

AI generated content

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Published: 2024-11-27 · Archived: 2026-04-29 02:04:53 UTC

AI-generated content is any type of content, such as text, image, video or audio, which is created by [artificial intelligence](#) models. These models are the result of algorithms trained on large datasets that enable them to produce new content that mimics the characteristics of the training data. Popular [generative AI](#) models—such as [ChatGPT](#), DALL-E, [LLaMA](#) and [IBM Granite](#)—apply deep learning techniques to generate text, images, audio and video that simulate human creativity.

In the enterprise, generative AI tools assist content creation by delivering quality output at scale and speed. For example, marketing teams, designers and content writers can use these tools to brainstorm ideas, produce drafts and create high-quality content efficiently.

However, guidelines must be put in place as AI-generated content can lack originality, creativity and emotional depth. Ethical and legal concerns are also significant; issues such as plagiarism, copyright infringement and the risk of content devaluation by search engines highlight the need for careful oversight in deploying AI-generated content.

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AI content-generators use machine learning algorithms powered by techniques such as [natural language processing](#) (NLP) and deep learning—to analyze large datasets and generate new content. AI content generators produce two main types of content:

- **Generative content** involves creating new content based on given prompts. For example, a user might ask an AI to "write a sonnet about a cat," prompting the model to compose original text in a specified format or genre.
- **Transformative content** involves modifying or improving existing content, such as summarizing, translating or rephrasing text. For instance, a user might ask an AI model to rewrite a paragraph in a different tone of voice or to recreate a song in a specific style of music.

Machine learning and deep learning foundations

[Machine learning](#) (ML) refers to algorithms that improve over time by identifying patterns in data, eliminating the need for explicit development by a programmer. A prominent subset of ML is [deep learning](#), which employs

advanced neural networks capable of handling complex tasks, such as image recognition or language generation by learning intricate data patterns.

For instance, models like GPT-4 use deep learning to detect linguistic patterns so they can generate coherent and contextually appropriate text. These [neural networks](#) learn not just grammar and syntax but also stylistic nuances to adapt their responses to fulfill a variety of content needs.

Within machine learning, natural language processing gives AI the ability to understand and produce human language. NLP models are trained on vast datasets, such as books, articles and internet text, to grasp the complexities of grammar, syntax and word usage.

[Large language models](#) (LLMs), such as OpenAI's generative pre-trained transformers (GPTs), leverage NLP to predict word sequences based on user input. This capability allows them to generate responses that feel natural and accurate, facilitating applications like question answering, text summarization and creative writing.

Transformer networks

At the heart of many advanced AI models are transformer networks. Transformers are an architecture that excels at identifying long-range dependencies in text. This ability to capture contextual relationships across entire documents makes transformers suited for tasks requiring coherence over multiple sentences or paragraphs.

Examples of transformer networks include Google's [BERT](#) (bidirectional encoder representations from transformers), which is optimized for tasks like text classification and question answering. Also, T5 (text-to-text transfer transformer) is a flexible model where all tasks are framed as a text-to-text problem.

A standout implementation of transformers is OpenAI's GPT. These [generative models](#) analyze large datasets of text using deep learning to mimic the context, structure and style of human language. This allows them to perform a range of tasks, such as answering complex questions, generating creative content like poetry, stories, or articles and summarizing text or translating languages.

Transformers use mechanisms like self-attention, so the model can weigh the importance of different words in a sentence relative to one another. This approach captures intricate relationships and ensures coherent output, even for extended text.

Beyond text generation, Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) contribute to AI's creative ability in areas like video, audio and multimedia content. GANs involve two neural networks; a generator, which creates content, and a discriminator to evaluate the realism of the generated content.

The two networks compete, refining each other's output to produce highly realistic and sophisticated results.

Fine-tuning and transfer learning

Most AI models are initially trained on broad datasets to establish a foundation of general knowledge. However, for specialized applications, [fine-tuning](#) is applied. This process involves retraining a model on domain-specific data, tailoring it to excel in particular industries or tasks, such as medical diagnosis or legal document analysis.

Similarly, [transfer learning](#) allows pre-trained models to adapt to new tasks with minimal additional data and training. This efficiency makes transfer learning a powerful tool for deploying models across diverse applications while minimizing computational costs.

AI-generated content spans various formats, from text to visuals and audio and is increasingly being used across industries to produce bespoke materials efficiently.

Text content

AI can generate text-based content custom-made for different purposes and audiences, from long-form articles to short social media posts. For instance, copywriters can use generative AI to draft a content series of blogs and articles that use information synthesized across various sources. This type of AI can also produce marketing content optimized for search engines, helping companies improve visibility and engagement of copy assets.

Content teams can also use AI to create short-form content such as social media posts, email subject lines, product descriptions and ad copy. AI can analyze user demographics and engagement data to craft targeted posts that resonate with specific audiences. AI's flexibility also extends to creative writing, enabling users to generate poems, stories and other pieces in various styles and genres.

AI is also being used to create interactive content, such as polls, quizzes, surveys and assessments. AI tools can dynamically generate these interactive elements and adapt questions and responses based on real-time user input.

Visual content

AI image generators, often powered by GANs, create realistic or imaginative visuals are increasingly being used in marketing campaigns and digital media. Videos can feature AI-generated effects and enhancements, improving production quality for professional-looking video content that is faster to produce. This capability allows businesses to create visually engaging materials without needing large production teams.

Audio content

AI-generated audio includes voice-overs, podcasts and music tracks. Through advanced voice synthesis models, AI can produce natural-sounding voices used in voice-overs for videos, ads and in virtual assistants. Also, AI can generate podcast scripts and music compositions, allowing producers to create a custom audio experience that aligns with specific branding or audience preferences.

AI-generated content offers substantial advantages for organizations looking for scalability and personalization, but it also presents unique challenges that need careful oversight.

Benefits of AI-generated content

AI tools allow human writers to generate drafts quickly so they can focus on fine-tuning the work to be more creative and strategic. AI can also help overcome creator's block by rapidly generating a broad swathe of ideas for inspiration. Tools such as these can provide sketches, content outlines, topic suggestions and alternative iterations on a theme, which can be especially helpful under tight deadlines.

Generative AI can also rapidly produce high-volume copy needs such as product descriptions, social media posts or language localization, to meet demand in ways that human teams might find challenging. Content generation tools can be more economical than hiring teams of writers, especially for large-scale production and some AI tools offer use at no cost, while others offer subscription pricing.

Finally, AI algorithms can be fine-tuned to create content tailored to specific demographics, preferences and behaviors, improving the effectiveness of marketing strategy through focused recommendations.

Challenges of AI-generated content

Despite its advantages, the AI content creation process comes with quality concerns. AI struggles with nuance, depth and factual accuracy, which can result in irrelevant, nonsensical or incorrect content. Editing is crucial for accuracy and coherence in AI-generated materials.

AI content generation also raises plagiarism and copyright issues. Because AI models are trained on existing data, there's a risk of accidental copyright infringement or content duplication. Verifying originality and compliance with copyright standards is essential to avoid legal complications.

Current lawsuits allege that generative AI companies such as OpenAI, Microsoft, Stability AI, Google and Meta are infringing copyright law by using copyrighted materials, often acquired without permission, to train their AI models. These lawsuits raise various legal questions, such as if training a model on copyrighted material requires a license, if generative AI output infringes on the copyright of the training materials and if generative AI violates restrictions on removing copyright management information. The outcome of these lawsuits will have implications for the future of generative AI, including its relationship with intellectual property and potential risk mitigation strategies.

One of the main drawbacks of AI-generated text is that it lacks a human-touch. It doesn't have the emotional intelligence, creativity and authenticity that human writers bring, which can make the content feel generic or uninteresting. This limitation is especially relevant for creative or narrative-driven content, where human insight is irreplaceable.

Ethics and biases are also a concern. AI models can reflect the bias embedded in their training data, resulting in discriminatory or offensive content. Regularly auditing AI models and outputs and establishing guidelines for AI usage is essential to uphold fairness and inclusivity.

Search engines can impose penalties for low-quality, spammy or unoriginal content. Overreliance on AI without review and editing risks such penalties, harming a website's search rankings and online reputation.

The widespread adoption of AI also raises job displacement concerns. As AI takes on more content tasks, there is an ongoing debate about its impact on content creators and employment in content fields. While AI is a valuable tool, maintaining oversight makes sure that human expertise remains integral to the process.

AI-generated content is being widely used across industries from marketing to technical support. Here are some notable use-cases where organizations are applying generative technology:

Content marketing

Text generation AI can create targeted social media posts by understanding user demographics and interests to craft messages that are likely to resonate with specific audiences. Similarly, AI can enhance personalized email campaigns, adapting content to user behavior and preferences. AI's scalability also makes it a valuable tool for high-volume content needs, as it can produce large quantities of content in a short time.

SEO

AI writing tools are also a powerful solution for search engine optimization. They assist in keyword research, analyze search intent and generate SEO-optimized content. AI can also streamline content briefs by outlining topics and critical points, improve search rankings and increase organic traffic by automating time-consuming SEO tasks such as link building and content optimization.

E-commerce

AI's ability to personalize experiences enhances user engagement and sales. AI can analyze customer behavior to provide product recommendations that align with individual preferences, helping increase customer satisfaction and potential sales.

Customer service

AI chatbots provide around the clock support, answering frequently asked questions and addressing basic inquiries, which frees employees and agents to handle more complex issues. AI can also personalize customer service based on previous interactions and known preferences, improving the overall customer experience.

Journalism and news

News agencies use AI to generate news briefs, sports scores, weather updates or summarize complex data sets. While AI can provide quick factual summaries, journalists remain essential for adding context, analysis and in-depth reporting.

Entertainment

AI is opening creative avenues by generating scripts for videos, podcasts and interactive games. AI's capacity to create realistic and artistic images, videos and even special effects enables creative professionals to streamline their workflows.

Technical applications

AI assists in generating code snippets, schema markup and regular expressions for data analysis, search and automation. These capabilities benefit developers, saving time on repetitive coding tasks.

Translation and accessibility

AI can translate text into multiple languages, breaking down language barriers and increasing the accessibility of content to a global audience. AI can also summarize transcripts from long YouTube videos or podcasts, making content more digestible.

To maximize the effectiveness of AI-generated content while helping to ensure quality, originality and ethical considerations, follow these best practices:

Focus on human oversight and editing

Content generators should serve as assistive tools, not a stand-alone replacement for creativity. By continually reviewing and editing AI-generated content for accuracy, originality and style, businesses can generate content that aligns with the brands' voice and adds value for the audience. Treat AI output as a foundation and refine it with expertise.

Define clear use cases

Consider which content types are well suited for AI generation and where input remains essential. For instance, AI works well for high-volume, structured tasks such as product descriptions and social posts. However, complex or creative content, such as editorial pieces, require substantial human insight to maintain authenticity and depth.

Establish quality standards and guidelines

Set specific guidelines and quality standards for AI-generated content for consistency and brand alignment. Develop style guides, templates and instructions tailor-made to the organization's needs and consider training AI tools that use proprietary data to enhance relevancy and content coherence. These standards help maintain content quality and ensure that AI output aligns with the values of the organization.

Combine AI with human creativity

Use AI to streamline processes such as data gathering, drafting and keyword analysis, then apply the expertise of writers and designers to refine and personalize content. This collaborative approach between experts and AI reduces the risk of errors, misinformation or repetitive content.

Maintain transparency

Disclose the use of AI when appropriate, particularly when consumers expect human authorship. Transparency fosters trust and clarifies expectations for stakeholders and audiences regarding AI's role in content.

Monitor and address ethical and legal considerations

Be aware of the ethical and legal ramifications of AI content. Frequently audit models, training data and outputs to identify and address potential biases, misinformation or copyright issues. Stay informed about evolving regulations and best practices to help ensure compliance and build trust with an audience.

Use AI as a starting point, not a final product

Think of AI-generated content as a first draft, not the end product. Start with AI-generated text or media, then refine, personalize and add expert insights to enhance quality, originality and relevance.

Review, update and fact-check content

Continuously evaluate the quality and impact of AI-generated content. Fact-check all details, especially data and statistics, as AI can produce errors or misleading information. Updating content also keeps it current and relevant in a rapidly changing digital landscape.

Create content for SEO without over-optimization

While AI can help identify relevant keywords and improve SEO, avoid excessive keyword usage or unnatural language. SEO optimization should be balanced with a reader-friendly style to prioritize well-developed content and relevance for an audience.

Monitor performance and adapt

Track the performance of AI-generated content, analyzing engagement metrics, conversion rates and user feedback to determine what resonates with an audience. These insights can refine strategy and make data-driven adjustments that enhance content effectiveness over time.

Prioritize quality and originality

Focus on producing original content that is both useful and engaging. Avoid over-relying on AI because it can lead to generic or repetitive output. Search engines reward unique and valuable content, so prioritize quality to maximize visibility and audience satisfaction.

AI-generated content is evolving rapidly, and future trends indicate increasingly sophisticated, multi-modal and personalized experiences. However, these advancements bring challenges, including ethical concerns and the need for transparent practices.

Multi-modal content generation

AI-generated content will move beyond a single mode of generation, integrating text, images, video and audio. This multi-modal approach enables the creation of immersive and interactive content experiences, personalized to individual preferences. As multi-modal capabilities advance, AI supports dynamic content creation across platforms, catering to diverse audience needs and consumption habits.

Enhanced natural language generation

Natural language generation (NLG) within AI models is improving at generating nuanced, human-like text. Future models are expected to understand context, tone and style more precisely, enabling them to create custom content for different audiences—from casual social media posts to formal reports. This sophistication blurs the lines between human and machine-written content, with AI contributing to an even more comprehensive range of written formats.

AI content cocreation and collaboration with human creators

While there are concerns that AI might replace living creators, the future likely holds a collaborative approach, where AI tools assist rather than replace creativity. AI acts as a creative assistant, generating ideas, refining drafts and providing real-time feedback. Human oversight and input remain essential for quality, originality and brand

alignment, allowing AI and human creators to complement each other's strengths—merging AI's efficiency with human creativity and critical thinking.

Personalized content experiences for tailored user engagement

Personalization is a significant trend in digital marketing and AI will play a sizable role in delivering customized content experiences. By analyzing vast amounts of user data, AI can tailor recommendations, storytelling and user interactions, creating content that resonates with individual preferences. As AI models become more advanced, the personalization of content becomes increasingly sophisticated, using data on user demographics, behavior and preferences.

AI-driven deep fake detection and content authentication

As AI-generated content grows, so does the potential for misuse, mainly through deep fakes. AI-driven deep fake detection and content authentication tools are expected to evolve in response, helping to combat misinformation and maintain trust in digital media. These algorithms are crucial for verifying content legitimacy, safeguarding individuals from malicious deep fakes and upholding the integrity of AI applications in content creation.

Augmented reality (AR) content generation for immersive experiences

AI-driven [AR](#) will enable the creation of interactive, immersive experiences, from virtual objects to personalized advertising. These advancements blur the lines between the digital and physical realms, offering new possibilities for content consumption and user interaction. Also, AI-powered AR experiences might incorporate voice interaction and personalized guidance, enhancing the depth and engagement of digital experiences.

Ethical and regulatory landscape

Ethical considerations and potential regulations will continue to shape the future of AI-generated content. Concerns around plagiarism, copyright infringement and bias highlight the need for responsible AI development practices. Clear guidelines and standards are essential to protect against misuse, protect fairness and address potential biases embedded in AI training data. As AI-generated content becomes more prevalent, new regulations and legal frameworks will likely emerge to address ownership, authenticity and beneficial use issues, providing a structured approach to responsible integration into society.

Source: <https://www.ibm.com/think/insights/ai-generated-content>