BILL'S HOME TECH

Home & Small Business Tech Solutions

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Have AI Explain Anything at a 5th-Grade Level

No question is too basic — get patient, plain explanations with no jargon and no judgment

Plain-English tech help from:
Bill's Home Tech
Portage County, Ohio

Tech Made Simple. Service Made Personal.

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Book a visit · billshometech.com/book

What's Inside

Everything in this guide, with page numbers. Skip to whichever chapter answers your question right now.

The 60-Second Version 3
The Short Version 3
Why This Changes Things 4
The Magic Phrases 4
Understanding Medical Words 5
Making Sense of Money and Benefits 6
Decoding Technology Itself 6
Learning Something New for the Joy of It 7
When It Still Doesn't Click 7
Which Assistant to Use 8
Keeping What You Learn 8
Asking Follow-Up Questions Like a Pro 9
What to Never Type Into AI 10
AI Can Be Wrong — Always Double-Check 10
When to Call Bill 11
Everyday Cheat Sheet 12
A Note From Bill 13
Your Visit — and My Promise 14

SUMMARY

The 60-Second Version

AI will explain anything — a medical term, a money concept, a tech word, the news — in plain language, as many times and ways as you need, with no impatience and no judgment. The magic phrases are 'explain it simply,' 'like I'm not technical,' and 'use an everyday example'; if it still doesn't land, say 'even simpler' or ask for a comparison to something you know.

It's for understanding, not deciding: use it to grasp what your doctor or the fine print said, then take real health and money decisions to your doctor, pharmacist, or advisor.

1 The Short Version

AI's single most useful trick for everyday life may be this: it will explain anything, at any level, without a trace of impatience. The magic phrase is "explain it simply," or "explain it like I'm not an expert."

If the first explanation still doesn't land, you just say "simpler," or "use an everyday example," and it tries again, differently. There's no limit and no judgment — you can ask the same question five ways until it clicks.

- Ask about anything: a word, an idea, a gadget, a bit of news.
- Add "explain it simply" or "like I'm 70 and not technical."
- Not clear? Say "simpler" or "give me an example."
- Double-check anything that matters for your health or money.

> **TIP**
>
> The best all-purpose request: "Explain ___ in plain English, with an everyday example, and no jargon." That one sentence turns almost any baffling topic into something you can actually picture.

2 Why This Changes Things

So much of feeling behind in a fast-moving world is really just unfamiliar vocabulary — words and ideas nobody ever stopped to explain. The cost of asking used to be real: bothering someone, or risking looking foolish. With AI, that cost is zero. You can ask the "dumb" question a hundred times.

And because it can explain the same thing in different ways, it meets you where you are. A picture, a story, a comparison to something you know — it'll keep reaching for the version that makes sense to you.

> **GOOD TO KNOW**
> There are no stupid questions here, and that's not just a kind saying — the tool genuinely doesn't judge, get tired, or remember that you asked something similar yesterday. For anyone who's felt talked down to, that alone is a relief.

3 The Magic Phrases

A few simple add-ons steer AI to the right level every time. Keep these in your back pocket.

Say this...	To get...
"Explain it simply"	Plain language, no jargon
"Like I'm not technical"	No assumed background knowledge
"Use an everyday example"	A comparison to something familiar
"Even simpler"	A plainer try when the first missed
"In one sentence"	The short version first

"Why does that matter to me?"	Why it's relevant to your life

TIP

Stack them if you like: "Explain what cholesterol is, simply, with an everyday example, in a few sentences." The more you tell it about the level you want, the better the fit.

4 Understanding Medical Words

Doctor's visits are full of fast, unfamiliar terms. AI is a wonderful way to catch up afterward, on your own time, so you understand your own health.

1. After an appointment, ask: "Explain what [term the doctor used] means, in plain English."
2. Ask: "Why would a doctor check that?"
3. Ask: "What questions should I ask my doctor about this next time?"
4. Keep the explanation, but confirm anything about your care with your doctor.

WATCH OUT

AI is for understanding words and ideas — not for diagnosing yourself or deciding on treatment. Use it to understand what your doctor said, then take any real health decisions back to your doctor or pharmacist.

Rather not do this yourself? I'll come to your home and set it up for you — a flat $99 first visit across Portage County, Ohio and nearby communities. Outside the area? I also help remotely by phone or screen-share. Book at billshometech.com/book or call (330) 200-8042.

5 Making Sense of Money and Benefits

Financial language is designed to sound complicated. AI can translate it so you can make confident decisions — while leaving the actual decisions to you and your advisors.

- "Explain how a reverse mortgage works, and the catches, simply."
- "What's the difference between a Roth and a regular IRA?"
- "Explain what Medicare Part D is in plain English."
- "What does 'required minimum distribution' mean for me?"

WATCH OUT

Understanding is one thing; acting is another. For real money decisions — mortgages, investments, taxes, benefits — confirm with your bank, accountant, or a trusted advisor. AI explains the concept; it shouldn't pick your financial moves.

6 Decoding Technology Itself

Fittingly, AI is great at explaining the very technology that confuses people — including the words salespeople and grandkids throw around.

- "What's the cloud, really, in plain terms?"
- "Explain the difference between Wi-Fi and the internet."
- "What does it mean to 'back up' my photos?"
- "Someone said I need a VPN — what is that and do I?"

GOOD TO KNOW

When a store clerk or an ad uses a word to pressure you — "you really need the premium gigabit bundle" — ask AI to explain it plainly and whether someone like you actually needs it. It's a great defense against being upsold.

7 Learning Something New for the Joy of It

This isn't only for solving problems. AI is a patient tutor for pure curiosity — history, science, how things work, the meaning of a poem, the rules of a game.

- "Explain how airplanes actually stay up, simply."
- "Teach me the basics of how the stock market works."
- "What caused the 1929 crash, in plain terms?"
- "Teach me the rules of mahjong step by step."

> **TIP**
>
> Say "teach me a little at a time and quiz me as we go." AI makes a surprisingly good tutor, letting you learn at your own pace with no pressure and no clock.

8 When It Still Doesn't Click

Sometimes an explanation just doesn't connect, and that's fine — it's a sign to steer, not to give up. You have several easy moves.

1. Say "explain it a completely different way."
2. Say "use a comparison to [something you know well]."
3. Ask "what's the one most important thing to understand here?"
4. Ask it to "explain it as a short story" — narrative often sticks when facts don't.

> **GOOD TO KNOW**
>
> Asking for a comparison to something in your own life — gardening, cooking, driving, your old job — is powerful. AI will happily explain compound interest in terms of a snowball or a garden, whichever you find clearer.

9 Which Assistant to Use

Every major free assistant explains things well. Any one will do; comfort matters more than the brand.

Tool	Where
ChatGPT	chatgpt.com or the app
Google Gemini	gemini.google.com or the app
Microsoft Copilot	Copilot app or built into Windows

GOOD TO KNOW

For learning, the phone app's voice mode is lovely — you can have a spoken back-and-forth, asking "wait, what does that mean?" out loud, just like talking with a patient teacher.

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10 Keeping What You Learn

When an explanation finally makes something click, it's worth hanging onto. A little saving habit turns scattered questions into a growing, personal reference you actually understand.

1. When an explanation lands, ask: "Sum that up in three plain sentences I can keep."
2. Copy it into your notes app under a sensible title.
3. Add your own words — writing it in your voice helps it stick.
4. Next time the topic comes up, you've got your own plain-English note.

- Great for medical terms you'll hear again at follow-up visits.
- Handy for tech words so you're not re-learning them each time.
- A simple way to build confidence, one explained idea at a time.

> **GOOD TO KNOW**
> Teaching something back is the oldest trick for truly learning it. You can even tell AI "let me explain it back to you — tell me if I've got it right," and it'll gently correct you.

11 Asking Follow-Up Questions Like a Pro

The first answer is rarely the end of a good conversation. The real depth comes from the questions you ask next — and you don't need to be clever, just curious. Treat it like chatting with a patient expert who's in no hurry.

- "Can you give me an example of that?"
- "What's a common misunderstanding about this?"
- "How would you explain that to a child?"
- "What should I be careful about here?"
- "Is there anything I didn't think to ask?"

That last question is a quiet gem. Asking "what didn't I think to ask?" often surfaces the very thing you most needed to know — the catch, the exception, the detail that changes everything — that you'd never have known to request.

> **TIP**
> Because it remembers the conversation, you can keep digging in the same chat: "you mentioned X earlier — tell me more about that." Each answer becomes a doorway to the next question, at exactly your pace.

12 What to Never Type Into AI

AI chat tools are wonderful helpers, but it is safest to treat the chat box like a postcard, not a locked diary. Most of these services keep a copy of what you type, and some use it to train their systems. The rule is simple: the more sensitive a detail is, the less it belongs in the chat.

The good news is you almost never need private numbers to get good help. You can describe a situation in general terms, or cover up the private parts before you share something — and still get a clear, useful answer.

- Your Social Security number, Medicare number, or any government ID number.
- Full bank account, debit card, or credit card numbers.
- Passwords, PINs, or the answers to your security questions.
- Your full date of birth together with your full name and home address.
- Anything about your health you would not say out loud in a crowded waiting room.

WATCH OUT

If any website or app asks you to type a password or a card number "so the AI can help you," stop. A real AI helper never needs those to answer a question. When in doubt, leave it out — and call Bill if you are unsure what is safe to share.

13 AI Can Be Wrong — Always Double-Check

Here is the most important habit of all: AI sometimes states things that are simply not true, and it says them with the same calm confidence it uses for the right answers. A polished, sure-sounding reply is not proof it is correct. Treat whatever AI gives you as a helpful first draft or a friendly explanation — never as the final word on anything that matters.

For anything touching your health, your money, medicine, legal questions, or a decision you cannot easily undo, confirm it with a real person or an official source before you act on it.

- Medicine or health: confirm with your doctor or pharmacist, never the chat.
- Money or taxes: confirm with your bank, your accountant, or the official statement.
- A letter from the government: confirm by calling the number printed on the letter itself.
- A fact, name, or date you'll repeat to someone else: check it on an official website too.

> **WATCH OUT**
>
> AI confidently inventing a wrong answer is common enough that the industry has a name for it. It does not mean the tool is broken or that you did anything wrong — the double-check is simply part of using it well.

14 When to Call Bill

If the idea of a patient helper who explains anything, any number of times, appeals to you — and most people find it a genuine comfort — I'm glad to get you set up and show you the handful of phrases that unlock it.

I'll show you how to ask for the right level, how to say "simpler" and "give me an example," and how to use voice so it feels like talking with a patient teacher. I make house calls across Portage County, Ohio, and I have spent 30+ years helping people make peace with their technology.

- You'd like a patient helper for all the words and ideas nobody explains.
- You want to understand your own health or money matters better.
- You'd enjoy learning something new at your own pace.
- You want it set up with big text or voice so asking is effortless.

CHEAT SHEET

Everyday Cheat Sheet

Keep this handy. No question is too basic — just ask it to go simpler.

I want to...	Do this...
Understand anything	Ask, then add "explain it simply, no jargon"
Still unclear?	Say "even simpler" or "give me an everyday example"
A doctor's word	Ask what it means, then confirm care with your doctor
A money term	Ask for the plain version; decide with a real advisor
Make it stick	Ask for a comparison to something you know well
Learn for fun	Say "teach me a bit at a time and quiz me"
Get help	Call Bill: (330) 200-8042

BEFORE YOU GO

A Note From Bill

A quick note from Bill. I write these guides to make home tech a little less frustrating, and I do my best to keep every step accurate and up to date. Still, every home, device, and setup is a bit different, so I can't promise a guide will match yours exactly or fix your particular problem. These guides are for general information only — they're not professional, legal, or financial advice, and they don't replace your device's own manual or the manufacturer's instructions. Please go slow, use your own good judgment, and use everything here at your own risk. If a step involves electrical wiring, a gas appliance, a water heater, plumbing, or climbing a ladder — or if anything just doesn't feel safe — please stop and call a licensed professional (or give me a call at 330-200-8042). Bill's Home Tech and Bill Davis can't be responsible for any damage, data loss, or injury that results.

HOW I CAN HELP

Your Visit — and My Promise

You don't have to remember all of it — just that a friendly, patient person is one call away, whenever you'd rather have a hand.

KEY SPECS

In your home — $99 flat for the first visit, no contracts and no surprises, with a 30-day come-back-free follow-up. In-home visits cover Portage County, Ohio and nearby communities.
Outside the area? Remotely — $49 for a screen-share session (free for Support Plan members, $39/mo), refundable if I can't fix it — and credited toward a visit if you'd rather have me in person. Book either at billshometech.com/book.

GOOD TO KNOW

My promise — If you're not 100% satisfied with your visit, I'll come back at no charge, or refund the full $99. No questions, no awkwardness. That's how I'd want to be treated.

Whenever you're ready, I'll come to your home anywhere in Portage County, Ohio and nearby communities, at your pace. Too far for a house call? I also help remotely. Book at billshometech.com/book or call (330) 200-8042. — Bill

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