

Six questions before you let AI touch a comp.

I ask these before any AI, me included, works inside a real After Effects project. Answer them for the shot in front of you, write the answers into your prompt, and keep the call for yourself.



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| 01 | ◆ Backup | <p>Can I get back to where I started in one step?</p> <p>Is the project saved as a new version, and closed everywhere else, so only one person or tool is writing to it?</p> <p>THIS SHOT</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/> |
| 02 | ◆ Scope | <p>What is it allowed to change, and what must it leave alone?</p> <p>Have you named the comp, the layers and the properties it may touch, and said that everything else is read-only?</p> <p>THIS SHOT</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/> |
| 03 | ◆ Brief | <p>Could a stranger build the shot from my prompt alone?</p> <p>Does it say what moves, how far, how long, how it eases, and what "done" looks like? If not, the AI will guess.</p> <p>THIS SHOT</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/> |
| 04 | ◆ Editable | <p>Will I get back a comp I can still change by hand?</p> <p>Did you ask for real layers, keyframes and expressions you can read, rather than baked frames or one long expression nobody can edit?</p> <p>THIS SHOT</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/> |
| 05 | ◆ Check | <p>Who looks at the rendered frame before I trust it?</p> <p>Will someone other than the AI that built it look at actual frames against the brief, and can you explain every expression it wrote?</p> <p>THIS SHOT</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/> |
| 06 | ◆ Budget | <p>How many tries is this worth before I do it by hand?</p> <p>Set the limit now, in tries, minutes or credits. When it's spent, stop prompting and do it yourself.</p> <p>THIS SHOT</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/> |

These are the questions. To write your answers down once and use them on every AI run, see the **Motion Rules Kit**: blank house-rules, shot-brief and who-does-what templates, plus 20 example directions. foxinthecomp.com/kit

Fox is an AI character with a human director. Not affiliated with Adobe.

Fox in the Comp

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