BILL'S HOME TECH
Home & Small Business Tech Solutions

BILL'S COMPLETE MANUALS

# AI Images & Video

Making pictures for fun, editing your photos,
and spotting the fakes — in plain English

**A calm, plain-English guide to AI pictures and video**

Take your time — making a picture can't hurt a thing

*Written for you by Bill — Bill's Home Tech*

(330) 200-8042 · BillsHomeTech.com

*For ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot, Meta AI & your phone's photo app · facts current November 2026*

# What's Inside

This is your plain-English guide to AI pictures and video. Read it in any order and at your own pace; there's no test, and you can't fall behind. The first half shows you how to make a picture for fun and tidy up your own photos. The second half shows you how to check a picture before you believe it, and how to sidestep the scams that use fakes. These tools change often, so if a button looks a little different on your screen, the idea is still the same.

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PART 1

# Getting to Know AI Pictures and Video

What AI pictures and videos are, the handful of words you'll hear, how they get made, and which tools you may already have on your phone or computer. Start here and the rest will make sense.

CHAPTER 1

# A Note from Bill

Hello, and welcome. You've probably seen them already: a picture of a cat in a tiny chef's hat, a "photo" of a famous person doing something odd, a video of a flooded town that turned out never to have happened. Many of these were made by a computer in a few seconds. Some are harmless fun. Some are made to fool you.

I'm Bill. For more than 30 years I've helped people feel at home with their technology, and these days I help folks here in Portage County, Ohio, with everything from new phones to suspicious messages. The word **fake** comes up in my guides more than almost any other, and AI pictures and video are a big reason why. So I wrote this book to cover both sides: how to make an AI picture for fun, and how to keep from being fooled by one.

## Who this book is for

- Anyone who's curious about making a picture for a birthday card, an invitation or just for a laugh.
- Anyone who wants to tidy up their own photos with the AI tools already built into their phone.
- Anyone who has wondered, "Is this picture real?" and wants a simple, reliable way to check.
- Families who want to protect a parent or grandparent from scams that use fake pictures and video.

## What this book covers

- **The basics**: what AI pictures and video are, in plain words.
- **Making pictures** with ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot and Meta AI.
- **Editing your own photos** with Apple Clean Up, Google Photos and Samsung's Galaxy AI tools.
- **AI video**: what's on offer today and what it costs.
- **Good manners and the rules**: real people, consent, copyright basics and the law on fake intimate images.
- **Spotting fakes**: labels, hidden watermarks, reverse image search and telltale signs.
- **The scams** that use fake pictures and video, and a simple pause-and-verify habit that beats them.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

### What this book does for you

By the end you'll be able to make a cheerful picture for a card in a couple of minutes, clean up a family photo without fuss, and look at any surprising picture or video with calm, confident eyes. Most of all, you'll know exactly what to do before you believe, share or pay.

## An honest promise

**Making a picture can't hurt anything.** Typing a description, trying again, and throwing away the ones you don't like is all perfectly safe. Editing your own photos is safe too, as long as you keep the original, and I'll show you how. The moments that really matter are about *other people*: making pictures of real people, sharing a picture you haven't checked, or acting on a picture that's asking for money. I'll flag each of those clearly.

GOOD TO KNOW

### This field changes fast

AI picture and video tools change their names, limits and prices every few months. Everything here was checked in November 2026. If a button looks a little different on your screen, the idea is almost always the same.

And you're never stuck alone. If you'd like a hand, call me at **(330) 200-8042**. There's no such thing as a silly question about whether a picture is real.

***— Bill***

CHAPTER 2

# What AI Pictures and Video Are, in Plain Words

An **AI picture** is an image made by a computer program from a description you type, rather than taken with a camera or drawn by hand. You type something like *a watercolor of a red barn in the snow*, and a few seconds later the program shows you a brand-new picture that never existed before. **AI video** works the same way, only the result moves: a short clip, usually just a few seconds long.

AI can also **change** a real photo: erase a stranger from the background, swap the sky, add something that wasn't there, or make an old photo look sharper. That's useful, and it's also why you can't always trust that a photo shows what really happened.

## Words worth knowing

| Word | What it means |
|---|---|
| **AI (artificial intelligence)** | Computer programs that learn patterns from huge amounts of examples, then use those patterns to write, talk, or make pictures. |
| **Prompt** | The description you type (or say) to tell the program what you want. "A golden retriever in a party hat" is a prompt. |
| **Image generator** | A program or app feature that makes pictures from a prompt. ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot and Meta AI all have one built in. |
| **AI editing** | Using AI to change a real photo, such as Clean Up on an iPhone or Magic Eraser in Google Photos. |
| **Deepfake** | A fake picture, video or recording made with AI to look or sound like a real person. My AI Voice Clones & Deepfake Scams manual covers these in depth. |
| **Label** | A small note a website or app puts on a picture or video to say it was made or changed with AI. |
| **Watermark** | A mark that shows where a picture came from. Some are visible, like a small logo in the corner. Others are hidden inside the picture where only a computer can find them. |
| **SynthID** | Google's hidden watermark, built into pictures, video and audio made with Google's AI tools. |
| **Content Credentials** | A kind of "nutrition label" attached to a picture's file, recording how it was made and edited. The technical name is **C2PA**. |
| **Reverse image search** | Searching with a picture instead of words, to see where else it appears online. Google Lens does this. |

TIP

### One idea to hold on to

A camera *records* what was in front of it. An AI program *invents* what you asked for. The invented picture can look every bit as real as a photograph, which is exactly why the rest of this book matters.

CHAPTER 3

# How AI Pictures Get Made, and Why They Look So Real

You don't need to understand the machinery to use these tools, any more than you need to understand an engine to drive. But a simple picture in your head makes the rest of this book easier.

## The plain version

1. The program was shown an enormous number of pictures, each paired with words describing it.
2. From those, it learned patterns: what "barn" usually looks like, what "watercolor" looks like, how light falls in "sunset."
3. When you type a prompt, it builds a brand-new picture that fits those patterns, starting from something like random static and refining it step by step.
4. It shows you the result. Ask again and you'll get a different picture, because it's invented fresh each time.

## Why the results can fool your eyes

- The program has learned what real photos look like, including lighting, skin, shadows and camera blur.
- It doesn't need the thing to exist. It can make a convincing photo of a person who was never born or an event that never happened.
- Each year the tools get better at the small details that used to give them away, such as hands, teeth and writing on signs.

## Why the results can also be wrong

The program doesn't know facts. It only knows what things *usually look like*. Ask for your town's courthouse and you'll get a courthouse that looks plausible but isn't yours. Ask for a picture with words in it and the spelling may come out odd. Ask for your late mother's face and it will invent a face, not remember hers.

HEADS UP

### A made-up picture is never evidence

Because an AI picture is invented, it can't prove anything happened. The same goes for a real photo that's been heavily edited with AI. Keep that in mind both when you make pictures and when someone shows you one.

CHAPTER 4

# Which AI Picture Tools You May Already Have

You probably don't need to download anything new. Many of the apps on your phone or computer can already make or edit pictures with AI. Here's a quick map.

## Tools that make new pictures

| Tool | Where you'll find it | Cost to start |
|---|---|---|
| ChatGPT | The ChatGPT app or chatgpt.com | Free plan includes a small number of pictures; paid plans include more |
| Google Gemini | The Gemini app or gemini.google.com | Free with limits; paid Google AI plans raise them |
| Microsoft Copilot | The Copilot app, copilot.microsoft.com, or Copilot in Windows | Free with limits that can vary |
| Meta AI | The Meta AI app, and in Facebook, Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp chats | Free; not offered in every country |

## Tools that edit your own photos

| Phone | Tool | Where |
|---|---|---|
| iPhone 15 Pro or later (Apple Intelligence) | Clean Up | Photos app > Edit |
| Most phones with Google Photos | Magic Eraser, Help me edit | Google Photos > Edit |
| Recent Samsung Galaxy phones | Photo Assist (Galaxy AI) | Gallery app |

TIP

### Start with what you know

If you already use one of these apps, start there. Someone who uses Facebook every day will find Meta AI easiest. Someone who already chats with ChatGPT can simply ask it for a picture. You don't need all of them, and none of them requires a paid plan to try.

SCAM ALERT

### Watch out for look-alike "AI photo" apps

App stores are full of apps with names like "AI Photo Magic Pro" that charge a weekly subscription after a short trial. Before you install anything, check who made it. The real ChatGPT app is made by OpenAI, Gemini by Google, Copilot by Microsoft, and Meta AI by Meta. My ChatGPT, Google Gemini and Microsoft Copilot manuals show you the genuine ones.

GOOD TO KNOW

### Do I need an account?

Plan on it. These tools work best, and keep your pictures, when you're signed in: Gemini uses your Google Account, Copilot your Microsoft account, Meta AI your Facebook or Meta account, and ChatGPT an OpenAI account. Use an account you already have rather than making new ones everywhere.

PART 2

# Making a Picture for Fun

How to describe what you want, step-by-step directions for ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot and Meta AI, and how to save, print and share what you make.

CHAPTER 5

# Describing the Picture You Want

Every AI picture starts with a description, called a **prompt**. The good news: you don't need special words. Describe it the way you'd describe it to a friend who paints. The more you say, the closer the picture gets to what's in your head.

## The four things worth mentioning

| Mention | For example |
|---|---|
| **What's in it** | "A golden retriever wearing a birthday hat, sitting next to a cake with candles." |
| **The style** | "Like a watercolor," "like a pencil sketch," "like a 1950s postcard," or "like a children's book illustration." |
| **The mood and colors** | "Cheerful, bright spring colors," or "cozy, warm evening light." |
| **The shape** | "Tall, for a phone screen," "wide, for a banner," or "square, for a card." |

## A before-and-after

| Short prompt | Better prompt |
|---|---|
| A garden | A watercolor of an English cottage garden in June, pink roses and blue delphiniums, a white bench, soft morning light, square shape for a greeting card |
| Happy birthday | A cheerful illustration for an 80th birthday card: a vintage red pickup truck filled with balloons on a country road, bright colors, no words in the picture |

## Fixing what you don't like

You don't have to start over. In the same conversation, just say what to change: *Make the sky more orange*, *Remove the fence*, *Make it look more like a pencil drawing*. Most of the tools in this book can adjust the last picture they made.

TIP

### Leave the words out of the picture

AI tools have improved at spelling, but writing inside a picture still sometimes comes out garbled. If you're making a card, ask for *no words in the picture*, then add your greeting yourself in a card app or by hand.

HEADS UP

### Things these tools will refuse

The big tools have rules. They generally refuse pictures that are violent, sexual, hateful, or that pretend to show a real, recognizable person in a misleading way. If a tool says no, it isn't broken. Try a different idea.

CHAPTER 6

# Making a Picture in ChatGPT

If you already use ChatGPT, making a picture is as simple as asking for one. My ChatGPT manual covers setting up the app; here we'll go straight to pictures.

## Step by step

1. Open the **ChatGPT** app on your phone, or go to **chatgpt.com** on a computer, and sign in.
2. Start a new chat.
3. In the message box, type *Create an image of...* and then your description. For example: *Create an image of a watercolor lighthouse at sunset, square, for a card.*
4. Tap the send arrow and wait. Pictures take longer than text, often up to a minute.
5. If you'd like changes, type them in the same chat: *Make the sky pinker and add a few seagulls.*
6. To keep it, tap the picture to open it, then tap the download or share button.

## How many can I make for free?

OpenAI says the Free plan has limits on image creation that are separate from, and stricter than, the paid plans. OpenAI doesn't publish a single fixed number, and the limit can change when the service is busy. When you reach it, ChatGPT shows a message telling you when you can make more. Just come back later.

TIP

### You can start from your own photo

Tap the **+** button and add a photo, then ask, for example, *Turn this photo of my dog into a watercolor painting.* Only do this with your own photos, and see Chapter 18 before using pictures of other people.

HEADS UP

### Paid plans aren't needed for a few cards

If you only want a picture now and then, the Free plan is plenty. Don't upgrade just because you hit the limit once; wait for it to reset. My ChatGPT manual explains the paid plans and how to cancel.

CHAPTER 7

# Making a Picture in Google Gemini

Google's Gemini can make and edit pictures too, and Google lists picture-making as part of the free plan. It works in the Gemini app on a phone and at **gemini.google.com** on a computer. My Google Gemini manual covers getting set up.

## On a computer

1. Go to **gemini.google.com** and sign in with your Google Account.
2. In the sidebar on the left, click **Images**.
3. Pick one of the ready-made templates if one appeals to you, or type your own description in the box.
4. Press **Enter** and wait for the picture.
5. To change it, type what you'd like different. To keep it, use the download button on the picture.

## On a phone

1. Open the **Gemini** app.
2. Type or say *Create an image of...* and your description.
3. Tap send. When the picture appears, tap it to see it larger, then use the download or share button.

## Limits and quality

Google says free usage in the Gemini app is limited, and the limits refresh every few hours up to a weekly maximum. Paid Google AI plans raise the limits and use Google's more capable picture model. Google also says free users download pictures at a smaller size than paid subscribers. For a card or a screen, the free size is fine; for a large print, it may look soft.

> **GOOD TO KNOW**
>
> **A hidden watermark is added for you**
>
> Pictures made or edited with Google's AI carry an invisible **SynthID** watermark. You can't see it, it doesn't spoil the picture, and it lets Gemini later recognize the picture as AI-made. Chapter 22 shows how to use that to check pictures you receive.

CHAPTER 8

# Making a Picture in Microsoft Copilot

Microsoft's Copilot can create pictures from a description, and it can also take a picture you upload and change it. You'll find Copilot as an app on Windows computers and phones, and at **copilot.microsoft.com**. My Microsoft Copilot manual covers getting started.

## Step by step

1. Open the **Copilot** app, or go to **copilot.microsoft.com**, and sign in with your Microsoft account.
2. In the message box, describe the picture you want, for example: *Create an image of a cozy cabin in the snow, warm lights in the windows, like a Christmas card.*
3. Send it and wait. Microsoft notes it can take a minute or two.
4. Ask for changes in plain words, or start again with a new description.
5. To keep a picture, open it and use the download or share option.

## Is it free?

Microsoft says Copilot can create images for free, though usage limits and availability may vary with your location and how busy the service is. Some extra creative features in the Copilot app, such as the **Create** section with templates, are tied to an eligible Microsoft 365 subscription.

GOOD TO KNOW

### How long Copilot keeps your pictures

Microsoft says images you generate or upload in Copilot are kept for no longer than 18 months before they're deleted. Save any picture you care about to your own computer or phone.

CHAPTER 9

# Making a Picture with Meta AI

Meta, the company behind Facebook, Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp, has its own assistant called **Meta AI**. If you already spend time on Facebook, this may be the easiest place to try a picture.

## In the Meta AI app

1. Open the **Meta AI** app and sign in with your Facebook or Meta account.
2. Tap **Ask Meta AI**.
3. Start your prompt with *Imagine* or *Create an image of*, then add details.
4. Meta AI shows several pictures at once. Tap one to see it larger.
5. Download the one you like, type a new prompt to change it, or choose to animate it into a short moving clip.

## In a Messenger chat

Meta's help pages say you can also ask Meta AI for pictures inside chats on Messenger, and use it on Facebook for things like a new profile-picture effect or a group icon. The exact buttons vary from app to app and change often, so look for the Meta AI option in the chat or search area.

HEADS UP

### "Imagine me" uses your face

Meta AI can make pictures of *you* if you type *Imagine me...*, after an on-screen setup that uses photos of your face. That's your choice to make, but think it over first: you're giving Meta pictures of your face to work with. You can enjoy Meta AI without ever turning this on.

GOOD TO KNOW

### Not everywhere, not every option

Meta says its AI apps and features aren't offered everywhere yet. If you don't see an option, your app may need updating, or the feature may not have reached your account.

CHAPTER 10

# Saving, Printing and Sharing Your Picture

You've made something you like. Here's how to keep it and put it to use.

## Saving it

- **On a phone:** tap the picture, then the download or share button. Choose **Save Image** (on an iPhone) or **Download** (on Android). It goes into your Photos or Gallery app with your other pictures.
- **On a computer:** click the download button on the picture. It usually lands in your **Downloads** folder. Move it somewhere you'll find it again, such as a "Cards" folder.

## Printing it

Print it at home on photo paper, or send it to a pharmacy or store photo counter the way you would any picture. For a card, a 4 by 6 or 5 by 7 print looks good. Very large prints may look a bit soft, especially from a free plan.

## Sharing it

Send it by text or email like any other photo, or post it to Facebook. When you share an AI picture somewhere public, it's good manners to say so. A simple "Made this with AI!" in the caption keeps everyone honest. More on that in Chapter 18.

TIP

### Name it so you can find it

On a computer, rename the file something you'll recognize, such as *Ruth 80th birthday card picture*. Files from AI tools often come with long, meaningless names.

HEADS UP

### A visible mark may be added

Some tools add a small mark or logo in a corner of the picture to show it's AI-made. That's on purpose. Please don't crop or edit it out; it's part of being honest about what the picture is.

PART 3

# Editing Your Own Photos with AI

Erasing a stranger or a power line from a family photo on an iPhone, an Android phone or a Samsung Galaxy, and an honest word about "restoring" old pictures.

CHAPTER 11

# Clean Up on an iPhone

On iPhones with Apple Intelligence, the Photos app has a tool called **Clean Up**. It erases something distracting from a photo, like a stranger walking past in the background or a trash can beside the porch, and fills in the gap so you'd never know it was there.

## Which iPhones have it

Clean Up needs Apple Intelligence, which runs on the iPhone 15 Pro, iPhone 15 Pro Max, and any iPhone 16 or later. It isn't offered in every language or region. My Apple Photos manual explains how to check which iPhone and iOS version you have.

## Step by step

1. Open the **Photos** app and open the picture.
2. Tap the **Edit** button (it looks like three little sliders).
3. Tap **Tools**, then tap **Clean Up**. The first time, your iPhone may need a moment to download the tool.
4. The iPhone may highlight things it suggests removing. Tap one to erase it, or brush over or circle whatever you want gone.
5. If you don't like the result, tap the undo button and try again.
6. Tap **Done** to save.

> TIP
>
> **In iOS 27: Extend and Reframe**
>
> iOS 27 adds two more AI tools in the same place: **Extend**, which widens a picture by inventing more of the scene at the edges, and **Reframe**, which changes the angle a little. They're fun, but remember the new parts are made up.

## You can always go back

The Photos app keeps your original. To undo all your edits, open the photo, tap the **More** button (three dots), then tap **Revert to Original**.

GOOD TO KNOW

### A hidden note that it was changed

Apple says that in iOS 27.2 and later, pictures edited with these AI tools carry a hidden watermark showing they were changed. It doesn't change how the photo looks.

CHAPTER 12

# Google Photos: Magic Eraser and Help Me Edit

**Google Photos** is on most Android phones and can be installed on an iPhone. It has AI editing tools too. Which ones you see depends on your phone and the version of the app.

## Help me edit: ask in plain words

With **Help me edit**, you simply describe the change you'd like, such as *remove the people in the background* or *make it brighter*, and Google Photos tries to do it.

1. Open **Google Photos** and open the picture.
2. Tap **Edit**.
3. Tap **Help me edit** (on some phones this is labeled **Ask**).
4. The first time, Google asks you to turn on its **Ask Photos** feature. Tap **Continue** and follow the instructions on screen.
5. Type or say what you'd like changed, then review the result before saving.

## Magic Eraser

On many phones, Google Photos also offers **Magic Eraser** to remove a distraction: you brush or circle the thing you want gone. Look for it among the editing tools after you tap Edit.

## Requirements and undoing

- On an iPhone, Google says most of these features need iOS 18 or later and an iPhone with at least 3 GB of memory.
- Some of the biggest changes, such as **Reimagine** in Magic Editor, are only on Google Pixel 8 phones and later.
- To undo, open the edited photo, tap **Edit**, then **Revert**. Google notes you can't undo changes on a photo you saved as a copy, but the original copy is still there.

HEADS UP

**Look closely before you save**

AI edits sometimes leave smudges, odd shapes or a strange-looking hand where something was removed. Zoom in with two fingers and look carefully before you save or print.

CHAPTER 13

# Samsung Galaxy: Photo Assist

On recent Samsung Galaxy phones, the **Gallery** app has Galaxy AI editing tools called **Photo Assist**. The best-known one, often called **Generative Edit**, lets you erase, move or resize something in a photo, and the phone fills in the background.

## Step by step (One UI 8)

1. Open the **Gallery** app and open the picture.
2. Tap the **Galaxy AI** button (on some versions it sits in the editing tools).
3. Touch and hold the thing you want to change, or draw a circle around it with your finger.
4. Drag it to move it, pinch to resize it, or choose to erase it.
5. Tap **Generate** and wait a moment.
6. Use **Show Original** to compare before and after.
7. Tap **Save Copy**. Your original photo is kept.

## Good to know

- If it's turned off, go to **Settings** > **Galaxy AI** > **Photo assist**, or turn it on when the Gallery app offers it the first time.
- You need a **Samsung account** and an internet connection.
- Samsung says edited pictures are resized to 12 megapixels, and a visible **Galaxy AI watermark** is added to pictures with AI-generated parts.
- On the newest phones (One UI 8.5), Samsung's community pages report that Generative Edit has been split into separate tools such as **AI Eraser** and **Move**. The idea is the same.

TIP

### Saving a copy is your safety net

Because Samsung saves your edit as a copy, the original is always there in Gallery. If you don't like the edited one, just delete the copy.

CHAPTER 14

# "Restoring" Old Family Photos: Honest Caveats

Many families have a shoebox of faded, creased, scratched pictures. AI tools can make these look dramatically better: brighter colors, fewer scratches, sharper faces, even color added to a black-and-white photo. It can be moving to see. But it's worth knowing what's really happening.

## What AI does to an old photo

When an AI tool "sharpens" a blurry face, it doesn't uncover hidden detail. It **guesses** what a face like that probably looked like, and draws it in. Sometimes the guess is close. Sometimes Grandpa ends up with a slightly different nose, different eyes, or a smile he never had. Added color is a guess too: the program doesn't know that Mom's dress was navy, not green.

## A careful way to do it

1. **Scan or photograph the original first**, flat, in good light, and keep that file untouched.
2. Make your AI changes on a **copy**, never the only digital version.
3. Start gently: brightness, contrast and scratch removal change far less than face "enhancement."
4. Show the result to relatives who knew the person. If they say, "That doesn't look like her," trust them.
5. Label the improved version clearly, for example *Grandma 1952, AI-restored*, so future generations know which is the real record.

HEADS UP

### Keep the original for history

The original photo, faded as it may be, is the true record. An AI-restored version is an interpretation. Keep both, and never throw out the original print because the restored one looks nicer.

STAY SAFE

### Mind where you upload family photos

Old photos often show children, homes and names on the back. Use well-known tools from companies you already trust, such as the ones in this book, rather than unfamiliar websites that promise free "photo restoration." Some of those want your email, your money, or your photos.

FROM BILL

### Want a hand with the shoebox?

Scanning old prints and keeping them safely organized is something I'm glad to help with. My Apple Photos manual also covers keeping a second copy of your pictures.

PART 4

# AI Video

What AI video tools can do today, which ones you can actually use in November 2026 and what they cost, and how to bring a photo to life without stepping on anyone's toes.

CHAPTER 15

# AI Video Today: What's Available and What It Costs

AI video works like AI pictures: you describe a scene, and the program makes a short clip, often with sound. The clips are short, usually just several seconds, and they take longer to make than a picture. This is the fastest-changing corner of the whole subject, so here's where things stand in November 2026.

## The OpenAI Sora app has closed

You may have heard of **Sora**, OpenAI's video app, which drew a lot of attention in 2025. OpenAI says the Sora app and website were discontinued on **April 26, 2026**, and the version for software developers followed on September 24, 2026. If you see an app or website still offering "Sora" video, be careful: it isn't OpenAI's.

## Google Gemini: video on the paid plans

Google's Gemini app can make short videos from a description or from one of your photos. Google says its newer **Gemini Omni** video model is replacing the older **Veo** model in the Gemini app, so you may see either name. Video making is part of Google's paid Google AI plans; Google's plan page lists it starting with **Google AI Plus** (about $4.99 a month; check the current price), with higher limits on the more expensive plans. Video uses up your limits much faster than pictures do.

## Meta AI: animating a picture

Meta AI can turn a picture it made into a short moving clip with its **animate** option, and its help pages describe making videos in the Meta AI app as well. Availability varies by country and app version.

| Tool | Video? | Cost to try |
|---|---|---|
| OpenAI Sora app | Closed April 26, 2026 | Not available |
| Google Gemini | Yes, short clips | Paid Google AI plan (from about $4.99 a month) |
| Meta AI | Short animations and clips | Free where offered |

HEADS UP

### Don't pay for video just to try it

Video is the most expensive kind of AI to run, which is why it's mostly on paid plans. If you're only curious, try Meta AI's animate option first. If you do sign up for a paid plan, put a reminder on your calendar a few days before it renews.

CHAPTER 16

# Bringing a Photo to Life, Thoughtfully

One of the most popular uses of AI video is "photo to video": you give the program a still photo, and it makes the people or scene move for a few seconds. A grandchild's birthday picture might wave and laugh. An old wedding photo might smile and turn.

## How it generally works

1. Open a tool that offers it, such as the Gemini app on a paid plan.
2. Add your photo with the **+** or attach button.
3. Describe the movement you'd like, for example: *The grandchildren blow out the candles and laugh.*
4. Wait. Video can take a few minutes.
5. Watch it, and save it only if you're happy with it.

## Before you animate someone

- **Ask the living people in the photo**, especially adults who might not want to see themselves "moving" in ways they never did.
- **Think about how it will feel**. Some families find an animated photo of a loved one who has died comforting. Others find it upsetting. Ask before you share it at a gathering.
- **Never put words in someone's mouth.** A video of a real person "saying" something they didn't say is a deepfake, even if it's meant kindly.
- **Label it** when you share it: "AI-animated from our 1985 photo."

STAY SAFE

### Children's photos need extra care

Be thoughtful about uploading pictures of grandchildren to any AI tool, and ask their parents first. Once a picture is uploaded and shared, you can't fully control where it ends up.

TIP

### The original stays the treasure

However lovely the animation, keep the original photo safe and unchanged. It's the real memory; the video is a fun extra.

PART 5

# Good Uses and Good Manners

Cheerful things to make, the etiquette of making pictures of real people, copyright in plain English, and the federal law on fake intimate images.

CHAPTER 17

# Good Uses: Cards, Invitations and Fun

Used kindly and honestly, AI pictures can be a real pleasure. Here are some ideas that work well.

| Idea | Try a prompt like... |
|---|---|
| Birthday card | A cheerful watercolor of a vintage bicycle with a basket full of sunflowers, no words, square |
| Party invitation | A festive illustration of a backyard picnic with string lights and a long table, summer evening, wide shape |
| Thank-you note | A simple pencil sketch of a cup of tea and a small bouquet of daisies |
| Holiday letter | A cozy snowy farmhouse at dusk with a wreath on the door, like an old Christmas card |
| A story for grandkids | A friendly cartoon turtle wearing a backpack, setting off on an adventure, children's-book style |
| Club or church flyer | A bright, simple illustration of a bake sale table with pies and cookies |
| Garden planning | A sketch of a small raised-bed vegetable garden with tomatoes and marigolds |

## Why these work well

- Nobody is fooled: everyone knows a watercolor turtle with a backpack is made up.
- No real person is shown without permission.
- The picture doesn't need to be factually right; it just needs to be cheerful.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

### A small joy, any day

For many people, the best part is the playing: describing a scene, seeing what comes back, and laughing at the odd ones. It's a gentle way to get comfortable with new technology, and it costs nothing on the free plans.

HEADS UP

### Not for anything official

Don't use AI pictures where people expect the truth: a listing photo of something you're selling, a "photo" of damage for an insurance claim, or a picture of your home for a rental. Use real photos there.

CHAPTER 18

# Etiquette: Real People, Consent and Honesty

The biggest question with AI pictures isn't technical. It's about other people. A few simple manners keep you on the right side of kindness, and often of the law.

## Four good rules

1. **Don't make pictures or videos of real people without their permission.** That includes friends, family, neighbors and famous people.
2. **Never make a picture that puts someone in a false or embarrassing situation**, even as a joke. Once it's shared, it can travel far beyond the people who'd understand the joke.
3. **Label what you share.** If a picture is AI-made or heavily AI-edited, say so.
4. **Don't pass off AI work as a real photo or as your own handmade art.** If you entered it in a contest or sold it, tell people how it was made.

## What about pictures of my own family?

Turning your own photo of the grandkids into a cartoon for the fridge is generally fine, but it's still kind to ask their parents first, especially before posting it online. Adults in the family get a say too. A quick "Do you mind if I make a cartoon from this?" goes a long way.

STAY SAFE

### Never fake an intimate image

Making or sharing a fake nude or sexual image of a real person, using AI or anything else, is deeply harmful and can be a federal crime. Chapter 20 explains the law and how victims can get images removed.

GOOD TO KNOW

### Why the tools refuse some requests

The major AI companies build rules into their tools to block many misleading or harmful pictures of real people. Those rules aren't perfect, and some lesser-known apps have few rules at all. Your own good judgment is the real safeguard.

CHAPTER 19

# Copyright Basics, in Plain English

Copyright questions about AI are still being worked out by courts and lawmakers, and nothing here is legal advice. But a few plain points will keep you comfortable for everyday, personal use.

## Four plain points

- **Personal use is the easy case.** Making a picture for your own card, invitation or fridge is what these tools are designed for.
- **You may not "own" an AI picture the way you own a photo you took.** The U.S. Copyright Office has taken the position that material generated entirely by AI, without enough human creative control, can't be copyrighted, though your own creative additions may be.
- **Don't copy other people's work.** Asking for a picture of a famous cartoon character, a brand's logo, or "in exactly the style of" a living artist to sell can cause trouble. Many tools refuse these requests anyway.
- **Read the rules if you plan to sell.** Each tool has terms of use. If you plan to put AI pictures on products for sale, check the tool's terms and talk to a lawyer.

TIP

### When in doubt, keep it personal

If a picture is just for family and friends, you're doing exactly what these tools were made for. The moment money or a business is involved, it's worth getting proper advice.

HEADS UP

### Your uploads matter too

When you upload a photo to an AI tool, the company may keep it under its own privacy rules. Don't upload pictures of documents, ID cards, medical papers or anything you wouldn't want stored on someone else's computer.

CHAPTER 20

# The Law on Fake Intimate Images: The TAKE IT DOWN Act

This is a hard subject, and an important one for families. Criminals use AI to make fake explicit pictures of real people, including teenagers and older adults, and then use them to shame or threaten them for money. If this ever happens to you or someone you love: **it is never the victim's fault, and there is real help.**

## What the law says

Under the federal **TAKE IT DOWN Act**, which the Federal Trade Commission began enforcing in May 2026, covered platforms, such as social media, messaging and video-sharing sites, must offer a way to request removal of intimate images shared without consent, **including AI-made fakes**, and must remove them, and known identical copies, within **48 hours** of a valid request.

## If it happens

1. **Don't pay** and don't keep talking to anyone threatening you. Save screenshots of the messages.
2. Use the website's or app's removal request to ask for the image to be taken down.
3. If the platform doesn't remove it within 48 hours, or you can't find its removal process, tell the FTC at **TakeItDown.ftc.gov**.
4. Report the person who shared it to your local police and to the FBI at **tips.fbi.gov**.

TIP

### If the person shown is under 18

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children runs a free service called **Take It Down** (takeitdown.ncmec.org) that helps remove intimate images of minors from participating sites. Never forward such an image to anyone, even to report it.

FROM BILL

### You don't have to face it alone

My AI Voice Clones & Deepfake Scams manual goes into more detail on what to do if someone makes a fake of you. If you'd like a calm hand finding the right report buttons, call me at (330) 200-8042.

PART 6

# Spotting Fakes

The labels social media sites add, the hidden watermarks and Content Credentials you can check yourself, reverse image search, the telltale signs, and the simple habit that matters more than all of them.

CHAPTER 21

# AI Labels on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok

The big social media companies now put small labels on some pictures and videos to say they were made or changed with AI. These labels are a helpful hint. They are not a guarantee, in either direction.

## Where you may see a label

| Where | What to look for |
|---|---|
| Facebook and Instagram (Meta) | A small AI label (Meta has used the wording "AI info") near the account name or in the post's menu. Tapping it explains that the content may have been made or edited with AI. |
| YouTube | A note in the video's description, and sometimes on the video itself, along the lines of "Altered or synthetic content." Creators are asked to disclose realistic AI content. |
| TikTok | A label on the video saying it's AI-generated, either added by the creator or automatically when TikTok detects AI information in the file. |

GOOD TO KNOW

### The wording changes

Each company has renamed its labels more than once, and the exact words and placement vary between the phone app and the website. Look for any mention of AI near the post or in its menu.

## How the labels get there

- **The person who posted it says so.** Most big sites ask, and sometimes require, creators to label realistic AI content.
- **The file carries a signal.** Pictures from many AI tools carry Content Credentials or a hidden watermark, and some sites read these and add a label automatically.

HEADS UP

### No label doesn't mean real

A scammer won't label a fake, and hidden information is often stripped out when a picture is screenshotted, re-saved or passed from app to app. So **a missing label tells you nothing**. A label that's there is useful; a label that's missing is just silence.

TIP

### Labels can be wrong the other way, too

A real photo that was lightly touched up with an AI tool, such as a brightened sky, may carry an AI label. The label says *AI was involved*, not *this is a lie*. Use your judgment about what the picture is claiming.

CHAPTER 22

# Hidden Watermarks and Content Credentials: How to Check

Some AI pictures carry information you can't see but can check. There are two main kinds, and you can check both yourself for free.

## Google's SynthID: ask Gemini

Pictures, videos and audio made with Google's AI tools carry an invisible watermark called **SynthID**. Google says the watermark usually survives resizing, recoloring and compression, though heavy editing can weaken it. The Gemini app can check for it.

1. Save the picture or video you want to check to your phone or computer.
2. Open the **Gemini** app or go to **gemini.google.com**, and sign in.
3. Tap the **+** (add) button and choose the photo or file.
4. Ask: *Is this AI-generated?* or *Was this created or edited with Google AI?*
5. Read the answer carefully, including any note about how sure it is.

| Good to know | |
|---|---|
| **One file at a time** | A single picture, video or audio file per check, up to 100 MB. Videos must be under 90 seconds. |
| **Daily limit** | Google lists roughly 10 picture checks and 10 video checks a day. |
| **What it can find** | Mainly Google's own watermark. Google says a missing watermark does **not** mean the picture is real; it could have been made with another company's AI. |
| **Unclear answers** | Very simple pictures, or very small edits, may not carry a watermark Gemini can detect. |

## Content Credentials (C2PA)

**Content Credentials** are like a nutrition label attached to a picture's file. They can record which camera or app made a picture and which tools edited it. Many AI tools and some newer cameras and phones add them. Some websites show a small **CR** symbol on pictures that have them.

1. Save the picture to your computer.
2. In your web browser, go to **contentcredentials.org/verify**.
3. Drag the picture onto the page, or use the option to choose a file.

4. Read what it shows: who or what made the picture, and any AI tools listed.

GOOD TO KNOW

### Gemini can read these too

Google says Gemini also checks Content Credentials, which can show whether a picture is an unchanged original from a camera or has been modified, and with what tools. Google adds that Content Credentials alone don't prove a picture is AI-made.

HEADS UP

### Screenshots erase the evidence

Content Credentials usually live in the original file. A screenshot, or a picture forwarded through a messaging app, often loses them. If a check finds nothing, that's normal and doesn't mean the picture is real.

STAY SAFE

### Privacy when you check

Checking a picture means uploading it to Google or to the Content Credentials website. That's fine for a picture from a Facebook ad. Don't upload private family photos or anything with personal information just to check it.

CHAPTER 23

# Reverse Image Search with Google Lens

A **reverse image search** means searching with a picture instead of words. It shows where else the picture, or ones like it, appears online. It's one of the most useful checks there is, especially for romance-scam profile photos and "breaking news" pictures.

## What it can tell you

- **The same face under different names.** A dating profile photo that shows up on five other profiles, or on a model's website, is a fake profile.
- **An old picture passed off as new.** A "flood happening right now" photo that first appeared years ago, somewhere else.
- **Fact-checks.** Sometimes the results include a news or fact-checking article about the very picture you're looking at.

## On a phone

1. Save the picture to your phone, or take a screenshot of it.
2. Open the **Google** app and tap the **Lens** button (the camera symbol) in the search bar.
3. Choose the picture from your photos.
4. Scroll through the results and look for the same picture on other websites, with different names or older dates.

## On a computer

1. In the **Chrome** browser, right-click the picture.
2. Choose the option to search the image with Google (Google Lens).
3. Look through the results that open beside the page.

GOOD TO KNOW

### Exact buttons vary

Google changes these buttons often, and Android phones may offer Lens in other places too, such as Circle to Search. If a step doesn't match, look for the Lens camera symbol; the idea is the same.

HEADS UP

### A brand-new fake may have no matches

A freshly made AI picture won't appear anywhere else yet. "No matches" doesn't prove a picture is real. A match under a different name, though, is a strong sign of a fake.

CHAPTER 24

# Telltale Signs, and Why They're Getting Less Reliable

AI pictures and videos still sometimes contain small mistakes. Knowing where to look is worthwhile, as long as you remember the honest truth at the end of this chapter.

## Where to look

| Look at... | Possible signs of a fake |
|---|---|
| **Hands and feet** | Too many or too few fingers, fingers that blend together, odd-shaped feet. |
| **Faces** | Skin that's too smooth, blurry edges around the face, eyes or teeth that look off. |
| **Jewelry and glasses** | Earrings that don't match, glasses that melt into the skin. |
| **Writing** | Signs, name badges or documents with garbled or misspelled letters. |
| **Light and shadow** | Shadows going different ways, or light on a face that doesn't match the room. |
| **Backgrounds** | Repeating patterns, people in the crowd with smeared faces, buildings that don't quite make sense. |
| **Movement (video)** | Stiff or jerky motion, odd blinking, lips out of step with the words. |

TIP

### Zoom in and slow down

On a phone or tablet, spread two fingers on the screen to zoom in on hands, ears and background. Pause a video to look at a still frame. Mistakes that fly by at normal speed are easier to see when the picture is still and large.

## The honest truth

**You can't count on spotting a good fake.** The newest tools fix many of these mistakes, and each year there are fewer of them. Meanwhile, real photos can look strange too: phone cameras smooth skin, filters change faces, and a poor connection makes any video blurry. The FBI itself has said AI-made content is often difficult to identify.

HEADS UP

### Clues are reasons to check, not verdicts

A strange-looking picture isn't proof of a fake, and a perfect-looking one isn't proof it's real. Use these signs as a nudge to do the checks in this part of the book, and lean on the habit in the next chapter.

CHAPTER 25

# Is This Picture Real? The Pause-and-Verify Habit

Here's the most important chapter in the book. You don't need to be a detective. You need a routine that works *whether or not* you can tell a picture is fake. I call it **pause and verify**.

## When to use it

Use it whenever a picture or video is trying to get you to **do** something: pay, donate, invest, buy, click, share, or feel frightened or outraged. Those are the moments fakes are made for.

## The five steps

1. **Pause.** Take a breath. Real emergencies and real bargains can wait five minutes. Pressure to act *right now* is a warning sign by itself.
2. **Ask who's asking.** Did you go looking for this, or did it come to you in an ad, a text or a message from a stranger?
3. **Check the source yourself.** Don't use the link or number in the message. Go to the celebrity's, charity's or company's real website by typing it in, or call a family member on the number you already have.
4. **Check the picture.** Look for a label, try a reverse image search, and, if it might be Google-made, ask Gemini.
5. **Ask someone you trust.** Show a family member or friend before you act. Scammers hate a second opinion.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

### Why this beats sharp eyes

This habit doesn't care how good the fake is. A perfect AI video of a celebrity still can't survive you visiting the celebrity's real website. A perfect fake of your grandson still can't answer your family safe word or pick up his real phone.

TIP

### Before you share

Apply the same pause before forwarding a shocking picture or video. Take thirty seconds to see whether reliable news sources are reporting it. You'll keep your friends from being fooled too.

PART 7

# Scams That Use AI Pictures and Video

Fake celebrity endorsements and product ads, fake disaster and charity photos, romance scams with made-up faces, fake "grandchild in trouble" videos, and exactly what to do if you were fooled.

CHAPTER 26

# Fake Celebrity Endorsements and Fake Product Ads

You're scrolling Facebook or watching a video, and there's a familiar face: a TV doctor praising a miracle supplement, a famous businessman promising a can't-lose investment, a beloved actress giving away cookware. It looks and sounds like them. It may be entirely AI-made.

The FTC warns that scammers use fake celebrity testimonials, with doctored video and audio. The FBI has warned that criminals use AI pictures of celebrities to promote counterfeit products, and AI to create fake social media profiles and websites that look legitimate.

## The usual patterns

| What you see | What's really going on |
|---|---|
| A celebrity "endorsing" a pill, cream or diet gummy | A fake ad leading to a "free trial" that quietly signs you up for monthly charges |
| A famous investor on video promising big returns | An investment scam, often involving cryptocurrency |
| A gorgeous product photo at a too-good price | A fake store that takes your money and ships nothing, or a cheap knock-off |
| A "news report" about a celebrity's secret | A fake article built to sell you something |

## Before you buy or invest

1. Don't tap the ad or the link in the video.
2. Open your web browser yourself and search the celebrity's name plus the product, plus the word **scam**.
3. Check the celebrity's own official website or long-standing account. Real endorsements usually appear there too.
4. For any store you don't know, search its name plus **reviews** and **complaints** before paying, and pay with a credit card, not a gift card, wire or crypto.

SCAM ALERT

### A famous face promising profits

If someone in an ad promises you'll make money, it's a scam, no matter whose face is on it. A familiar face is just the costume. The promise of easy money is the scam.

TIP

### Already ordered?

If you gave a card number for a "free trial" or a store that never delivered, call the number on the back of your card and ask about disputing the charge and stopping future ones. My Fake Stores & Safe Online Shopping manual walks through it.

CHAPTER 27

# Fake Disaster and Charity Photos

After a hurricane, flood, fire or war, social media fills with heartbreaking pictures: a child standing in rubble, a dog on a rooftop, a family in a shelter. Many are real. Some are AI-made, posted to collect donations for a charity that doesn't exist, or simply to gather likes and followers that are later used for scams. The FBI has specifically warned about criminals using AI images of natural disasters and global conflicts to get donations for fraudulent charities.

## Signs a donation request isn't right

- The picture is unusually dramatic, perfect or emotional, and comes from an account you've never heard of.
- The charity's name is close to, but not the same as, a well-known one.
- It asks you to give by gift card, wire transfer, cryptocurrency or a payment app to an individual.
- It pushes you to give *right now*, before you've had time to look anything up.

## Give safely

1. Choose a charity you already know, or one recommended by a trusted local organization.
2. Go to the charity's website by typing its address yourself, not through a link in a post or message.
3. Look the charity up on a charity-review site such as the BBB Wise Giving Alliance or Charity Navigator.
4. Give by credit card or check, made out to the organization, never to a person.

SCAM ALERT

### "Share to help" posts

Posts with a dramatic AI picture that say "Share if you care" or "Nobody will share this" are often fishing for shares. The page that collects them can later be renamed and used for scams. You can feel for the people in a disaster without sharing an unchecked picture.

TIP

### Real help, close to home

If a disaster moves you, a gift to a well-known relief organization or a local food bank you know goes exactly where you intend.

CHAPTER 28

# Romance Scams with AI Photos

Romance scams have been around a long time. AI just gives the scammer better tools: beautiful profile photos of a person who doesn't exist, endless warm messages, and even "proof" pictures and short videos. The FBI lists all of these among the ways criminals use AI.

## Signs the face may be fake

- Every photo looks like a magazine cover, with perfect lighting and no ordinary snapshots.
- The background is blurry or oddly smooth, or the details don't quite make sense.
- Video calls are rare, short or glitchy, or never happen at all.
- They always have a reason they can't meet: working overseas, on an oil rig, in the military.
- Sooner or later there's money trouble: a medical bill, a plane ticket, customs fees, or a "great investment" they want to share.

## Gentle ways to check

1. Do a reverse image search on their profile photo (Chapter 23). A face that appears under other names is a fake.
2. Tell a friend or family member about the relationship. Scammers push for secrecy.
3. Search the job they claim plus the word **scammer**.
4. If they ask for money, stop writing back and report the profile to the site or app.

SCAM ALERT

### The one rule that never fails

Never send money, gift cards or crypto to someone you haven't met in person, no matter how real their pictures or videos look, and even if they sent you money first.

FROM BILL

### No shame, only help

Loneliness is human, and these scammers are professionals. If you realize you've been talking to one, please don't hide it out of embarrassment. Tell someone you trust, and report it. My AI Voice Clones & Deepfake Scams manual has more on deepfake romance scams.

CHAPTER 29

# Fake "Grandchild in Trouble" Videos and Voices

The old "grandparent scam" now comes with AI. A scammer may send a short video, a photo or a voice message that seems to be your grandchild, hurt or in trouble, begging for money and secrecy. The face and voice can be copied from videos posted online.

I keep this chapter short on purpose, because my **AI Voice Clones & Deepfake Scams** manual covers these calls, fake video calls and the family safe word in depth. Here's the core of it.

## What to do

1. **Don't trust the face or the voice**, however real it seems.
2. **Ask for your family safe word**, the private word or phrase only your real family knows.
3. **Hang up and call back** on the number you already have for that person. If you can't reach them, call their parent or another relative.
4. **Watch how they want to be paid.** Gift cards, wire transfers, cryptocurrency, cash handed to a "courier": all signs of a scam.
5. **Ignore "don't tell anyone."** Secrecy plus urgency plus an odd way to pay is the fingerprint of a scam.

SCAM ALERT

### A picture of an injury or an arrest

Scammers sometimes send a photo of a crashed car, a hospital bed or a police station to make the story feel real. These can be AI-made in seconds. A picture is never proof. The call back is.

TIP

### Make a safe word this week

Next time the family is together, agree on a safe word and share it in person, not by text or on social media. It costs nothing, and the FBI recommends it.

CHAPTER 30

# If You Were Fooled: What to Do and Where to Report

If you clicked, paid, shared or believed something that turned out to be fake, take a breath. These fakes are made by professionals to fool careful people. What matters now is acting quickly.

## Right away

1. **Stop contact.** Don't reply, and don't send any more money, even if they promise a refund.
2. **Call your bank or card company** using the number on your card or statement. Ask them to stop or dispute the payment.
3. **Change passwords** for any account you typed into a fake website, starting with email.
4. **Save the evidence**: screenshots of the ad, picture, messages and payment details.
5. **Tell someone you trust.** You don't have to sort it out alone.

## Where to report

| What happened | Where to report |
|---|---|
| Any scam or attempted scam | The FTC at **ReportFraud.ftc.gov** |
| Money lost online | The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at **ic3.gov** |
| A fake ad, profile or post | The site or app itself, using its Report option |
| A fake intimate image | The platform's removal request; then **TakeItDown.ftc.gov** if it isn't removed in 48 hours (Chapter 20) |
| Money left your account | Your bank or card company, using the number on your card |

SCAM ALERT

### Watch for the "recovery" scam

After you've been scammed, you may hear from someone offering to get your money back for a fee. That's often the same scammers, back for more. Real government agencies never charge to take your report.

TIP

### More help

My I Think I've Been Scammed manual walks through recovery step by step, and my Spotting & Avoiding Scams manual covers the warning signs that apply to every kind of scam.

PART 8

# Getting Help and Your Cheat-Sheet

An honest word about when a hand is worth it, and the whole book boiled down to one page.

CHAPTER 31

# When to Call Bill

I've written this book so you can make, edit and check pictures on your own. But part of being helpful is being honest about when a hand saves you time, worry or money, so here's my straight advice, with no pressure.

## Times it's well worth a call

- **A picture or video is asking you for money**, and you're not sure it's real. Call before you pay. We'll check it together.
- **You already paid, clicked or shared** something that turned out to be fake. We'll secure your accounts and walk through reporting it.
- **Someone made a fake of you or a family member.** I'll help you find the right report and removal buttons, calmly.
- **A Digital Safety Check-Up** for you or a parent: safe words, privacy settings on social media, and a pause-and-verify plan the whole family understands.
- **Setting up an AI tool** on your phone or computer, or making sure you're using the genuine app and not a look-alike.
- **Scanning and organizing old family photos**, with the originals kept safe.

## What working with me is like

I work at your pace: no rushing, no talking down, and no jargon. I explain what I'm doing in plain words, and I'll tell you honestly when a paid AI plan or gadget isn't worth your money. I serve Portage County, Ohio, and I bring more than 30 years of professional experience to every visit.

FROM BILL

### How to reach me

Call or text **(330) 200-8042**, or book a time at **billshometech.com/book**. Help is **$49 remote · $99 in your home**. If I'm with another customer, my AI receptionist, Sophie, will answer and make sure I get back to you. No question is too small, including "Is this picture real?"

Thank you for reading. I hope you have fun making a picture or two, and that you'll never again feel unsure about a picture someone sends you. You know what to do now.

***— Bill***

CHAPTER 32

# Your AI Images & Video Cheat-Sheet

Print just this page and keep it by your favorite chair. The whole book, boiled down.

## Where things are

| I want to | Go here |
|---|---|
| **Make a picture in ChatGPT** | New chat > type *Create an image of...* |
| **Make a picture in Gemini** | gemini.google.com > **Images** in the sidebar, or ask in the app |
| **Make a picture in Copilot** | Copilot app or copilot.microsoft.com > describe it |
| **Make a picture in Meta AI** | Meta AI app > Ask Meta AI > start with *Imagine* |
| **Erase something (iPhone)** | Photos > Edit > Tools > **Clean Up** |
| **Erase something (Google Photos)** | Edit > **Help me edit** or **Magic Eraser** |
| **Erase something (Samsung)** | Gallery > Galaxy AI > circle it > Generate > Save Copy |

## Checking a picture

| Question | How to check |
|---|---|
| **Is it from Google's AI?** | Gemini > **+** > add the picture > ask *Is this AI-generated?* |
| **Does it have Content Credentials?** | **contentcredentials.org/verify** > drop the picture in |
| **Where else does it appear?** | Google app > **Lens** > choose the picture |
| **Any label?** | Look near the post or in its menu for an AI label |

## Keep handy

| Item | |
|---|---|
| **Our family safe word (keep private)** | _____ |
| **Trusted numbers to call back** | _____ |
| **My bank's fraud number** | _____ |
| **Report a scam** | ReportFraud.ftc.gov · ic3.gov |

## Safety, in three lines

- No label, no watermark and no flaws doesn't mean real. **Pause and verify** anything that asks you to act.
- Check the source yourself: type the website, call the number you already have, ask for the safe word.
- Never make, share or pay because of a picture of a real person you haven't checked.

**WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU**

### You've got this

You can make a cheerful picture, tidy up a family photo, and look at any surprising picture with calm, confident eyes. When you'd like a hand, call (330) 200-8042.