

MIDJOURNEY CHRONICLES · REFERENCE PDF

EP. 1

One SREF, any subject. Can you break it?

SREF: --sref 2957596189

THE IDEA

A style code that slices, wraps and rebuilds

This code turns any subject into a surreal editorial: heads sliced into floating spiral layers, faces wrapped in ribbons, bodies rebuilt from found objects. It sits on dark teal-grey backdrops with a warm amber glow coming from inside the layers, soft cinematic side light, shallow depth of field and analog film grain. It works on people, animals, robots and fashion.

SREF

```
--sref 2957596189
```

PARAMETERS

```
--ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300 --v 8.2
```

The three levers to test

`--style raw`	More natural faces, less doll-like. Try it first on portraits.
`Standard (no raw)`	More stylized and dramatic. Strong on animals and objects.
`Personalization ON`	Your own profile on top of the code. Compare ON vs OFF.
`--sw 300`	Style weight. Drop to 150–200 if faces turn to porcelain.

START HERE

Starter prompt

Change the words in [CAPS]. Keep everything else.

STARTER

A surreal editorial portrait of [YOUR SUBJECT], its form sliced into stacked spiraling layers and reassembled from [MATERIAL / OBJECTS]. Moody dark teal-grey background, warm glints on the edges, cinematic side light, analog film grain. --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300

FILLED-IN EXAMPLE · SLICED HORSE

A surreal portrait of a horse whose head is sliced into floating stacked layers, each slice revealing marbled colors and tiny botanical details inside. Moody dark teal-grey background, warm glints along every cut edge, cinematic side light, analog film grain. --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300

SCENE 01 OF 04

Ribbon-wrapped portrait

Wrapped, not sliced: ribbons and glass beads spiral around the face.



FULL PROMPT

A surreal editorial portrait of a young woman in a black bucket hat, her face wrapped in a spiral of thin lacquered ribbons printed with floral patterns, small glass beads tucked between the layers. Moody dark teal-grey background, warm glints catching each ribbon edge, soft cinematic side light, shallow depth of field, analog film grain. --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300

SCENE 02 OF 04

Sliced horse

The signature move: the head floats apart in layers with something hidden inside each slice.



FULL PROMPT

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A surreal portrait of a horse whose head is sliced into floating stacked layers, each slice revealing marbled colors and tiny botanical details inside. Moody dark teal-grey background, warm glints along every cut edge, cinematic side light, analog film grain. --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300
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SCENE 03 OF 04

Found-parts robot

Rebuilt from objects: vintage radio parts, tubes and gears with light glowing from inside.



FULL PROMPT

A surreal portrait of a slender robot in a dark tailored jacket, its head assembled from mismatched vintage radio parts, exposed wiring, small cathode tubes and brass gears, warm light glowing from inside the machinery. Moody teal-grey backdrop, cinematic side light, shallow depth of field, analog film grain. --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300

SCENE 04 OF 04

Fashion dancer

Pushing the code into high fashion. Watch the face: this is where it can drift to porcelain.



FULL PROMPT

A high-fashion editorial photograph of a young woman with a sharp blunt-fringe black bob and natural freckles, caught in a low dynamic dance lunge, one arm sweeping up behind her and the other reaching toward the floor. She wears a skin-tight patchwork bodysuit in red, orange and yellow panels, hand-painted with dark storm clouds and fine ornamental linework, a sculpted lacquered shoulder piece swirling like a red and charcoal wave, a spiky red flower-shaped cuff on the wrist and glossy red leather knee boots. Plain blue-grey studio backdrop, soft diffused key light, shallow depth of field, real skin texture, analog film grain. --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300

COVER + WHAT WE LEARNED

Cover prompt & tips

COVER PROMPT

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A surreal editorial scene of a vintage neon sign sliced into floating stacked layers that spiral apart in mid-air, each slice glowing warm amber. The sign displays two lines of bold retro lettering: "MIDJOURNEY CHRONICLES" on the top line and "EP. 1" large below it, glowing ivory neon. Moody dark teal-grey background, cinematic side light, shallow depth of field, analog film grain. --v 8.2 --ar 4:5 --sref 2957596189 --sw 300 --no credits, small print, fine print, watermark, signature, logo
```

- Strongest on one single subject with something wrapped around it, cut through it or replacing the head.
- On human faces it can drift to a doll or porcelain look (oversized eyes). Add --style raw or lower the weight to --sw 150–200.
- Purple and amber show up on their own, even when you don't ask for them.
- Our keepers came from raw, standard and Personalization ON. Run all three before you judge a subject.

CHEAT SHEET

The code in one page

What it does
Slices, wraps or rebuilds the subject. Dark teal background, amber light from inside.

Best subjects
Single portraits, animals, robots, fashion. One subject per frame.

Your three moves
Slice it into layers · wrap it in something · build it out of objects.

If faces look fake
--style raw, or --sw 150–200, and name real skin texture.

Text on signs
Two short lines in quotes spell well with --sw 300 on V8.2.

YOUR TURN

The challenge

Your turn: post your result with the subject you chose. Animals, robots, objects, anything.

Bonus: run the same prompt in raw, standard and Personalization ON and post all three.

CODE

--sref 2957596189

NEXT EPISODE

Ep. 2: One prompt, four versions. Which one wins?

See you in the next episode.

MidJourney Chronicles