which was then called Google Bard. Also, ChatGPT vs. Gemini: Which is the best AI chatbot? Over a month after the announcing, Google began rolling out Bard first via a waitlist. Now, the tool is available to the public. The biggest perk of Gemini is that it has Google Search at its core and has the same feel as Google products. Therefore, if you are an avid Google user, Gemini might be the best AI chatbot for you. What is Apple's involvement with OpenAI? Apple's Worldwide Developer's Conference June 2024, the company announced a partnership with OpenAI that will integrate ChatGPT with Siri. With the user's permission, Siri can request ChatGPT for help if Siri deems a task is better suited for ChatGPT. This feature has not yet been released to users. OpenAI launched ChatGPT in 2022, which led to an explosion of artificial intelligence into our day-to-day lives. Over the last several years AI products have appeared everywhere from Canva to AI overviews for search results on Google. It is fundamentally changing the way we work, play and even search online - these days people are even using ChatGPT to answer questions instead of Google. AI chatbots like ChatGPT will continue to transform how we consume, create and communicate online. While AI innovation is progressing quickly, it's important to understand the fundamentals of how ChatGPT works to navigate the ecosystem of tools. (Disclosure: Ziff Davis, CNET's parent company, in April filed a lawsuit against OpenAI, alleging it infringed Ziff Davis copyrights in training and operating its AI systems. With that in mind, here's your ChatGPT 101 class. What does ChatGPT actually do? ChatGPT can answer your questions, summarize text, write new content, code and translate languages. Depending on what version you're using, it can either browse the internet, or generate information up until its last training model date. It's not magic, it's math. The results are based on the large language model's predictions and past information, making it prone to hallucinations, errors and biases. Keep a balanced approach when using tools like ChatGPT. AI, like most cutting-edge tech, is neither all good nor all bad. Avoid being too dogmatic on either side. I've tried using ChatGPT for everything from work-related tasks like creating a resume and a cover letter, looking for a dream job and negotiating a raise, to personal things like saving time and being more productive, finding the best deals and coupons while shopping online and hand creating recipes from my leftovers. Getting started with ChatGPT: You can use ChatGPT as a search engine, much like Google's homepage. Go to chatgpt.com or download the ChatGPT app on the Apple App Store or on the Google Play Store. Open the app or website, and type in your question or prompt. You can use the voice function, attach files and even browse trending topics under Search. For more advanced and personalized features, it's best to create an account and log in. ChatGPT knows more about you through your search history, and you can customize ChatGPT's responses. To create an account, click on the Sign Up button in the top right-hand corner. Choose between a free or premium membership (\$20 a month). In most instances, the free version is fine. For quick personal searches, you might want to use the app. For work, the desktop version is probably easier. And if you're using the voice button instead of typing your prompt, the mobile app is best. ChatGPT 101: Getting comfortable with the AI tool: There's a no one "right" way to use ChatGPT. The only wrong way to use it is to only use ChatGPT and to outsource your critical thinking to it. Use ChatGPT and Google, and always fact-check everything they both tell you. Click on the sources of information that Google and ChatGPT are drawing from. You can't simply trust the info AI gives you - it may be hallucinating, or drawing the wrong conclusions from doubtful source information. It's also helpful to come to AI tools with your intention in mind. For example, you could use ChatGPT as a thinking partner or a research aid. Give it a "job" and build it into your process, rather than it replacing all your research. Read more: ChatGPT Glossary - 49 AI Terms Everyone Should Know What you can ask ChatGPT: You can ask ChatGPT almost anything - just avoid ever giving it any personal or sensitive information, such as your credit card number, SSN or any personally identifying information in case of data breaches. For whatever you're asking ChatGPT, the more context you give, the better. You only get out what you put in, so focus on providing as much information as possible in your first prompt. Your prompt will depend on whether you're asking a question, summarizing text, brainstorming, getting "advice", analyzing images, sourcing code or generating content. If you're not sure where to start, here are a couple of ideas: ChatGPT can help you with a wide range of tasks, from generating text to analyzing images. However, it's important to understand its limitations. ChatGPT is not a search engine, and it doesn't have access to real-time information. It's also not a replacement for professional advice. In the lead-up to my egg retrieval and transfer, "It will give you a lot of information. Most of it won't be personalized to you, so think of it as a conversation where each follow-up prompt gets you closer to customized advice. You can see an example of this exact advice-related prompt here, and all the follow-up questions I had to ask to drill down to get helpful information. Just remember: If you're asking for health and wellness information, always double-check with a doctor. Data-related requests: Say you're a small business owner and want to reduce your overhead, so you input your expenses spreadsheet into ChatGPT for advice. You could click on the Analyze data button and it will generate prompts. Pick the most appropriate, or type in after "help me." Example prompt: "Help me save money on my expenses. Attached is my expenses list for last year." Again, double-check every number the AI tool comes back with. Browsing ChatGPT: If you just want to play around with the tool before using it to ask specific questions, you can use the automatically generated prompts that come up in ChatGPT. For example, if you click on Surprise me, you can explore prompts like this: I clicked on one of the suggested prompts and here's the answer I got: If you click on Make a plan, you can explore prompts like "make a plan to get a promotion," "make a plan to buy a new car," "make a plan of meals for the week" and "make a plan for a weekend in New York." For the meal plan suggestion, for instance, give ChatGPT a quick input of ingredients in the fridge and your current diet focus, and it will generate a meal plan for the week. You can be as custom as uploading a photo of what's in your fridge and asking for a dinner suggestion, or as straightforward as asking ChatGPT for some good restaurant options in New York. This meal planning example really shows how ChatGPT and other AI tools are a "choose your own adventure" and handy search partner for anything you want to do with them. Just remember to maintain a balanced view of these tools. And always double-check it. ChatGPT is an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot that uses natural language processing to create humanlike conversational dialogue. The language model can respond to questions and compose various written content, including articles, social media posts, essays, code and emails. These are some uses for natural language processing. ChatGPT is a form of generative AI - a tool that lets users enter prompts to receive humanlike images, text or videos that are created by AI. ChatGPT is similar to the automated chat services found on customer service websites, as people can ask it questions or request clarification to ChatGPT's replies. The GPT stands for "Generative Pre-trained Transformer," which refers to how ChatGPT processes requests and formulates responses. ChatGPT is trained with reinforcement learning through human feedback and reward models that rank the best responses. This feedback helps augment ChatGPT with machine learning to improve future responses. OpenAI - an artificial intelligence research company - created ChatGPT and launched the tool in November 2022. It was founded by a group of entrepreneurs and researchers including Elon Musk and Sam Altman in 2015. OpenAI is backed by several investors, with Microsoft being the most notable. OpenAI also created Dall-E, an AI text-to-art generator. ChatGPT works through its Generative Pre-trained Transformer, which uses specialized algorithms to find patterns within data sequences. ChatGPT originally used the GPT-3 large language model, a neural network machine learning model and the third generation of Generative Pre-trained Transformer. The transformer pulls from a significant amount of data to formulate a response. ChatGPT currently provides access to GPT-3.5 and limited access to the GPT-4o language model. ChatGPT Plus provides access to GPT-4 and GPT-4o. GPT-4 can handle more complex tasks compared to GPT-3.5, such as describing photos, generating captions for images and creating more detailed responses up to 25,000 words. ChatGPT Pro users have access to GPT-4.5, a general-purpose model that aims to provide humanlike interactions. ChatGPT uses deep learning, a subset of machine learning, to produce humanlike text through transformer neural networks. The transformer predicts text - including the next word, sentence or paragraph - based on its training data's typical patterns. Training begins with generic data, then moves to more tailored data for a specific task. ChatGPT was trained with online text to learn the human language, and then it used transcripts to learn the basics of conversations. Human trainers provide conversations and rank the responses. These reward models help determine the best answers. To keep training the chatbot, users can upvote or downvote its response by clicking on thumbs-up or thumbs-down icons beside the answer. Users can also provide additional written feedback to improve and fine-tune future dialogue. Users can ask ChatGPT a variety of questions, including simple or more complex questions, such as, "What is the meaning of life?" or "What year did New York become a state?" ChatGPT is proficient with STEM disciplines and can debug or write code. There is no limitation to the types of questions to ask ChatGPT. However, the knowledge cutoff date is late 2023. ChatGPT is versatile and can be used for more than human conversations. People have used ChatGPT to do the following: Code computer programs and check for bugs in code. Compose music. Draft emails. Summarize articles, podcasts or presentations. Script social media posts. Create titles for articles. Solve math problems. Discover keywords for search engine optimization. Create articles, blog posts and quizzes for websites. Reword existing content for a different medium, such as a presentation transcript for a blog post. Formulate product descriptions. Play games. Assist with job searches, including writing resumes and cover letters. Ask trivia questions. Describe complex topics more simply. Write video scripts. Research markets for products. Generate art. Unlike other chatbots, ChatGPT can remember various questions to continue the conversation in a more fluid manner. ChatGPT's response when asked to explain quantum computing to a 5-year-old. Businesses and users are still exploring the benefits of ChatGPT as the program continues to evolve. Some benefits include the following: Efficiency: AI-powered chatbots can handle routine and repetitive tasks, which can free up employees to focus on more complex and strategic responsibilities. Cost savings: Using AI chatbots instead of hiring and training additional employees. Improved content quality: Writers can use ChatGPT to improve grammatical or contextual errors or to help brainstorm ideas for content. Employees can take ordinary text and ask to improve its language or add expressions. Education and training: ChatGPT can help provide explanations on more complex topics to help serve as a virtual tutor. Users can also ask for guides and any needed clarification on responses. Better response time: ChatGPT provides instant responses, which reduces wait times for users seeking assistance. Increased availability: AI models are available around the clock to provide continuous support and assistance. Multilingual support: ChatGPT can communicate in multiple languages or provide translations for businesses with global audiences. Personalization: AI chatbots can tailor responses to the user's preferences and behaviors based on previous interactions. Scalability: ChatGPT can handle many users simultaneously, which is beneficial for applications with high user engagement. Natural language understanding: ChatGPT understands and generates humanlike text, so it is useful for tasks such as generating content, answering questions, engaging in conversations and providing explanations. Digital accessibility: ChatGPT and other AI chatbots can assist individuals with disabilities by providing text-based interactions, which can be easier to navigate than other interfaces. Some limitations of ChatGPT include the following: It does not fully understand the complexity of human language. ChatGPT is trained to generate words based on input. Because of this, responses might seem shallow and lack true insight. Responses can sound like a machine and unnatural. Since ChatGPT predicts the next word, it can overuse words such as the or and. Because of this, people still need to review and edit content to make it flow more naturally, like human writing. It summarizes but does not cite sources. ChatGPT does not provide analysis or insight into any data or statistics, nor does it provide links to sources unless you specifically request them. ChatGPT might provide statistics but no real commentary on what these statistics mean or how they relate to the topic. It cannot understand sarcasm and irony. ChatGPT is based on a data set of text. It might focus on the wrong part of a question and not be able to shift. For example, if you ask ChatGPT, "Does a horse make a good pet based on its size?" and then ask it, "What about a cat?" ChatGPT might focus solely on the size of the animal versus giving information about having the animal as a pet. ChatGPT is not divergent and cannot shift its answer to cover multiple questions in a single response. It shuts politics. Generally speaking, ChatGPT does not like to get involved in political debates or take sides, although it has been accused of favoritism for certain political viewpoints. Learn more about the pros and cons of AI-generated content. While ChatGPT can be helpful for some tasks, there are some ethical concerns that depend on how it is used, including biases, lack of privacy and security, and cheating in education and work. Plagiarism and deceitful use: ChatGPT can be used unethically in ways such as cheating, impersonation or spreading misinformation due to its humanlike capabilities. Educators have brought up concerns about students using ChatGPT to cheat, plagiarize and write papers. CNET made the news when it used ChatGPT to create articles that were filled with errors. To help prevent cheating and plagiarizing, OpenAI announced an AI text classifier to distinguish between human- and AI-generated text. However, after six months of availability, OpenAI pulled the tool due to a "low rate of accuracy." There are online tools, such as Copyleaks or Writing.com, to classify how likely it is that text was written by a person versus being AI-generated. OpenAI plans to add a watermark to longer text pieces to help identify AI-generated content. Because ChatGPT can write code, it also presents a problem for cybersecurity. Threat actors can use ChatGPT to help create malware. An update addressed the issue of creating malware by stopping the request, but threat actors might find ways around OpenAI's safety protocol. ChatGPT can also be used to impersonate a person by training it to copy someone's writing and language style. The chatbot could then impersonate a trusted person to collect sensitive information or spread disinformation. Bias in training data: One of the biggest ethical concerns with ChatGPT is its bias in training data. If the data the model pulls from has any bias, it is reflected in the model's output. ChatGPT also does not understand language that might be offensive or discriminatory. The data needs to be reviewed to avoid perpetuating bias, but including diverse and representative material can help control bias for accurate results. Replacing jobs and human interaction: As technology advances, ChatGPT might automate certain tasks that are typically completed by humans, such as data entry and processing, customer service, and translation support. People are worried that it could replace their jobs, so it's important to consider ChatGPT and AI's effect on workers. Rather than replacing workers, ChatGPT can be used as support for job functions and creating new job opportunities to avoid loss of employment. For example, lawyers can use ChatGPT to create summaries of case notes and draft contracts or agreements. And copywriters can use ChatGPT for article outlines and headline ideas. Privacy issues: ChatGPT uses text based on input, so it could potentially reveal sensitive information. The model's output can also track and profile individuals by collecting information from a prompt and associating this information with the user's phone number and email. The information is then stored indefinitely. In March 2023, Italy's data protection authority temporarily banned ChatGPT over concerns that the AI system violated privacy laws by collecting user data for commercial purposes without first obtaining proper consent. The ban was lifted a month later after OpenAI made changes to comply with EU data protection regulations. To access ChatGPT, create an OpenAI account. Go to chat.openai.com and then select "Sign Up" and enter an email address, or use a Google or Microsoft account to log in. After signing up, type a prompt or question in the message box on the ChatGPT homepage. Users can then do the following: Enter a different prompt for a new query or ask for clarification. Regenerate the response. Share the response. Like or dislike the response with the thumbs-up or thumbs-down option. Copy the response. What to do if ChatGPT is at capacity: Even though ChatGPT can handle numerous users at a time, it reaches maximum capacity occasionally when there is an overload. This usually happens during peak hours, such as early in the morning or in the evening, depending on the time zone. If it is at capacity, try using it at different times or hit refresh on the browser. Another option is to upgrade to ChatGPT Plus, which is a subscription, but is typically always available, even during high-demand periods. ChatGPT is available for free through OpenAI's website. Users need to register for a free OpenAI account. There is also an option to upgrade to ChatGPT Plus for access to GPT-4, faster responses, no blackout windows and unlimited availability. ChatGPT Plus also gives priority access to new features for a subscription rate of \$20 per month. Without a subscription, there are limitations. The most notable limitation of the free version is access to ChatGPT when the program is at capacity. The Plus membership gives unlimited access to avoid capacity blackouts. Because of ChatGPT's popularity, it is often unavailable due to capacity issues. Google announced Bard in response to ChatGPT in February 2023. One year later, Google renamed it Gemini. Google Gemini draws information directly from the internet through a Google search to provide the latest information. Google came under fire after Gemini provided inaccurate results on several occasions, such as rendering Americans founding fathers as Black men. Microsoft has invested \$10 billion in OpenAI, making it a primary benefactor of OpenAI. In return, GPT-4 functionality has been integrated into Bing, giving the internet search engine a chat mode for users. Microsoft does this through the use of its Copilot chatbot. Bing searches can also be rendered through Copilot, giving the user a more complete set of search results. There are other text generator alternatives to ChatGPT, including the following: AI-Writer. Article Forge. ChatSonic. CopySmith. DeepL. Write. Jasper. Magic Write. Open Assistant. Peppertyper. Perplexity AI. Spellbook. Rytr. YouChat. Coding alternatives for ChatGPT include the following: AlphaCode. Amazon Code Whisperer. CodeStarter. CodeWP. Cody. Enzyme. Ghostwriter. GitHub Copilot. Mutable.ai. OpenAI Codex. Seek. Tabnine. Learn more about various AI content generators. In August 2023, OpenAI announced an enterprise version of ChatGPT. The enterprise version offers the higher-speed GPT-4 model with a longer context window, customization options and data analysis. This model of ChatGPT does not share data outside the organization. In September 2023, OpenAI announced a new update that allows ChatGPT to speak and recognize images. Users can upload pictures of what they have in their refrigerator and ChatGPT will provide ideas for dinner. ChatGPT is now available to small groups of paid ChatGPT Plus users. The new mode offers more natural conversations, allowing users to interrupt and ask additional questions. The update lets ChatGPT sense and respond to the users' emotions with responses. The voice is more natural-sounding but is limited to four preset options. On Oct. 31, 2024, OpenAI announced ChatGPT search is available for ChatGPT Plus and Team users. The search feature provides more up-to-date information from the internet such as news, weather, stock prices and sports scores. This new feature allows ChatGPT to compete with other search engines - such as Google, Bing and Perplexity. ChatGPT automatically searches the internet based on the user's prompt. To access, users select the web search icon - next to the attach file option - on the prompt bar within ChatGPT. OpenAI said ChatGPT's free version will roll out this search function within the next few months. On Dec. 5, 2024, OpenAI added the ChatGPT Pro tier for \$200 monthly. This plan gives users access to its advanced OpenAI o1 model to solve more complex problems and reasoning for AI capabilities. This plan also offers unlimited access to o1-mini, GPT-4o and the Advanced Voice feature. In December 2024, OpenAI launched an experimental way to converse with ChatGPT by calling 1-800-ChatGPT or messaging ChatGPT through WhatsApp. This allows more people to experiment with ChatGPT because no account is needed. WhatsApp only supports text so users cannot use images in conversations. On Jan. 23, 2025, OpenAI introduced Operator to U.S. ChatGPT Pro users in a research preview mode. Operator is an AI agent that interprets orders and goes to a web browser to perform these tasks for the user. According to OpenAI, Operator might automate several daily chores and errands such as planning vacations, finding deals, ordering groceries and filling out forms. OpenAI announced ChatGPT Go on Jan. 28, 2025. This model was tailored to the U.S. government and is deployed through each agency's own Microsoft Azure commercial cloud or Azure Government cloud stacked on Microsoft's Azure AI Service. The platform is self-hosting for each government agency to feed "non-public, sensitive information" into the model while operating in their secure hosting environments. Because the platform is self-hosted, the agencies manage their security and privacy with their strict cybersecurity frameworks. The user interface is similar to ChatGPT Enterprise and has the same features and capabilities, including the following: Sharing and saving conversations. Uploading files and images. Summarizing and interpreting text. Coding. Creating custom GPTs on the workspace.

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