

Using AI to Full Advantage

Cher'ere Rally · Wednesday 9/16 · Rally Central

It's a conversation, not a search bar.

Follow along — we'll come back to your project at the end.

1 The forklift analogy — AI multiplies effort, but driving it is a skill.

- AI multiplies effort — not skill
 - That skill still has to be learned (that's #4)
 - Section 4 is the “driving lesson”
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2 Why this isn't search — AI does the work for you instead of handing you links.

- Search = links to piece together; AI = a finished answer
 - No embedded ads — at least not yet
 - It remembers what you told it a minute ago
 - AI can be confidently wrong — verify what matters
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3 Free tools — ChatGPT · Copilot · Gemini · Claude · Siri · Alexa+ · Perplexity

- Free tiers cover everything in this talk
 - No credit card needed to try today
 - Pick one and start — don't overthink which
 - If it offers an account, create the free one — your history usually saves
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4 How to talk with AI — Describe your situation like you're telling a friend, not typing keywords.

- Describe the situation, not keywords
 - Give context: who it's for, what you know, constraints
 - Ask follow-ups — the first answer is a draft
 - Never share bank accounts, passwords, or your SSN
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5 Everyday wins — Trip planning, email help, recipes, explaining a confusing document.

- Trip planning with your real constraints
 - Turn rough notes into a polite email
 - Explain a confusing bill, warranty, or manual
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6 Leveling up — Hand it a photo/document, use your voice, “Write with Siri → Notes.”

- Upload a photo or doc, ask questions about it — a warning light, a confusing contract clause, or text in a language you don't read
 - Use your voice instead of typing
 - Save good results outside the chat — don't let them evaporate
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7 Stepping up to paid — When free tiers stop being enough.

- Worth it once you hit free-tier limits regularly
 - ...or need to hand it a real document to work from
 - Money's worth = recurring use, not curiosity
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8 Your project (from the icebreaker — write it here before you flip this over)

- What is it?
 - What's stopped you so far?
 - What do you already know about it?
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Flip for the how-to: Plan → Draft → Execute & Refine → Final

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The how-to — use it on your project

Take the project you wrote down on the front through these 4 steps. Worked example below: actually learning what the OnePlace systems panel does, instead of only ever using it to check tank levels — swap in your own project wherever you see the blanks.

1. PLAN

Tell it the real situation like you're explaining it to a friend: the goal, what you already know, any constraints. Ask it to break the project into steps.

"I've been putting off ____ because _____. Here's what I know: _____. Break it into a step-by-step plan I can actually follow."

RV: *"I have a Winnebago View 2020 with the OnePlace systems panel. I've only ever used it to check tank levels — I don't know what else it can do. Break down what OnePlace controls and help me make a plan to actually learn to use it."*

2. DRAFT

Ask for a first pass — a plan, a checklist, an email, whatever the project needs. Treat it as a draft, not a final answer.

"Give me a first draft of [the plan/checklist/email/list] based on what we just worked out."

RV: *"Give me a checklist of every OnePlace feature to test this weekend, starting with the ones I'm most likely to actually use."*

3. EXECUTE & REFINES

Go do the actual thing (AI gets you unstuck, the doing is still yours), then bring back what happened and keep adjusting in the same conversation — don't restart from scratch.

"Before I [do the unfamiliar/risky part], what should I double-check first?"

RV: *"I made a checklist for starting the generator, but going through it for real I realized it's actually going to start the thing — and I've never done that. Can we review it together so I know it's right before I go ahead?"*

"I tried that — here's what happened: _____. What's next?"

RV: *"I went through the checklist and started it — it ran, but sounded rough for the first minute before smoothing out. What's next?"*

4. FINAL

Confirm it's actually done to your standard. Note what worked so next time is faster.

"It's done — summarize the problem and the fix in plain language so I have a record for next time."

RV: *"I've got it figured out — summarize in a doc what each OnePlace screen does in plain language so I have a reference for next time."*

Keep the plan somewhere outside the chat (a note, a doc) so it survives if days go by — and so it's portable. Paste it into a different AI tool and it can pick up right where the last one left off; no AI remembers you between tools, but a saved plan works with any of them.

Want the full detail behind everything on this sheet?

wayfindernorthwest.com/aitalk

