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Midjourney Creative Studio

Part II

References and Visual Consistency



A 200-page illustrated tutorial workbook with six teaching units, 24 applied cases, prompt drafts, visual critique, iteration records, and guided practice.

START HERE

How to use this volume

Read one case at a time. Each eight-page case moves through a lesson and brief, prompt lab, visual critique, controlled iteration, assistant-assisted revision, diagnosis, workflow, and portfolio handoff. The four cases in each unit apply the same concept to different fictional briefs.

This is a written workbook with substantial planning and writing space. Prompt variants are proposed exercises, not tested Midjourney outputs. The artwork is original AI-generated teaching illustration made with a separate image-generation tool. It is not a Midjourney screenshot, a parameter benchmark, a verified edit sequence, or an extracted video frame.

You need your own Midjourney access and any required plan or generation resources. Buying the workbook does not include a subscription, credits, account access, or live generation service. No Midjourney jobs were executed for this release.

Prompt templates containing YOUR_REFERENCE_IMAGE_URL or YOUR_STYLE_IMAGE_URL require replacement with your own usable reference URL, or use the described website upload role instead. Do not submit placeholder text as if it were an actual image.

The books are independent learning material and are not affiliated with or endorsed by Midjourney. Check current official documentation when your interface or model differs.

MODEL AND FEATURE MAP

Choose the matching workflow

Current image baseline

The official Version guide listed V8.2 as the default when checked. Prompts that use a model parameter make the intended image model explicit. Your account settings and future defaults may differ.

V8 subject references and edits

Use the current Edit Model route for the V8 reference/edit exercises. Keep --tile image generation separate from Edit Model work. Use the website role instructions when a reference is not already hosted.

Labeled V7 comparison

Only the explicitly labeled legacy lesson uses a V7 Omni Reference template. It is not a V8 recipe. Do not mix --oref or --ow into the V8 examples.

Image versus video

The Animate route uses a starting image and video-specific controls. Image prompt parameters such as --ar, --v, and --sref are not carried into the video prompt examples.

Record before comparing

Save the workflow type, selected model, prompt, active references, settings, source/result identity, and review question. Avoid carrying an undocumented setting into the next experiment.

ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION / NOT A MIDJOURNEY RESULT

Read the teaching plate



Separate identity from aesthetic

The explorer, bottle, courtyard, and palette board have different reference roles. Identify visible subject anchors separately from color and texture. A shared palette is not proof of subject identity.

The plate is reused as a visual vocabulary exercise throughout this volume. It does not depict every case prompt and does not establish that a particular parameter caused a particular look.

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / LEARN

Choose the right kind of reference / Teal Explorer

Reference images can serve different purposes. Decide whether you need scene content and composition, an aesthetic direction, or a specific subject's visible features. Keep those purposes distinct in your reference register. A style reference is not a subject-identity lock. In a current V8 workflow, subject references belong to the Edit Model route; an explicitly selected V7 comparison uses its own Omni Reference route. Mixing the tools without recording their roles makes consistency hard to diagnose.

Fictional brief

A three-scene editorial character series. Subject: a fictional adult explorer with short silver hair, a teal coat and a brass compass.

Acceptance criteria

Teal coat shape, short silver hair, compass landmark.

Predict the first visible issue you would inspect.

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / PROMPT LAB

Draft and compare the prompts

Proposed image prompt or labeled template

```
a fictional adult explorer with short silver hair, a teal coat and a brass
compass, a new scene with medium environmental portrait, preserve the stated
visible anchors, palette of teal, brass, charcoal --ar 3:2 --v 8.2
```

Variant or revision brief

Revision brief: Use the same brief with a style-only reference plan and a subject-reference plan, then compare what each is intended to preserve. Preserve teal coat shape, short silver hair, compass landmark.

One comparison question

Use the same brief with a style-only reference plan and a subject-reference plan, then compare what each is intended to preserve.

These are proposed drafts. Record your actual workflow and inspect the result rather than assuming the text guarantees the requested outcome. A reference placeholder must be replaced before use. A plain-language revision brief can guide a new prompt or edit; it is not itself a universal parameter recipe.

Record the exact prompt and active workflow you actually use.

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / VISUAL CRITIQUE

Look before you revise



Teaching illustration generated separately from Midjourney. Not this case's output, not a verified before/after sequence, and not a controlled parameter comparison.

The explorer, bottle, courtyard, and palette board have different reference roles. Identify visible subject anchors separately from color and texture. A shared palette is not proof of subject identity.

Identify one useful visual decision and one issue to inspect in your own result.

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / COMPARISON RECORD

Run a controlled iteration

Decision to make

Use the same brief with a style-only reference plan and a subject-reference plan, then compare what each is intended to preserve.

Record A and B as actual observations when you run the exercise. Keep the subject facts and other known settings fixed where possible. If a reference, model, or workflow changes, record that change instead of calling the comparison fully controlled.

Criterion	A / observation	B / observation
Brief compliance		
Subject / structural clarity		
Style / palette coherence		
Delivery suitability		

Illustrative diagnosis, not an observed result

An aesthetic reference is expected to preserve the exact bottle silhouette.

A useful comparison ends with a reasoned decision: keep A, keep B, revise one issue, or gather more evidence. Do not score an ungenerated result as if it were observed.

What changed, what stayed stable, and what decision follows?

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / PROMPT EDITING

Use an assistant without losing the brief

This portable instruction can be used with a text assistant such as ChatGPT, Gemini, or Claude. Interfaces and capabilities vary; the task here is structured brief editing rather than a claim about a specific product feature.

```
Act as a visual brief editor. Project: Teal Explorer. Subject: a fictional adult explorer with short silver hair, a teal coat and a brass compass. Purpose: a three-scene editorial character series. Preserve these criteria: teal coat shape, short silver hair, compass landmark. Lesson focus: Choose the right kind of reference. Suggest three concise plain-language revisions and explain each change. Do not invent Midjourney parameters, claim a generation was run, or promise exact consistency. Use only controls verified in my current workflow notes.
```

Ask for a reviewable response

Request a table with the original requirement, proposed phrase, reason for change, and uncertainty. Keep the model/tool compatibility notes in your own verified source record.

If the assistant has not seen your actual image, describe the visible problem precisely or provide an image through an interface that supports it. Ask it to distinguish observed features from guesses. You choose the revision; the assistant does not validate an unseen generation.

Which suggested change directly addresses the brief?

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / REPAIR

Diagnose one failure mode

Hypothetical failure

An aesthetic reference is expected to preserve the exact bottle silhouette.

Repair direction

Choose a subject-reference workflow for shape and keep the style reference for the look. Inspect the resulting silhouette instead of assuming tool choice guarantees it.

Start from the smallest relevant difference. Keep the original candidate and the revised candidate separate. Inspect the affected region and the whole composition after a change; a local improvement can introduce a new mismatch elsewhere.

Useful review questions

What is visibly wrong? Which requirement does it violate? Which input or workflow change is most likely to address it? What must remain unchanged? What result would make you stop revising?

Write a repair plan and the evidence that would confirm it.

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / WORKFLOW

Follow the production sequence

1. List the feature to preserve.

2. Select a reference you are entitled to use.

3. Assign it a clear role.

4. Record the model-specific workflow.

5. Keep text focused on the desired scene.

6. Audit style and subject identity separately.

Current source to verify

Edit Model / https://docs.midjourney.com/hc/en-us/articles/48495453462797-Edit-Model

Record unavailable controls or compatibility differences before changing the brief. A missing feature may indicate the wrong model or workflow, not a weak descriptive prompt.

Record the actual route, source/result identity, and next action.

UNIT 1 / CASE 1 / TEAL EXPLORER / HANDOFF

Turn the case into portfolio evidence

Required evidence

A reference register with asset identity, role, permission note, and preservation target.

Case note / Teal Explorer. Purpose: a three-scene editorial character series. Acceptance: teal coat shape, short silver hair, compass landmark. State whether the work is a fictional exercise, a concept alternative, or an actual commissioned deliverable.

Keep the selected file, the relevant prompts, reference roles, dated workflow notes, and a short explanation of your contribution. Identify dimensions and intended placement. For a pattern, review the final repeat. For motion, review playback and any loop seam.

Only describe results you actually observed. The workbook's teaching plate and hypothetical diagnoses are not evidence that your Midjourney run succeeded. Keep unresolved issues visible in the handoff note.

Summarize the decision, the approved file, and one limitation.