

# AI Coding Session Brief

The AI coding session brief is the short scope you write before an assistant edits a single line. It produces one decision, a narrow, well-bounded task an assistant can carry end to end, by naming the goal, the files in play, the constraints that must hold, the risks, and what "done" looks like. Fill it in when a change touches real code that other people depend on, not for a one-line typo fix you could describe in a sentence.

## Scope the change

Goal: the one behavior that should change, written as an outcome you could verify.

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Files in play: the specific files the assistant may read and edit, named in full.

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Out of scope: what the assistant must not touch, add, or refactor while it is here.

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## Name the rules and the risks

Constraints: the rules that must hold (existing callers, data shape, public signatures).

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Risks: what could go wrong, on which input, and who it hurts.

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Edge cases: the inputs the happy path skips (empty, last page, invalid input, duplicate at the boundary).

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## Define done and how it runs

Done means: the checkable bar (build green, these tests pass, this case verified by hand).

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How it will run: the mode (plan first or direct) and the verification check the assistant runs.

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Context to attach: the files, errors, and project rules the assistant needs to do this well.

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