# One illustration, five useful things

A practical guide with copyable teaching prompts

Turn one illustration into a small art print, folded greeting card, postcard, bookmark and notebook front-cover insert. You supply the artwork, choose the design and review the result. ChatGPT prepares the layouts and printable files using free Inkscape.

## Before you begin

Use the ChatGPT desktop app with Work or Codex and working Computer Use access, plus a working installation of free Inkscape. Availability depends on your account, region and settings. Installing the app alone does not establish access: start with prompt 0 and confirm the test succeeds.

Install free Inkscape: inkscape.org/release/
Computer Use setup: learn.chatgpt.com/docs/computer-use

In the desktop app, open Plugins > Computer Use and enable the available tools. Review Settings > Computer use and allow Inkscape when prompted. On Windows, keep Inkscape visible while the assistant operates it. Follow the official setup guide if the options differ.

Use artwork you own or have permission to adapt. The Nordic Quiet Waters artwork download retains its personal-use licence. These free teaching instructions do not grant commercial rights to the image pack and do not include artwork or ready-made printables.

# 0. Set up the assistant to do the Inkscape work

Attach: No artwork needed for the access test.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

I am following a beginner product-making lesson. You will do the Inkscape layout, lettering, sizing, file preparation and digital checks. I will supply the artwork, review previews and do the physical print test. Do not turn this into instructions for me to perform the design work manually.

Check the tools available in this session and locate my installed Inkscape. Use Computer Use when you need to operate its window; you may also prepare editable SVG files and use Inkscape's command-line tools for accurate exports when those tools are available.

First make a separate small test document, save an editable SVG and export a preview. Preserve existing files and open work. Tell me which access method actually worked, and show me the result. Do not claim you inspected the application window if you only processed files.

If access is missing, explain the specific setup or permission I need to complete, using current official instructions. Do not assume this prompt itself grants access. If window capture fails but file creation and export work, explain that distinction and continue the supported file work yourself.

For all following product prompts, carry out the work yourself, return the editable files and requested PDFs, show previews, and report the checks you actually performed. Use only the tools already available and free Inkscape; do not add another paid subscription.

Check: Confirm that the assistant returns an editable SVG and a visible preview, and explains which access method worked.

# 1. Look at the artwork and plan five uses

Attach: the original, highest-quality artwork file. For our example, attach `Moon-River.jpg`, not a screenshot of the collection.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Help me turn this existing illustration into five useful printable products:
a small wall print, a folded greeting card, a postcard, a bookmark and a notebook front-cover insert.

First inspect the attached image. Identify the important features we should preserve and explain how its proportions affect each product.

Keep the original illustration unchanged. Do not regenerate, redraw, stretch or recolour it. If a product needs a different shape, propose a layout around the picture before suggesting a crop.

Use ChatGPT and free Inkscape for the workflow. Do not require Canva, Photoshop or another paid subscription.

Give me a short table with the finished size, suggested image placement and the main thing to check for each product. Do not create the five files yet.

Check: Does the plan suit the actual picture? In Moon River, the moon, mountain and winding river should remain recognisable. A narrow bookmark does not require a narrow crop of the artwork.

# 2. Prepare a small wall print

Attach: the original artwork. If you already have a suitable print file, attach that too and ask ChatGPT to inspect it before making another one.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Prepare this illustration as an A5 landscape art print, 210 x 148 mm.

Keep the complete image and its original proportions. Centre it with at least 10 mm of white space on each side. Allow the top and bottom margins to be larger if necessary; do not stretch or crop the image to make all margins equal. Add no title, signature or watermark to the artwork.

Use the original image pixels. Report the source pixel dimensions and the effective resolution at the placed print size; do not claim that changing a DPI label adds detail.

Create an editable SVG with the image embedded, suitable for opening in Inkscape, and an A5 landscape PDF with a 210 x 148 mm page. This is the finished print size, not an A4 sheet. Do the layout and export work yourself using the access established in the setup prompt. Use Inkscape where available and report the actual method. If access is missing, identify the setup needed rather than assigning me manual Inkscape design steps or claiming the files exist.

Show a preview and state what you checked.

Check: The picture should retain its proportions and all its edges. This is a proposed smaller print format; the original Nordic Quiet Waters pack already includes A4 and US Letter prints.

# 3. Make a folded greeting card

Attach: the artwork and, when available, the existing card file you want to reuse.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Make a landscape folded greeting card from this illustration. The finished closed card should be 7 inches wide and 5 inches high, with a blank interior.

Use a flat piece measuring 7 x 10 inches, with a horizontal fold halfway down. On the outside layout, place the front design in the lower 7 x 5-inch panel and leave the upper back panel blank. Keep the image upright on the front after folding.

Place the complete illustration proportionally within the front panel, with a white border of at least 6 mm. Do not redraw, stretch or add text over the artwork.

Create an editable SVG with embedded artwork, and separate A4 and US Letter PDF sheets. Centre the flat card on each sheet. Put small trim and fold indicators outside the finished card area so they can be removed when trimming.

Include a short folding explanation outside the cut area, keeping it separate from the trim marks. Check the space on each paper size: a 10-inch-tall flat card leaves only 12.7 mm above and below it on US Letter paper. Put longer instructions in a separate guide rather than crowding them onto the card sheet.

This should print on one side only; the other side of the paper becomes the blank interior. Fold with the unprinted halves together and the picture facing outward. Show a preview before calling the layout complete.

Check: Distinguish the flat 7 x 10-inch piece from the closed 7 x 5-inch card. Try a plain-paper fold to confirm orientation before using good cardstock. Reuse the existing Moon River card if it already meets the lesson's needs.

# 4. Make a postcard with a useful reverse

Attach: the artwork or the existing postcard front and back.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Prepare an A6 landscape postcard, 148 x 105 mm, using the attached illustration.

On the front, preserve the whole image and its proportions, with a white border of at least 5 mm. On the reverse, provide message space on the left and address lines with a stamp position on the right. Keep the reverse uncluttered and add no promotional wording.

Create editable SVG files with embedded artwork where needed. Make separate A4 and US Letter PDF versions, each with the front on page 1 and the back on page 2. Centre both at exactly the same position and size, with trim marks outside the finished postcard.

Explain how to test front/back orientation on plain paper. Do not assume my printer's paper-feed direction or duplex setting. Do not claim a physical alignment test has been done.

Show both sides for review.

Check: There must be usable writing space. A digitally aligned front and back may still shift when printed, so test with your printer. Check local postal requirements before promising that a particular paper or layout is suitable for mailing.

# 5. Adapt the landscape into a bookmark

Attach: the original artwork. Attach the existing bookmark proof as well if you want to revise that design.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Create a bookmark measuring 50 x 180 mm using this landscape illustration.

Keep the entire landscape in a small panel near the top rather than cropping it into a narrow strip. Use a 42 mm-wide image panel, centred horizontally, preserving the original proportions. Position the top of the image about 12 mm below the top of the bookmark.

Use a warm cream background, dark blue edge accents and a small peach accent drawn from the picture's palette. Keep the design simple.

Below the picture, add the wording:
A quiet moment
between pages

Near the bottom, add the small collection title “Nordic Quiet Waters”. Keep all wording as editable text, separate from the image. Use readable type and leave comfortable space around it. Do not add a tassel hole in this version.

Create an editable SVG with the original image embedded and show a preview. Explain briefly how this layout preserves the landscape on a tall, narrow product. Do not claim that the illustration has been converted into vector paths.

Check: The landscape is small but intact, and the main wording is readable at the actual 50 mm width. Change or omit the wording if it does not suit your own collection.

# 6. Make a matching notebook front cover

Attach: the artwork and the bookmark proof so the designs can coordinate.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Create a matching A5 notebook front-cover insert, 148 x 210 mm, using the same illustration and colour palette as the bookmark.

This is a flat front-cover insert only, not a wraparound cover, spine, binding template or complete notebook.

Keep the full landscape in a 128 mm-wide panel, centred horizontally with 10 mm side margins. Position the top of the picture approximately 43 mm below the top edge. Preserve its proportions.

Use a warm cream background with restrained dark blue and peach accents. Above the picture, place the collection title “Nordic Quiet Waters”. Below it, add:
Notes
Thoughts, plans & discoveries

Leave a short, unobtrusive line near the bottom where the owner can write a name. Keep all lettering editable and separate from the picture. Do not redraw or crop the illustration.

Create an editable SVG with embedded artwork and show a preview. Explain that the intended notebook or cover pocket should be measured before printing the final insert.

Check: The title has room to breathe and the landscape is not squeezed into a portrait shape. An A5 page size does not guarantee a fit in every notebook cover pocket.

# 7. Prepare and check the print sheets

Attach: the finished editable bookmark and notebook-cover files. Use the approved versions, not a preview screenshot.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Prepare printable proof sheets for these two finished designs.

Make one A4 PDF and one US Letter PDF, each containing two pages: the 50 x 180 mm bookmark on page 1 and the 148 x 210 mm notebook front-cover insert on page 2. Centre each product at its exact physical size.

Put small trim marks outside the finished product. Outside the cut area, include the finished dimensions and the instruction “Print at 100% / Actual size”. Keep all production notes off the product itself and check that they do not overlap the trim marks. Use the existing editable designs as supplied; do not regenerate their illustrations.

Check page sizes, product dimensions, image proportions, missing images, readable text and clipping. Render the PDFs and inspect every page if your tools allow it. Clearly state any checks you cannot perform.

Keep the editable originals. Report whether artwork remains raster or has genuinely been vectorised. Distinguish digital inspection from a physical print test, which I will do separately.

Check: Print one proof at actual size and measure it. Check colour, text size and trimming before making more copies. Never choose “Fit to page” when testing the stated product dimensions.

# If the first result needs a correction

Attach: the current editable file and a preview showing the problem.

Copy the following prompt into your conversation:

Revise the attached design. Keep the original illustration unchanged.

The problem is: [describe what is wrong and where].
The change I want is: [describe the specific change].
Keep these parts as they are: [list the parts you want preserved].

Show the revised preview and return an updated editable file. State exactly what changed and which checks you repeated. If you cannot edit the supplied file, explain that before offering an alternative.

Check: Compare the revision with the original. Preserve the artwork and the parts you asked to keep.

The example layouts were produced and digitally checked. These prompts were refined from that work; they have not been independently tested in a fresh learner session. Always test-print one sample before making a batch.

Return to the lesson: fridahag.com - Nordic Quiet Waters