

AI Glossary

AI Terms Made Simple

Common AI terms explained in clear, approachable language without technical overwhelm or confusing jargon.



“Understanding the language makes the conversation feel less overwhelming.”

AI Glossary

Understanding AI Language

Artificial intelligence conversations often include technical terms that can feel confusing or intimidating at first.

This guide was created to simplify some of the most common AI words and concepts into plain, everyday language.

You do not need to memorize everything.

The goal is simply to make modern AI conversations feel more understandable, approachable, and less overwhelming.

A

AI (Artificial Intelligence)

Technology designed to perform tasks that normally require human thinking, such as writing, recognizing patterns, answering questions, solving problems, or generating ideas.

AI Agent

An AI system designed to complete tasks, make decisions, or take actions on behalf of a user rather than simply responding to questions.

Examples may include:

- scheduling assistants
- research tools
- workflow systems
- automated support systems

AI Companion

An AI system designed for conversation, emotional support, coaching, or ongoing interaction.

These systems are becoming more common in:

- journaling
- productivity
- learning
- wellness applications

Alignment

The effort to make AI systems behave in ways that match human goals, values, and safety expectations.

This is a major topic in modern AI development and safety discussions.

Algorithm

A set of instructions or rules a computer follows to complete a task or make decisions.

Algorithms exist in:

- social media feeds
- recommendation systems
- search engines
- AI tools

Automation

Using technology to complete repetitive tasks automatically with less human involvement.

Examples include:

- scheduling emails
- organizing data
- automated workflows
- customer support systems

B

Bias

When AI systems reflect unfair patterns, assumptions, or imbalances found in the data they were trained on.

Bias can affect:

- search results
 - recommendations
 - hiring systems
 - generated responses
-

C

Chatbot

A conversational AI system designed to interact with people through written or spoken language.

Examples include:

- ChatGPT
- Gemini
- Claude
- customer support bots

Context Window

The amount of information an AI system can remember and work with during a conversation.

Larger context windows allow AI systems to handle longer conversations and more detailed information.

D

Deepfake

AI-generated audio, video, or images designed to imitate real people realistically.

Deepfakes can be used creatively, but they also raise concerns around misinformation and trust.

F

Fine-Tuning

Adjusting or retraining an AI system for a more specific purpose or style.

For example:

- customer support
 - educational tools
 - healthcare assistance
 - personalized writing styles
-

G

Generative AI

AI systems designed to create new content such as:

- text
- images
- music
- video
- code

rather than simply analyzing existing information.

H

Hallucination

When an AI system generates incorrect, misleading, or completely made-up information while sounding confident.

This is one reason it is important to verify important facts independently.

L

Large Language Model (LLM)

A type of AI trained on massive amounts of text in order to understand and generate human-like language.

This is the technology behind tools like ChatGPT.

M

Machine Learning

A type of AI that learns patterns from large amounts of data instead of being directly programmed for every task.

In simple terms: the system improves by analyzing examples over time.

Multimodal AI

AI systems that can work with multiple types of information such as:

- text
- images
- audio
- video

instead of only written language alone.

N

Neural Network

A computer system loosely inspired by how the human brain processes information and recognizes patterns.

Most modern AI systems use some form of neural network technology.

P

Prompt

The instruction, question, or request you give to an AI system in order to receive a response.

Example:

“Help me summarize this article in simple terms.”

Prompt Engineering

The process of structuring prompts in ways that help AI systems produce clearer, more useful, accurate, or better organized responses.

Prompt engineering often involves providing:

- context
- goals
- tone
- examples
- formatting instructions
- constraints

in order to guide the AI more effectively.

R

Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)

A method that allows AI systems to retrieve outside information before generating a response.

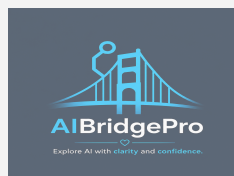
This can help improve accuracy and provide more current information.

Final Thoughts

You do not need to understand every technical term to begin exploring AI thoughtfully.

Most people are still learning this technology in real time.

Understanding a few foundational ideas can make AI conversations feel much more approachable and less intimidating over time.



“Explore AI with clarity and confidence.”