[AI]KIDO™ CHEAT SHEET

Move with the energy. Never fight the LLM.

THE CORE PRINCIPLE

"The best defense is not to be there."

[AI]Kido™ is knowing where LLMs fall short, what they'll do every time regardless of instructions, and **planning for those things**. Don't fight the goblin. Redirect its energy.

THE TWO KILLER QUESTIONS

After giving Claude any instructions, always ask:

1. "Does that make sense?"
2. "Please explain that back to me, Claude."

The goblins will **always** say yes. They are more enthusiastic than intelligent. The explain-back catches misunderstandings before they cost you hours.

FRONT ROW & BACK ROW PROTOCOLS

Front Row: "Step back from the detail. Look at what we're actually painting. Is this solving the real problem?"

Back Row: "Look at the whole stage. How do the parts relate? Does the architecture make sense together?"

Use when Claude has tunnel vision, when you're lost in details, or when the project feels like it's drifting.

THE TWO-ATTEMPT RULE

Attempt 1: Try to fix it.

Attempt 2: Try again a different way.

After 2 fails: STOP. Research mode. Check docs, communities, question whether you're solving the right problem.

Never let Claude keep guessing. It will go down every rabbit hole just to bring you *something*. Time to sharpen the axe.

KNOWN vs. UNKNOWN QUANTITIES

Known quantities (spreadsheets, contact forms, common tools): Be brief. Claude knows what these are. "Make me a digital spreadsheet with columns for name, email, phone."

Unknown quantities (creative work, your unique world, custom projects): Be detailed. Give it the full picture. The more context, the better the result.

THE TWO SKILLS

Skill #1: Make your instructions clearer.

Skill #2: Clear instructions **at the right time**.

Direction first is always the way. Catch the goblin before it runs off with your request. And always, always: **check the output.**

"AI does what you say, not what you mean."