

## Image Generation / DALL·E

Map DALL·E parameters to use cases — what each does and when to use it.

Difficulty: Beginner

Model: GPT-4 / Claude / Gemini

Use Case: Parameter Selection, Output Planning

Updated: May 2026

Why This Prompt Exists

DALL·E has fewer parameters than Midjourney, but each has significant impact. Most users accept defaults — missing opportunities to optimize quality, cost, and output format.

You get:

- using default square format for everything (wrong for most outputs)
- standard quality when you need HD (or vice versa, wasting credits)
- vivid style when you need natural (or opposite, wrong aesthetic)
- no understanding of the size parameter's effect on composition
- inconsistent output because parameters don't match use case

But parameters have specific purposes:

- size: controls output dimensions (1:1, 16:9, 9:16)
- quality: controls detail level (standard vs. HD)
- style: controls artistic interpretation (vivid vs. natural)
- n: number of images per generation (1-10)

Without guidance, users accept defaults and miss capabilities.

This prompt explains DALL·E parameters by use case.

The Prompt

Assume the role of a DALL·E technical educator who explains parameters.

Your task is to categorize and explain DALL·E parameters by their function.

Generate:

## 1. PARAMETER CATEGORIES

| Category      | Parameters | Purpose                         |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Output Format | size       | Control dimensions and shape    |
| Quality       | quality    | Control detail level and cost   |
| Style         | style      | Control artistic interpretation |
| Quantity      | n          | Control number of outputs       |

## 2. DETAILED PARAMETER TABLE

| Parameter | Options   | Default   | Best For                    | Avoid When                    |
|-----------|---|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| size      | 1024x1024 (1:1), 1792x1024 (16:9), 1024x1792 (9:16) | 1024x1024 | Match platform aspect ratio | Square-optimized templates    |
| quality   | standard, hd  | standard  | Final renders, print        | Drafts, testing (costs more)  |
| style     | vivid, natural                                      | vivid     | Illustrations, creative     | Photorealistic, products      |
| n         | 1-10  | 1         | Exploring variations        | Batch processing (costs more) |

|

### 3. USE CASE RECOMMENDATIONS

| Use Case          | Recommended Parameters                          | Rationale                             |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Social media feed | size=1024x1024, quality=standard, style=vivid   | Square format, fast, engaging         |
| YouTube thumbnail | size=1792x1024, quality=hd, style=vivid         | Widescreen, high detail, eye-catching |
| Instagram Story   | size=1024x1792, quality=standard, style=natural | Vertical format, good for text        |
| Product photo     | size=1024x1024, quality=hd, style=natural       | High detail, accurate colors          |
| Logo design       | size=1024x1024, quality=hd, style=natural       | Clean edges, scalable                 |
| Concept art       | size=1792x1024, quality=hd, style=vivid         | Widescreen, creative interpretation   |

### 4. SIZE EFFECTS ON COMPOSITION

- 1024x1024 (1:1): Square, balanced, good for centered subjects
- 1792x1024 (16:9): Widescreen, good for landscapes, group shots
- 1024x1792 (9:16): Vertical, good for portraits, tall subjects

### 5. QUALITY TRADE-OFFS

- Standard: Faster, cheaper, good for testing and drafts
- HD: Slower, 2x cost, good for final assets and print
- Recommendation: Test with standard, final with HD

## 6. STYLE EFFECTS

- Vivid: More saturated, more creative interpretation, better for illustration

- Natural: More accurate, less artistic license, better for photography

### INPUTS:

Intended use case:

[E.G., "Instagram carousel", "YouTube thumbnail", "Product catalog"]

Budget preference:

[LOW COST / BALANCED / HIGH QUALITY]

Output format preference:

[SQUARE / WIDESCREEN / VERTICAL / NO PREFERENCE]

### RULES:

- size affects composition, not just dimensions (plan accordingly)
- HD quality costs 2x standard credits (use standard for drafts)
- style=vivid may add elements not in your prompt (review outputs)
- n=4 is good for exploration, n=1 for final assets
- DALL·E 3 has better text rendering than DALL·E 2
- Size 1792x1024 is not available in all API versions

### How To Use It

- size affects composition, not just dimensions — plan your framing accordingly.
- HD quality costs 2x standard credits — use standard for drafts and testing.
- style=vivid may add elements not in your prompt — review outputs carefully.

- n=4 is good for exploration, n=1 for final assets (save credits).
- DALL·E 3 has significantly better text rendering than DALL·E 2.

Example Input

**Intended use case:**

“YouTube thumbnail for a tech review channel”

**Budget preference:**

“HIGH QUALITY”

**Output format preference:**

“WIDESCREEN”

Why It Works

Most DALL·E users accept defaults — square size, standard quality, vivid style — for every use case, leaving performance on the table.

This framework improves outcomes by forcing:

- parameter categorization (grouping by function)
- use case mapping (when to use which settings)
- size effect explanation (how dimension affects composition)
- quality trade-off analysis (cost vs. output quality)
- style effect documentation (natural vs. vivid differences)

**Failure modes this prevents:**

- Square YouTube thumbnails (should be 1792×1024)
- Standard quality for final assets (HD would be better)
- Vivid style for product photos (natural is more accurate)
- Wasting credits on n=4 for final assets (use n=1)

**This improves on:** Default settings. Parameter optimization matches output to use case.

**Related to:** DE-06 (Translator) for Midjourney comparison; MJ-03 (Aspect Ratio) for format matching.

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