

Using Researcher for Ideation in the Agent Hackathon

Guidance and Sample Prompts for Phase

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Introduction

This guide provides targeted prompts to support your team's ideation process during the Agent Hackathon. Prompts are aligned with the **Attendee Hack Pack** and are designed to accelerate content creation for each phase: defining the business problem, developing the agent prototype, and preparing for the group presentation.

Important

- The prompts are designed to be leveraged using **Researcher** in Copilot. If your team does not have access to Researcher, use Copilot Chat as a substitute.
- Prompts should be customized with your scenario's specifics (e.g. replace *[Agent Name]*, *[use case]*, *[industry]* with your details). You can use these in sequence or independently, as needed.
- By leveraging Researcher through the hackathon, participants will systematically develop their idea, build a prototype with the right considerations, and produce all necessary artifacts (slides and a concept video) for a successful final presentation.
- For your team presentation, you may opt to present your Hack Pack slides AND the agent prototype OR a video about your idea.

Good luck and have fun building your agent!

Phase 1: Define the Business Problem

In this phase, your team would leverage Researcher to flesh out the Business Problem you have decided to solve. The focus is on understanding the problem, who it affects, and how success will be measured. The prompts help gather content for each section of the template. (Note: *replace placeholder terms with your use case specifics.*)

BUSINESS PROBLEM

Problem statement: Articulate the problem or pain point clearly.

- *Prompt: We are a group of employees from [company name], and we are hacking on a business problem, specifically with the [business process] process within the [team name if applicable] team. The problem with the business process today is that [describe the business problem(s)] and the reason it is important is [reasons]. Please help provide a concise problem statement that highlights the pain points and why it is important to resolve this business problem.*

Solution: Articulate the solution clearly & leverage Researcher to build on your idea.

- *Prompt: For the business problem outlined above, the team is planning to build an agent that can [mention what pain point it would address] by [mention how it would address the business problem]. Could you provide some ideas regarding more ways an agent built in Agent Builder or Copilot Studio lite could help with the business problem?*
- *Prompt (if needed): We like the added idea you provided around [mention idea]. Please help provide a concise solution statement that addresses the problem statement and use cases.*

Personas: Leverage this prompt to ideate on who might be impacted in your organization.

- *Prompt: For the business problem & solution outlined above, create a list of personas who would be impacted on a day-to-day basis. Mention their departments and roles and their goals or challenges related to this problem. If needed, [use: leverage my corporate network to identify roles], [or use: leverage information found on the web about company name].*

Example Use Cases: Leverage this prompt to build out key use-cases.

- *Prompt: We are continuing to populate a slide with this business problem. Could you help summarise in 3-4 bullets the top use cases or tasks the agent could support with. What potential requests, questions, or tasks may this Agent undertake.*

KPIs and Impact: List the metrics that will gauge success. This section helps to anchor the project in measurable outcomes.

- *Prompt: The Key KPIs the team has identified are as follows [mention 1-2 key KPIs]. Are there other key business KPIs (key performance indicators) that might be relevant to this problem? For each KPI are you able to pull up industry benchmarks?*

Phase 2: Develop the Agent Prototype

Phase 2 focuses on **making the idea feasible** and preparing for development. Participants will use Agent Builder in Microsoft 365 Copilot or Copilot Studio to start building a prototype, so it is crucial to validate requirements, consider knowledge sources and think through triggers and actions. The prompts below help examine the solution through a technical lens and align it with Copilot/agent capabilities.

AGENT PROTOTYPE

Agent Name & Description: Give the agent a memorable identity. While not a technical necessity, a good name can make the solution more engaging in the final presentation.

- *Prompt: The team is now going to fill in this template /[type in file name to search or attach the file to chat]. We are focused on filling in slide [4]. Based on what we have discussed so far, propose a catchy name for our agent and a one-sentence tagline or description. (For example, "**FinAssist**" – "Your AI Financial Planning Assistant.") Ensure the name is relevant to its function or persona.*

Agent Instructions: Define the agent's behaviour and sample interactions. In Agent Builder / Copilot Studio, the Agent Instructions guide the agent's behaviour. Crafting a clear instruction prompt/persona will make the agent more effective. Additionally, having example user prompts and ideal responses can guide testing and prompt-engineering.

- *Prompt: Thank you. We have picked the name [name]. Next, could you help draft the core instructions or persona for the agent. What should we tell the agent about its role, tone, or how to perform its tasks? For example, you are an assistant helping technicians troubleshoot network issues...' Also, suggest a few example user prompts and how the agent should respond.' Please do ask questions if there are other parameters that need to be clarified.*

Knowledge Sources: Get Researcher to help you identify the information sources to ground the agent. This ensures the solution accounts for integrations or data availability.

- *Prompt: Great. Next, I would like your help to think through the data or knowledge sources the agent would need access to. List systems or repositories (e.g. SharePoint, ServiceNow, databases, websites) that contain information the agent should use.*

Triggers & Actions: Researcher can help you think through key triggers and actions that can be set up to route users to the correct information or process.

- *Prompt: If we were to build this agent out in Copilot Studio, what are some key triggers and actions that could help define how this agent behaves.*

Phase 3: Prepare for the Group Presentation

The Agent Hackathon requires team to first present their agent idea using the Hack Pack template. Teams then have the option to showcase the agent prototype or to present a video about their solution. Leverage the following prompt to create a video.

PRESENTER TALK TRACK

Executive Summary: Produce a concise overview of the project.

- *Prompt: The team is now preparing to present to our solution to the leadership team. Summarize our agent solution in a short paragraph for an executive audience. Include: the problem it solves, who it is for, the solution name/approach, and the top benefits or improvements achieved. Keep it to 4-5 sentences, in a clear and compelling tone.*

Solution Highlights (Bullet Points): Extract the most salient points that judges or stakeholders should remember.

- *Prompt: Provide a bullet list of 3-5 key highlights of our solution to include in the presentation. (E.g. 'Automates XYZ process, saving ~20 hours/week', 'Leveraged existing data in ABC system for personalized answers', 'Improves KPI by an estimated 15% within first quarter'.)*

Final Envisioning Template Check: Quality-check the template content

- *Prompt: "Review the /[type in file name to search or attach the file to chat] content we have gathered. Are there any gaps or sections in slides [3] and [4] that we should refine before finalizing? Suggest any improvements to ensure each section is clear and compelling."*

Concept video script: Create content for a demo video.

- *Prompt: "Based on our discussion so far, could you help draft a script for a 60–90 second concept video highlighting our agent. Start by setting the scene with the current problem. Then show a user interacting with [Agent Name] to solve the problem step by step. End with the positive outcome and a tagline or call-to-action. Write it as a narrative with a conversational tone for the voiceover."*

Copilot Video Prompt: This prompt yields a concise description optimized for Copilot's video generator (Clipchamp integration). Copilot can take this and automatically generate a video with stock footage and AI narration. It translates your script into the input Copilot needs (if you prefer not to upload a full PowerPoint). The result can be a quick concept video to accompany your final presentation.

- *Prompt: "This is great! Also, please create a prompt to feed into Copilot's 'Create a video' feature for our solution. It should describe the scenario and highlight what the agent does and the benefit, so Copilot can generate a suitable video with that context."*

Create a video: Leverage the resulting prompt and the script to create a video with Copilot. Further instructions are available here: [How to create video with Copilot - Microsoft Support](#)