GOOGLE AI ULTRA CREATIVE STUDIO SERIES • LATE 2026 EDITION

Mastering Google Whisk

The complete visual handbook to Google's image-first remix studio—blending Subject, Scene & Style cards, surgical Refine edits, Seed locking, Whisk Animate, and Google Flow handoffs.

Subject + Scene + Style Blending | Hidden Gemini Caption Editing | Nano Banana 2 & Imagen 4

Conversational Refine Loop | Seed Lock Consistency | Whisk Animate (Veo) & Flow Pipeline



Prompt With Pictures

Drag photos, sketches, or textures into Subject, Scene, and Style slots instead of writing 200-word prompts.

Essence Over Copy-Paste

Gemini understands your references and paints fresh, cohesive variations powered by Nano Banana 2 & Imagen.

Built to Feed Google Flow

Turn winning Whisk creations into 8-second Veo animations—or export them straight into Flow Ingredients.

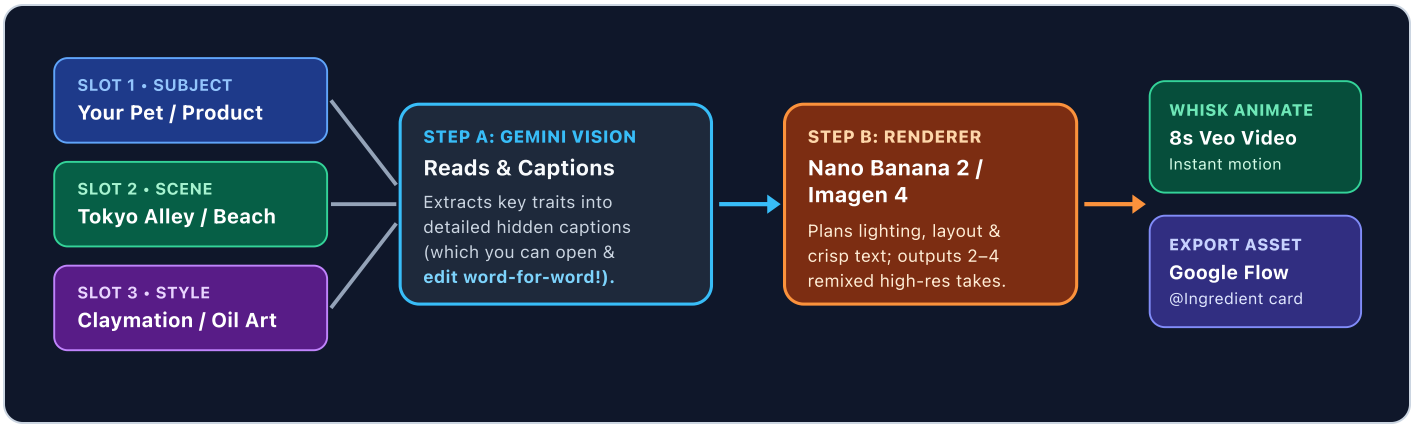
What Is Google Whisk (And Why It Feels Like Magic)

Describing an exact artistic style or product shape in words is hard. **Google Whisk** (`labs.google/fx/tools/whisk`) flips AI art upside down: you **show** Google three reference images—*Subject*, *Scene*, and *Style*—and Whisk remixes them into something brand new.

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Visualization: What Happens Behind the Curtain When You Click Remix



Crucial Mindset Shift: Whisk Captures "Essence", Not Pixel Cutouts

Because Gemini describes your Subject image in words before rendering, Whisk naturally adapts poses, lighting, and artistic textures—meaning a photo of you might have slightly different hair strands or proportions as an enamel pin or plushie! When you need strict 1:1 facial lock across film shots, hand your favorite Whisk creation over to **Google Flow Ingredients** (Page 11).

First Launch, AI Ultra Perks & Aspect Ratio Guide

Whisk is built for zero-friction play: you can roll built-in dice presets within five seconds of opening the page, or click **Start From Scratch** to upload your own photos and brand assets.

3 Steps to Your First Remix (Under 60 Seconds)

1 Open Whisk Studio

Visit `labs.google/fx/tools/whisk` signed into your **Google AI Ultra** account (18+). Note: Whisk's core remix tech also powers image creation inside `flow.google`!

2 Pick Template or Blank

Try a preset style (*Sticker, Enamel Pin, Plushie, 3D Figurine*) to see how slots work, or click **Start From Scratch** at the bottom to open all three slots.

3 Drop Cards & Generate

Upload photos, type quick text descriptions inside any slot, or click the **Dice icon** (*Inspire Me*) to fill missing slots automatically.

Choosing the Right Aspect Ratio Before You Generate

Aspect Ratio	Orientation	Best Creative & Production Use Cases
`1:1`	**Square**	Die-cut stickers, enamel pins, album covers, e-commerce product mockups, and clean `@Ingredient` prop cards for Google Flow.
`9:16`	**Vertical Portrait**	Full-body character turnarounds, iPhone/Android wallpapers, and vertical keyframes for YouTube Shorts, Reels, and TikTok.
`16:9`	**Widescreen Cinema**	Start/End keyframes for widescreen **Google Flow** films, YouTube thumbnails, presentation hero slides, and desktop art.
`21:9` / `4:3`	**Ultra-Wide / Editorial**	Immersive panoramic world-building banners (`21:9`) or classic print/magazine illustrations and retro storybooks (`4:3`).

What Your Google AI Ultra Plan Unlocks + Whisk vs. Flow

Your AI Ultra Advantage in Whisk

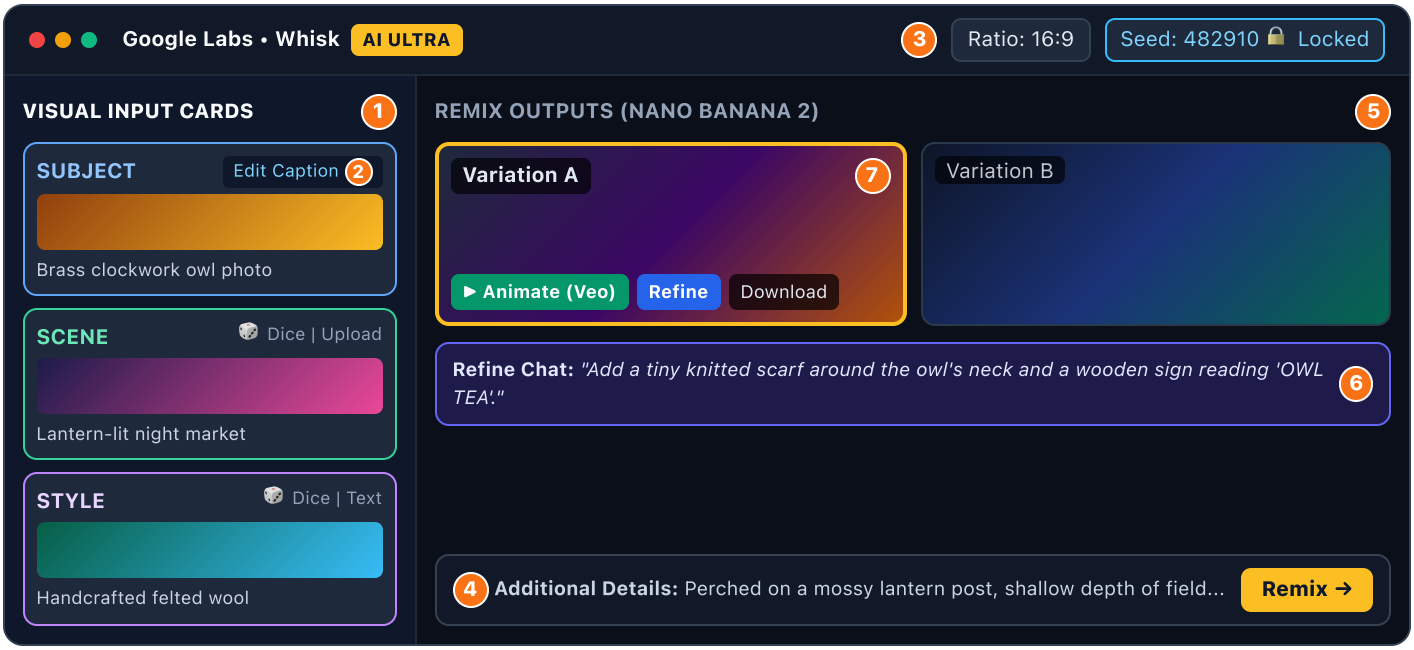
Free users hit monthly caps on **Whisk Animate** (Veo video renders) quickly. Your **Google AI Ultra** membership unlocks massive generation ceilings across both high-resolution Nano Banana 2 / Imagen 4 remixes and Veo-powered animations.

When to Use Whisk vs. Google Flow

Use **Whisk** as your *Art Department & Look-Dev Lab* to explore wild styles, mash up concepts, and design characters/worlds rapidly. Move to **Google Flow** when ready to shoot multi-clip scenes with dialogue and timelines.

The Google Whisk Workspace: Annotated Visual Tour

Whisk keeps its workspace intentionally tactile—like spreading reference polaroids on a designer's desk. Master these 7 numbered controls to unlock full precision.



Numbered Interface Reference

1 **Subject / Scene / Style Cards:** Drag-and-drop images, type a mini text prompt per card, or roll the *Dice* icon for instant inspiration.

2 **Caption Inspector:** Click any card's caption button to read—and surgically edit—the exact description Gemini wrote from your upload!

3 **Ratio & Seed Lock Bar:** Choose frame shape (`1:1`, `9:16`, `16:9`) and click the **Padlock** to freeze your Seed number across tweaks.

4 **Additional Details Box:** Optional steering prompt describing how the Subject interacts with the Scene (pose, action, camera angle).

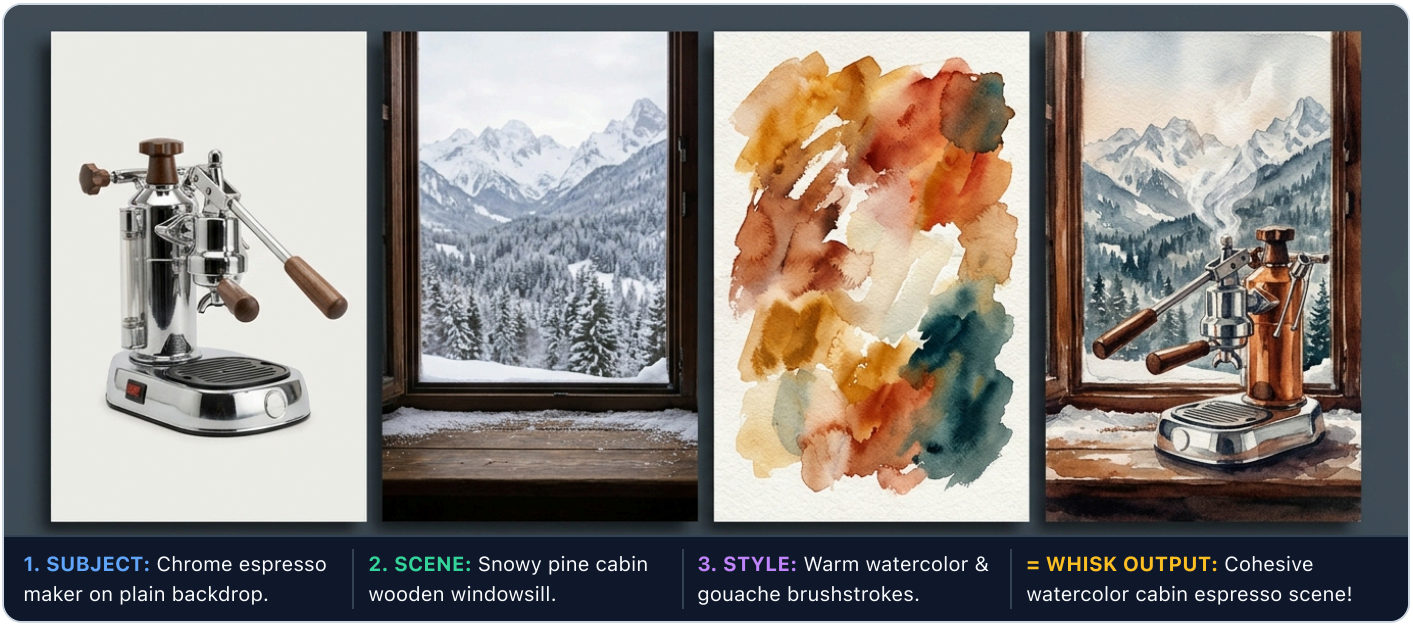
5 **Variation Canvas:** Whisk generates multiple side-by-side interpretations on every click so you can pick the strongest composition.

6 **Refine (Chat-to-Edit) Drawer:** Select a winning image and ask in plain English to tweak colors, props, lighting, or sign lettering.

7 **Animate & Export Bar:** Click **Animate** to turn your still into an 8-second Veo video right inside Whisk, or download PNGs for Google Flow.

How to Mix Subject, Scene & Style Like an Art Director

Think of Whisk's three slots like cooking ingredients: **Subject** is the "Who/What", **Scene** is the "Where", and **Style** is the "Medium & Mood". You can fill all three—or leave any slot empty!



1. SUBJECT: Chrome espresso maker on plain backdrop. | **2. SCENE:** Snowy pine cabin wooden windowsill. | **3. STYLE:** Warm watercolor & gouache brushstrokes. | **= WHISK OUTPUT:** Cohesive watercolor cabin espresso scene!

Slot-by-Slot Rules for Cleanest Results

1 Subject Tips

Use clear, unobstructed photos where your person, pet, or product fills the frame. Avoid group photos—crop to the single hero subject first. Need two heroes? Add a second Subject card!

2 Scene Tips

Pick empty environments without a competing main character standing in the middle (e.g., an empty neon street or forest trail) so Whisk knows exactly where to place your Subject.

3 Style Tips

Style cards can be *anything* with a strong look: an oil painting, macro photo of knitted yarn, vintage travel poster, clay sculpture, or stained glass.

Power Combos: You Don't Have to Fill All Three Slots!

Active Slots Used	Leave Blank	What You Get
Subject + Style	*Scene empty*	Isolated die-cut stickers, collectible figurines, avatars, logos, and clean character cards ready for Google Flow!
Scene + Style	*Subject empty*	Pure stylized background plates, matte paintings, game environments, and empty film sets.
Subject A + Subject B + Style	*Scene optional*	Puts two separate people, pets, or products together inside the exact same artistic universe.

One Subject, Infinite Worlds: Style-Transfer Mastery

Keeping your **Subject** slot locked while swapping only the **Style** card is the fastest way to explore ten wildly different visual directions for a brand, story, or gift in two minutes.



Style A: Glossy 3D Vinyl Designer Toy	**Style B:** Handcrafted Wool-Felt Stop-Motion	**Style C:** Vintage Ink & Halftone Comic	**Style D:** Jewel-Toned Stained Glass

High-Impact Tactile & Cinematic Styles to Try

Style Category	Text-in-Slot Prompts (or Reference Photos to Upload into Style)
Physical Craft & Merch	`Hard-enamel gold-plated lapel pin` · `Chunky hand-crocheted amigurumi plushie` · `Holographic die-cut vinyl sticker`
Stop-Motion & Miniature	`Thumbprint plasticine claymation puppet` · `Tilt-shift miniature cardboard architectural diorama` · `Needle-felted wool`
Illustration & Print	`1960s risograph 3-color screenprint` · `Ghibli-inspired gouache background art` · `Woodblock ukiyo-e botanical print`
Cinema & Photography	`Kodak Portra 400 golden-hour 35mm film` · `1980s dark-fantasy practical puppet cinema` · `Studio commercial macro lighting`

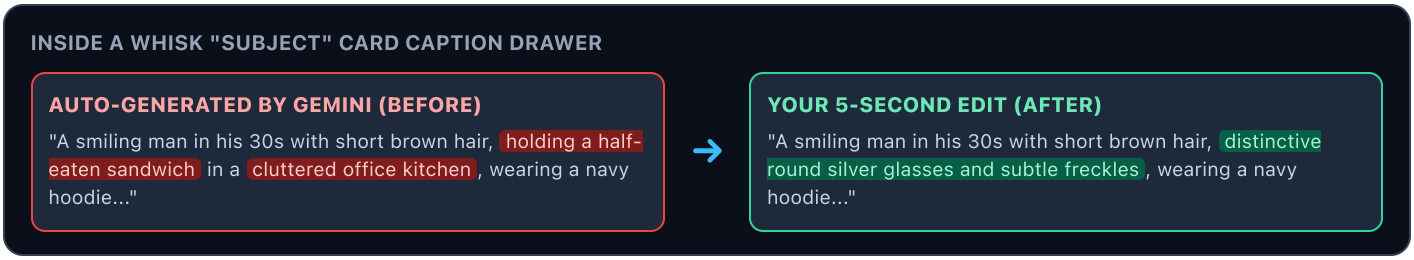
Pro Fix: Stopping "Style Bleed" (When Unwanted Objects Creep In)

Suppose you upload a famous painting of a sailboat as your **Style** card, and Whisk accidentally puts sailboats behind your portrait! Fix it in 5 seconds: either paste this into *Additional Details*—`"Apply only the brushwork, color palette, and lighting of the style reference; keep the subject and setting strictly distinct"`—or delete the word "sailboat" inside the Style card's Hidden Caption (next page!).

Unlocking Precision via Hidden Gemini Captions

Ninety percent of casual users never click the small **View / Edit Caption** icon on their uploaded cards—yet it is the single most powerful control in all of Google Whisk.

How Hidden Captions Work (Visual Breakdown)



4 Ways Editing Hidden Captions Saves Broken Remixes

1 Delete Accidental Photo Clutter

Uploaded a selfie taken in your car, and Whisk keeps putting seatbelts on your fantasy wizard? Open the Subject caption and delete mentions of the car or seatbelt.

2 Lock Signature Facial / Brand Details

If Gemini overlooked a beauty mark, gap-tooth smile, wedding ring, or specific product button layout, type that detail right into the Subject caption.

3 Purify Your Style Card

Open your **Style** card's caption and strip out all nouns (people, trees, buildings) so *only* artistic medium, lighting, color palette, and texture words remain!

4 Steal Great Prompt Vocabulary

Ever see an artwork whose style you can't describe in words? Drop it into Whisk's Style slot and read Gemini's caption—instant art-history vocabulary lesson!

Workflow Habit: Upload → Peek at Caption → Remix

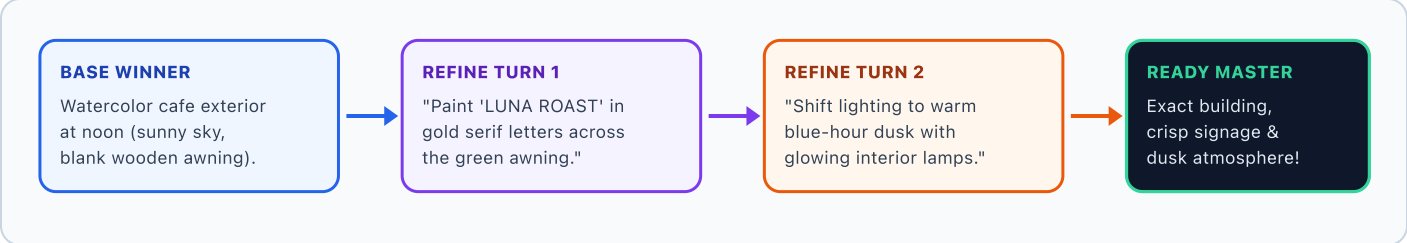
Spending 10 seconds skimming the three auto-generated captions before clicking *Remix* eliminates 80% of weird mashups on the very first roll.

Polishing Winners: Refine Chat, Text Signs & Seeds

When an output is 90% right, don't hit *Remix* and lose the composition you love. Use Whisk's **Refine** loop, **Nano Banana 2** typography, and **Seed Locking** to dial in the final 10%.

1. Multi-Turn Surgical Edits with "Refine"

Click any generated image and select **Refine**. Powered by Nano Banana 2's conversational image-editing brain, each message modifies your chosen image in place while keeping the rest intact:



2. Rendering Crisp Signs, Labels & Logos

Thanks to Nano Banana 2's pre-render layout reasoning, Whisk handles spelled text cleanly when you follow three rules:

- **Wrap exact words in quotation marks:** `A neon window sign that clearly reads "OPEN 24 HRS"`.
- **Name the physical surface & font feel:** Specify *"embossed gold foil on leather," "hand-chalked menu board,"* or *"bold retro block lettering."*
- **Keep phrases concise (1–5 words):** Short headlines render sharpest; add multi-sentence body copy in Canva or Slides afterward.

3. When to Click the Seed Lock Padlock

How Seed Locking Works

Every AI image begins from a 6-digit random "Seed" number. Normally Whisk picks a fresh random Seed every click for maximum variety. Clicking the **Padlock icon** freezes that number—so if you love how your character is posed on the left third of the frame, locking the Seed lets you test subtle outfit or color-grade tweaks without reshuffling the layout!

5 Real-World Creative Recipes You Can Build Today

Not sure what to make first? Plug your own photos into any of these five proven slot recipes for instant studio-grade results.

Project Recipe	Subject + Scene Slots	Style Slot Input	Additional Details Tip
1. Custom Pet / Team Stickers & Pins Ratio: `1:1`	**Subject:** Clear phone photo of your dog, cat, or portrait. **Scene:** *Leave Empty!*	Upload a photo of a glossy die-cut vinyl sticker (or hard-enamel gold lapel pin).	`"Thick white die-cut sticker border on solid dark gray backdrop, cheerful expression."`
2. Zero-Shoot Product Mockups Ratio: `4:3` or `1:1`	**Subject:** Bottle, candle, mug, or gadget shot on your desk. **Scene:** Sunlit marble spa counter or mossy river rock.	High-end editorial magazine ad photo with soft morning shadows and water droplets.	`"Product resting naturally on wet stone, shallow 85mm bokeh, crisp label lighting."`
3. Storybook / Comic World-Building Ratio: `16:9` or `4:3`	**Subject:** Pencil sketch (even a rough stick-figure doodle!) of your hero. **Scene:** Cozy treehouse library.	Watercolors, Beatrix Potter ink wash, or vibrant modern graphic novel page.	Lock your favorite output, download it, and reuse it as the new **Subject** card for Page 2!
4. Room & Exterior Restyling Ratio: `16:9`	**Subject:** *Leave Empty* (or add a specific sofa/lamp). **Scene:** Photo of your current living room or backyard.	Japandi minimalist wood interior, warm Mediterranean terracotta, or cozy mid-century loft.	`"Keep room window and wall layout intact; restyle furniture, lighting, and materials."`
5. YouTube / Poster Hero Thumbnails Ratio: `16:9`	**Subject:** Expressive portrait photo. **Scene:** Dramatic sci-fi lab or mountain summit.	Bold theatrical movie poster or high-contrast rim-lit portrait photography.	`"Subject positioned on right third looking toward glowing sign on left reading '2026'."`

Underrated Trick: Rough Napkin Sketches Make Incredible Inputs!

You don't need polished photos for your Subject or Scene slots. Snapping a photo of a 30-second pen doodle on notebook paper gives Gemini the exact layout/pose you want—while your **Style** card supplies 100% of the photorealistic or painted polish!

Mastering `Whisk Animate`: From Still Card to Living Clip

Hover over any favorite Whisk image and click **Animate**. Powered by Google's **Veo** video engine, Whisk transforms your static frame into a fluid 8-second MP4 clip right inside your browser.

THE GOLDEN RULE OF WHISK ANIMATE PROMPTS: DO NOT RE-DESCRIBE THE PICTURE!

✕ WEAK PROMPT (WASTES TOKENS ON APPEARANCE)

"A cute felted wool owl with brass gears sitting on a wooden post in a dark street with yellow lanterns and cobblestones at night."

✓ PRO MOTION PROMPT (ACTION + CAMERA + PHYSICS)

"Slow dolly push-in; the felted owl blinks warmly, tilts its head curiously as tiny brass wing gears spin, while warm paper lanterns sway gently in the night breeze."

Copy-Paste Motion Formulas by Scene Type

1 Character / Pet Micro-Life

`"Subtle handheld breathing motion; subject blinks naturally, smiles warmly, and turns head slightly toward camera as hair catches a soft breeze."`

2 Cozy Atmosphere / Cinemagraph

`"Locked static tripod camera; warm steam curls upward from the mug while soft snow falls outside the window and fireplace light flickers."`

3 Toy / Product Showcase

`"Smooth 90-degree orbital camera arc around the figurine with shifting studio rim reflections and shallow macro depth of field."`

4 Epic Environment Reveal

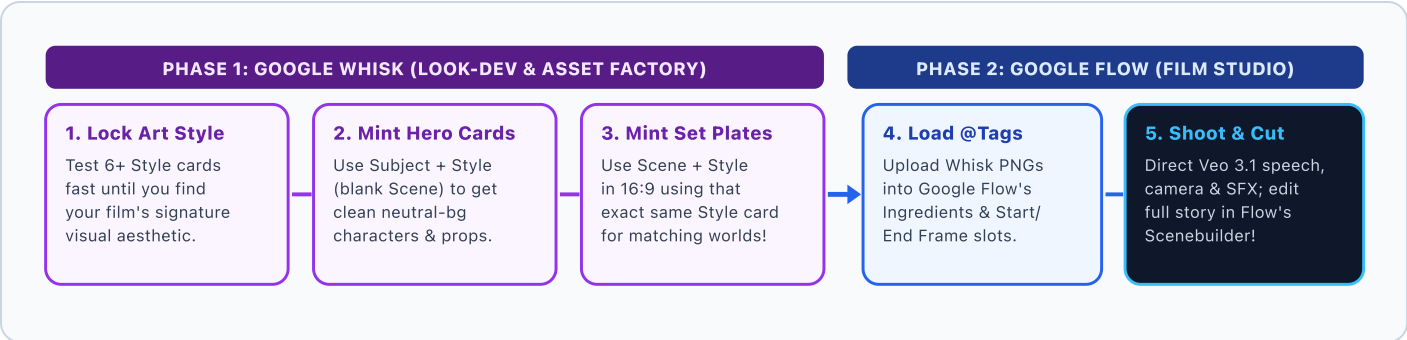
`"Slow aerial drone glide forward through drifting morning mist as waterfall spray rises and sunbeams sweep across the valley."`

Keep Whisk Animate Movements Grounded

Asking a still image to execute three backflips and change outfits in 8 seconds causes warping. Aim for **one primary subject action + one smooth camera move + one environmental motion** (wind, steam, rain, light flicker) for cinema-grade realism.

Power Pipeline: Design in Whisk, Direct in Google Flow

Now that you have both the **Google Flow** guide and this **Google Whisk** guide, combining the two unlocks Google AI Ultra's ultimate creative workflow—and why Google integrated Whisk's DNA directly into the Flow ecosystem.



Why This Two-Tool Workflow Beats Using Either Tool Alone

- **100% Unified Art Direction:** By feeding the *exact same Style card* into every Whisk character, prop, and background generation, all your Google Flow Ingredients share identical brushwork, clay texture, or film grain before you spend a single video credit!
- **Instant Start-to-End Morphs:** Generate two Whisk variations with a locked Seed (e.g., sunny summer cabin vs. snowy winter cabin via *Refine*), then drop both into Google Flow's **Frames to Video** for a breathtaking 8-second seasonal time-lapse.
- **Zero Video Credit Waste:** Experiment freely in Whisk stills until your client—or your own eye—loves the look, then move into Flow purely for execution.

Troubleshooting Clinic & Pre-Flight Cheat Sheet

Keep this page open next to Whisk whenever an output surprises you—every quirk has a fast, reliable fix.

Top 7 Whisk Problems & Instant Fixes

Symptom / Problem	Root Cause & 10-Second Fix
Portrait doesn't look enough like the person uploaded	Whisk re-imagined via caption essence. Open the Subject's **Hidden Caption** to add specific facial features—or use **Google Flow Ingredients** for strict 1:1 face lock.
Objects from the Style image appear in my scene	Style bleed. Open the Style card's **Hidden Caption** and delete all object/subject nouns, leaving only medium, palette, and lighting descriptors.
Background from my Subject photo leaked into the Scene	Cluttered Subject photo. Delete background words inside the Subject's Hidden Caption, or crop tightly around your subject before uploading.
Text on a sign or label is misspelled or garbled	Phrase too long or unquoted. Click **Refine** and write: `Change sign text to clearly read "CAFE" in bold block letters` (keep to 1–5 words).
Tweaking my prompt completely changed the pose I liked	Seed was unlocked. Click the **Seed Padlock** on the winning variation first, or use **Refine** instead of clicking main *Remix*.
Whisk Animate video warps or looks chaotic	Motion prompt re-described static appearance or asked for too many stunts. Prompt *only* 1 smooth camera move + 1 gentle action.
Head or feet get cut off in vertical/wide formats	Changed aspect ratio late. Pick `9:16` or `16:9` *first* and add `"full-body framing with headroom"` in Additional Details.

Whisk Pre-Flight Checklist: 6 Habits for Instant Studio Results

- ☐ **1. Set Aspect Ratio First** (`1:1`, `9:16`, or `16:9`).
- ☐ **2. Crop Subject Tightly** (one clear hero per card).
- ☐ **3. Peek at Hidden Captions** to strip unwanted clutter.
- ☐ **4. Lock Seed Padlock** as soon as you love a layout.
- ☐ **5. Use `Refine` Chat** for surgical color, prop & sign edits.
- ☐ **6. Export Winners to Flow** for multi-shot storytelling!

Ready to Remix?

Open `https://labs.google/fx/tools/whisk`, drop one Subject photo + one wild Style texture, peek inside Gemini's hidden caption, and hit **Animate** on your favorite creation!