M A V E R I C K A I

4 CHATGPT CODES FOR ANY BOOK

PLUS 36 MORE BOOK CODES

Book codes are short commands like /visualnotes and /themes that you type into ChatGPT after you give it a book. Here are the four from my video, in the order I use them, plus my full list of 40 and one prompt that teaches ChatGPT every single one at once.

The 4 codes from the video, with exactly what to type

36 more book codes, sorted by what you need

One setup prompt that teaches ChatGPT every code

How to get any book into ChatGPT

Quick fixes when a code doesn't land

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Start Here: How Book Codes Work

THE PLAN

1. Paste the setup prompt into ChatGPT so it knows every code.
2. Give ChatGPT the book: attach the PDF or paste in a chapter.
3. Run the four codes from the video, then grab more from the full list.

Before you start

Your app: ChatGPT on any plan, including free. Web, desktop or the phone app.

Your book: The PDF or text of a book you own, or a free classic from Project Gutenberg. A title on its own works too, just not as well.

Your first goal: Run the four codes from the video on one book.

A code is a shortcut for a full instruction. Instead of typing "turn this whole book into short notes with headings, icons and simple diagrams," you just type /visualnotes and ChatGPT knows exactly what to do.

The four codes from my video work in any chat as they are, because ChatGPT gets what they mean from the name. To make all 40 work, and work the same way every time, you teach ChatGPT the list once with the setup prompt on the next page. It takes ten seconds.

First, give ChatGPT the book

- **Best: attach the file.** Click the **+** in the message box, choose **Add photos & files** and pick the PDF of the book. Or just drag the file into the chat.
- **Good: paste the text.** Copy a chapter (or a few) and paste it right into the message box.
- **Okay: just the title.** "/visualnotes Atomic Habits" works for well-known books, but ChatGPT is going off what it already knows, so details can be off and it can't quote the book word for word.

TIP

Really long book? If ChatGPT says the file is too big, or the answers start getting vague or skipping chapters, give it one chapter at a time and run the codes on each one.

How to type them

- **Book first, then the code.** Attach the book and type /visualnotes in the same message.
- **Stay in the same chat.** Every code after that works on the same book. Just type /themes.
- **Zoom in on a part.** /visualnotes chapter 3. Or /simplify and paste the page that lost you.
- **Stack them.** /chaptermap /quotes gets you both in one go.
- **Say why you're reading it.** "/actionsteps, I'm trying to save more money" gets you a way better answer than the code on its own.

Copy This First: Teach ChatGPT Every Code

Open a new chat in ChatGPT, paste this in and send it. ChatGPT replies "Codes ready" and every code in this guide works for the rest of that chat.

PROMPT 1 | COPY & PASTE

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I read books with codes. When my message starts with a code below, do exactly what it says. Codes aren't case sensitive. Use the book I attached or pasted in this chat, or the book I name after the code. If I add a chapter (like /visualnotes chapter 3), only do that part. I can stack codes, like /chaptermap /quotes. Work from the book's text when you have it, and never make up quotes or events. If I only gave a title, say once that attaching the book gets better results, then do your best. Codes that need my answers (like /quizme and /debate) keep going until I say stop. If I use a code that isn't on this list, work out what it means from its name. If I paste this into a chat, reply only: "Codes ready. Which book are we reading?"

THE 4 FROM THE VIDEO
/visualnotes: Turn the entire book into short visual notes I can scan in minutes: one block per big idea with a bold heading, an emoji icon, two or three short bullets and a simple diagram or table where it helps.
/mentalmodels: Pull out the book's biggest ideas and turn them into a visual map of how they all connect: one line on each idea, then a diagram with arrows showing how they link.
/chaptermap: Break the book down one chapter at a time: what happens or what's argued, the key point and how it links to the rest. End with a simple map of how it all fits together.
/themes: Find every major theme running through the book: what it is, where it shows up (characters, events, examples) and what the book is really saying, so I get the deeper meaning.

GET THE GIST
/tldr: The whole book in five sentences.
/onepager: The whole book on one page: the big idea, the key points and the best takeaways.
/bigidea: The one idea the whole book is built on, in one sentence, then why it matters.
/worthit: Ask what I want from it, then tell me honestly if it's worth my time and who should skip it.
/skimguide: Which chapters to read closely, which to skim and which to skip, and why.
/beforeyouread: What to know before I start: the author, when and why it was written, what to look out for. No spoilers.

GO DEEPER
/characters: Every main character: who they are, what they want and how they change.
/timeline: Every key event in order, with the chapter it happens in.
/symbols: The symbols and recurring images, and what each one stands for.
/argument: The author's main argument, the evidence behind it and the weak spots.
/keyterms: Every important term or idea in the book, in plain words.
/simplify: Rewrite the passage I paste in plain, everyday words.
/ending: What the ending really means, and the main ways people read it.
/critique: The strongest criticisms of the book and where the author might be wrong.
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REMEMBER IT
/quotes: The 10 best lines, word for word from the text, with the chapter and what each
one means. If you don't have the text, say so instead of guessing.
/flashcards: Flashcards of the key ideas. Run me through them one at a time.
/recall: Ask me what I remember from the chapter first, then fill in what I missed.
/sketchnote: Make one image: the book's big ideas as a hand-drawn sketchnote page I can
save.
/savenotes: Everything from this chat as clean notes I can paste into my notes app.

USE IT
/actionsteps: Turn the book into a short list of things to actually do, starting this
week.
/applytome: Ask me a few questions about my life and goals, then show how the book's
ideas apply to me.
/challenge: A 30-day challenge to put the book into practice, one small task a day.
/examples: An everyday, real-life example of each big idea.
/asktheauthor: Answer my questions the way the author would, based only on the book.
Say when it doesn't cover something.
/advice: I'll bring a real problem. Give me advice using only this book's ideas.

STUDY IT
/quizme: Quiz me one question at a time. Tell me if I'm right and why, and keep score.
/studyguide: A full study guide: summary, characters or key ideas, themes, quotes and
likely test questions.
/essayideas: Five essay topics, each with a thesis and the evidence from the book to
back it up.
/vocab: The hard words from the chapter, with simple meanings and an example sentence.
/sofar: Recap everything up to the chapter I name. No spoilers past it.

BOOK CLUB AND BEYOND
/bookclub: Ten discussion questions for a book club, from easy to deep.
/debate: Argue the opposite side of the book's main idea with me, one point at a time.
/compare: Compare it to another book I name: where they agree, where they clash and
which to read first.
/readnext: Five real books to read next based on this one, and why each fits.

FOR KIDS
/kidsversion: Retell it for a kid of the age I give, in simple words, keeping the big
lessons.
/kidsquestions: Questions to ask my kid as we read it together, chapter by chapter.
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Make them work in every chat

Pasting it into a chat only lasts for that chat. To have every code ready in every new chat, save it once:

- **Open Settings.** Click your name in the bottom left, then **Settings**.
- **Open Personalization.** Scroll down to **Custom instructions** and edit the **ChatGPT** instructions (not Codex).
- **Paste and save.** Paste the setup prompt in and save. Already have instructions there? Paste it underneath. The box holds about 5,000 characters, so if it doesn't all fit, cut the groups you won't use.

Now open a brand new chat, attach a book and type /visualnotes. It just works.

The Routine: My 4 Codes, In Order

This is the exact routine from my video. Do all four in the same chat, so ChatGPT already has the book every time you type the next code.

1. /visualnotes: The whole book in short notes

Attach the book and type **/visualnotes**. ChatGPT turns the entire book into short visual notes: every big idea gets a heading, an icon, a couple of bullets and a simple diagram where it helps. You can scan the whole book in a few minutes and know exactly what's in it.

Try: /visualnotes with the PDF attached, or /visualnotes chapter 1 for just one part.

2. /mentalmodels: The big ideas, mapped

Type **/mentalmodels**. ChatGPT pulls out the book's biggest ideas and turns them into a visual map of how they all connect, so you can see how one idea leads to the next. This is the one that makes a self-help or business book actually click.

Try: /mentalmodels

3. /chaptermap: Every chapter, and how it fits

Type **/chaptermap**. ChatGPT breaks the book down one chapter at a time and shows you exactly how everything fits together. Run it before you read so you know where the book is going, or after so it all sticks.

Try: /chaptermap, or /chaptermap chapters 1 to 5 for a long book.

4. /themes: The deeper meaning

Finish with **/themes**. ChatGPT finds every major theme running throughout the book and shows you where each one shows up, so you can find its deeper meaning. This is the one for novels and anything you're reading for school.

Try: /themes

> **TIP**
>
> Want to keep it? Type /sketchnote for one image of the whole book you can save, or /savenotes to get everything from the chat as clean notes for your notes app.

All 40 Book Codes

Looking for one you saw in a video? Press Ctrl+F (Cmd+F on a Mac) and type it in. Every code here is in the setup prompt, so once you've pasted it, they all work.

From My Video

Code	What it does
/visualnotes	Turns the entire book into short visual notes you can scan in minutes
/mentalmodels	Pulls out the book's biggest ideas and maps how they all connect
/chaptermap	Breaks the book down one chapter at a time and shows how it all fits together
/themes	Finds every major theme running through the book, so you get its deeper meaning

Get the Gist

Code	What it does
/tldr	The whole book in five sentences
/onepager	The whole book on one page: the big idea, key points and best takeaways
/bigidea	The one idea the whole book is built on, and why it matters
/worthit	Asks what you want from it, then tells you honestly if it's worth your time
/skimguide	Which chapters to read closely, which to skim and which to skip
/beforeyouread	What to know before you start: the author, the background and what to look for, no spoilers

Go Deeper

Code	What it does
/characters	Every main character: who they are, what they want and how they change
/timeline	Every key event in order, with the chapter it happens in
/symbols	The symbols and recurring images, and what each one stands for
/argument	The author's main argument, the evidence behind it and the weak spots
/keyterms	Every important term or idea in the book, in plain words
/simplify	Rewrites any confusing passage in plain, everyday words
/ending	What the ending really means, and the main ways people read it
/critique	The strongest criticisms of the book, and where the author might be wrong

Remember It

Code	What it does
/quotes	The 10 best lines, word for word, with the chapter and what each one means
/flashcards	Flashcards of the key ideas, run one at a time
/recall	Asks what you remember first, then fills in what you missed
/sketchnote	The book's big ideas as one hand-drawn style image you can save
/savenotes	Everything from the chat as clean notes for your notes app

Use It

Code	What it does
/actionsteps	A short list of things to actually do, starting this week
/applytome	Asks about your life and goals, then shows how the book applies to you
/challenge	A 30-day challenge to put the book into practice, one small task a day
/examples	An everyday, real-life example of each big idea
/asktheauthor	Answers your questions the way the author would, based only on the book
/advice	Bring a real problem and get advice using only this book's ideas

Study It

Code	What it does
/quizme	Quizzes you one question at a time and keeps score
/studyguide	A full study guide: summary, characters or key ideas, themes, quotes and likely test questions
/essayideas	Five essay topics, each with a thesis and the evidence to back it up
/vocab	The hard words from a chapter, with simple meanings and example sentences
/sofar	A recap of everything up to the chapter you're on, with no spoilers past it

Book Club and Beyond

Code	What it does
/bookclub	Ten discussion questions for a book club, from easy to deep
/debate	Argues the opposite side of the book's main idea with you, one point at a time
/compare	Compares it to another book: where they agree, where they clash and which to read first
/readnext	Five real books to read next based on this one, and why each fits

For Kids

Code	What it does
/kidsversion	Retells the book for a kid of any age, keeping the big lessons
/kidsquestions	Questions to ask your kid as you read it together

How to Use Them Together

- **A self-help or business book you want to actually use:** /visualnotes and /mentalmodels, then /actionsteps and /applytome. A week later, come back to the same chat and type /recall.
- **A novel for school:** /sofar as you read, then /themes, /characters and /quotes. Before the test, /studyguide and /quizme.
- **A book you don't have time for:** /tldr, then /onepager. Still curious? /skimguide tells you which chapters are worth reading.
- **Book club night:** /beforeyouread, then /bookclub for questions and /debate to practice your take.
- **Reading with your kid:** /kidsversion first, then /kidsquestions as you go.

Common Mistakes and Quick Fixes

If this happens	Try this
ChatGPT doesn't know a code	Paste the setup prompt at the top of the chat, or save it in your custom instructions so it's there every time.
The codes worked yesterday but not in a new chat	A pasted setup prompt only lasts for that chat. Save it under **Settings > Personalization > Custom instructions**.
A menu pops up when you type /	Ignore it and keep typing. The code still works.
The notes are vague or skip whole chapters	The book is probably too long for one go. Add the chapter after the code (/visualnotes chapter 6) or give it one chapter at a time.
The file won't upload	Paste the text of a chapter instead, or split the PDF into smaller parts.
It's getting details wrong	It's probably working from the title alone. Attach the book or paste the chapter, and say "stick to the text."
/quotes won't give exact quotes	It needs the actual text. Attach the book or paste the chapter first.
You don't want spoilers	Use /sofar with the chapter you're on, or add "no spoilers past chapter 8" to any code.
The map comes out as a plain list	Say "draw it as a diagram with arrows."
/quizme stops after one question	Type /quizme again or say "keep going, one question at a time."

DO THIS TODAY

Pick one book you've been meaning to read (or one you read and already forgot). Open ChatGPT, paste the setup prompt, attach the book and type /visualnotes. Then run /mentalmodels, /chaptermap and /themes in the same chat.

Want More AI Tips Like This?

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Four codes, any book. Now go finally read the one on your nightstand.