



**WHY LEADERS
SHOULD USE AI
THEMSELVES AND
EAT THEIR OWN
DOG FOOD?**

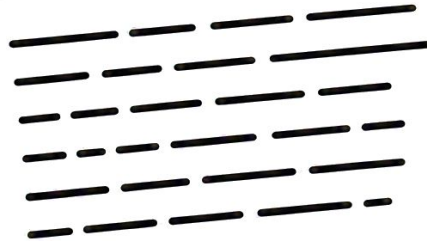
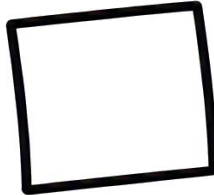
WHY LEADERS SHOULD USE AI THEMSELVES AND EAT THEIR OWN DOG FOOD?

THIS TALK IS ABOUT HOW HANDS ON LEARNING IS FOR **EVERYONE**

- ALSO LEADERS NEED INTEGRATE AI IN THEIR OWN WORK - TO IMPROVE PERSONAL PRODUCTIVITY
- THEY NEED TO LIVE AND FEEL THE SAME THAN THEIR TEAMS- TO LEARN HOW TO LEAD BETTER IN AI TRANSITION

I WILL SHARE YOU SIX PERSONAL LEARNINGS THAT HAVE ALSO IMPACT TO MY TEAM ABILITY TO EFFICIENTLY USE AI

69% of
leaders use AI



Source: [Gallup](https://www.gallup.com)

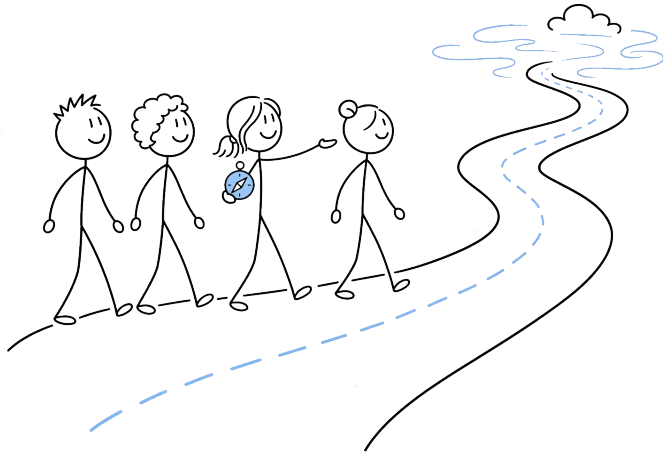
JENNI KYLMÄKOSKI - SDLC.AI.ORG 2026

69% of
leaders use AI

at least
once a year.
19% uses
daily

Source: [Gallup](#)

HOW TO SUCCEED IN AI TRANSITION



- UPSKILL PEOPLE AND PROVIDE THEM AI TOOLS
- TEACH ETHICAL USE OF AI
- START FROM EXPERIMENTATION AND SYSTEMATICALLY INCREASE AI USAGE

SO IN WHICH LEVEL LEADERS NEED TO UNDERSTAND THEN AI?

EXPERIENCE AI FIRST YOURSELF (TO HELP THEN OTHERS)

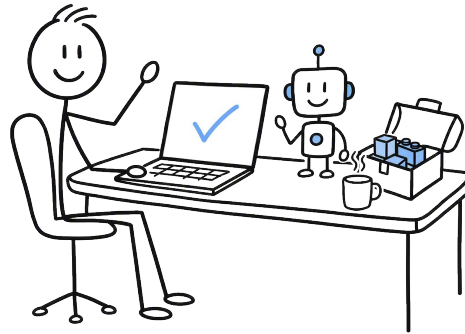


HEY LEADER, MAYBE EXPERIMENT AI ASSISTED CODING?

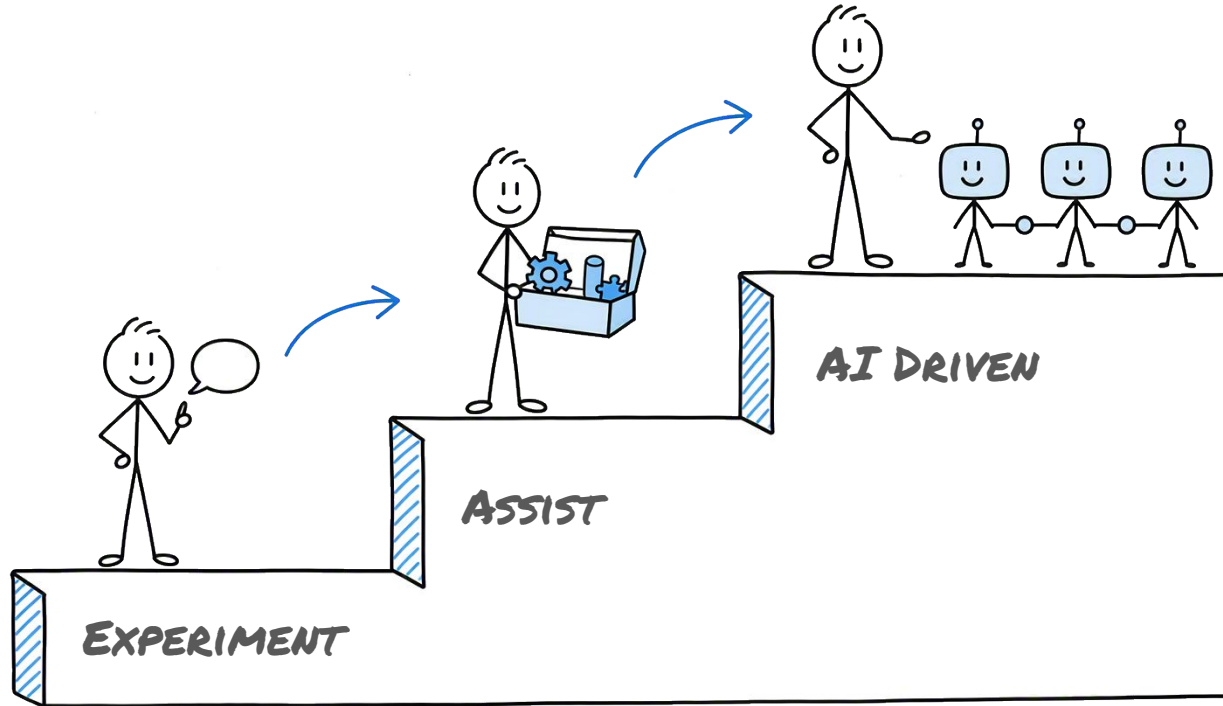


HOW TO GET EVEN STARTED?

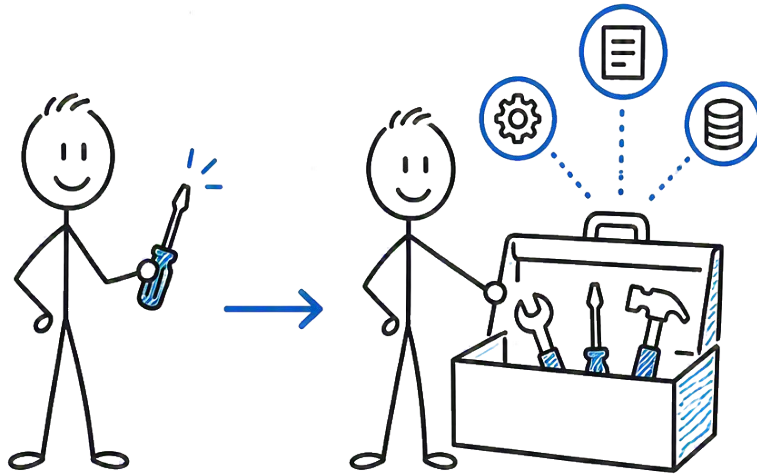
- **THAT DEVELOPER EXPERIENCE MATTERS** WHEN YOU TRY TO SET UP AI TOOLS, SEARCH FOR TUTORIALS SETTING UP ENVIRONMENTS AND LEARN TO USE THEM EFFECTIVELY
- **VALID ALSO LATER WHEN YOU INTRODUCE NEW AI ASSETS LIKE AGENTS**



EVOLVING YOUR OWN ROLE TO USE AI IS NOT THAT EASY



PROMPT IS NOT ENOUGH - YOU NEED A TOOLBOX



→ YOU NEED **RIGHT TOOLS AND DATA INTEGRATIONS** - IT IS MORE THAN WRITING A PERFECT PROMPT

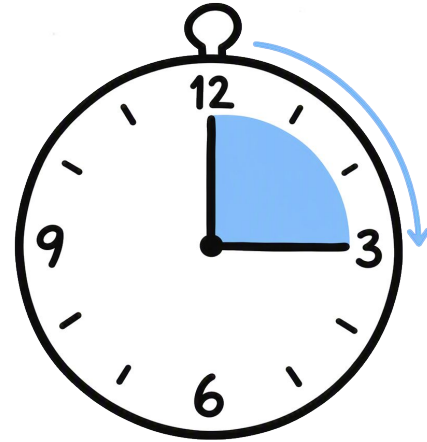
YOU ALSO LEARN BY MAKING MISTAKES

- **MISTAKES** HELP YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR DETAILED SPECS, RIGHT CONTEXT, DEVELOPING HARNESS AND GUARDRAILS AND VALIDATION OF OUTPUTS

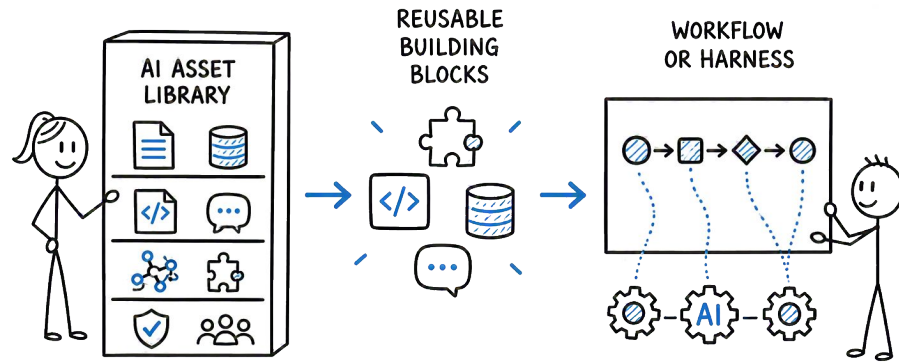


YOU LEARN ALSO TO PRIORITIZE AND PLAN AHEAD

- YOU NEED TO RESERVE TIME FOR LEARNING
- AI WILL NOT DO IT FOR YOU

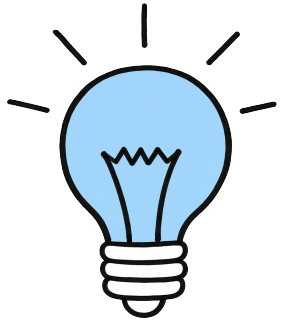


TREAT YOUR TOOLBOX AS A PRODUCT



→ **AI ASSETS ARE ACTUALLY VERY SIMILAR THAN SW THAT YOU NEED TO PLAN, DESIGN, DEVELOP, TEST AND MAINTAIN (AND AI ASSETS WILL GET OLD FAST)**

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED WHILE EATING MY DOG FOOD?



- DEVELOPER EXPERIENCE MATTERS
- EVOLVE FROM SMALL EXPERIMENTS TO DAILY USE OF AI
- GET CLARITY TO PRIORITIES - LEARNING TAKES TIME
- MISTAKES TEACH YOU EVEN MORE
- PROMPT IS NOT ENOUGH - YOU NEED A TOOLBOX
- TREAT AI TOOLS AND ASSETS AS A PRODUCT

AI LITERACY

EMPATHY

CHANGE MANAGEMENT