

A Beginner's Guide to General Settings

No jargon. Just plain explanations of what every setting actually does — and why you'd bother changing it.



It's plumbing, not a feature.

Installing the AI module alone doesn't turn anything on.

01

What does the AI module actually do?



The AI module

Like electrical wiring in a house. It connects AI tools to Drupal in a consistent way — but the wiring itself doesn't turn on any lights.



Submodules

You still need to plug in a lamp — a submodule or contrib module — for anything to actually happen on your site.

02

You need a “provider” module too

The AI module doesn't talk to OpenAI, Anthropic, or anyone else on its own. It just provides the framework that lets those connections happen.

OpenAI

Anthropic

Hugging Face

+ more



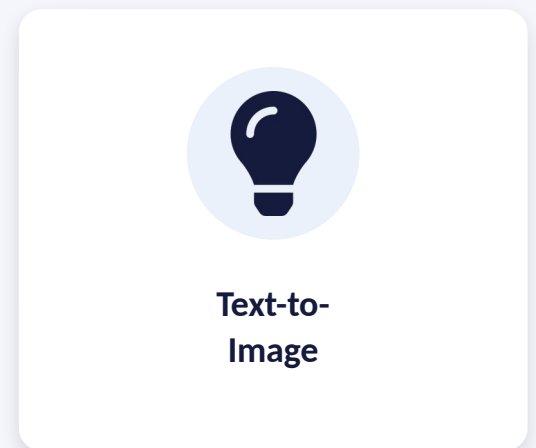
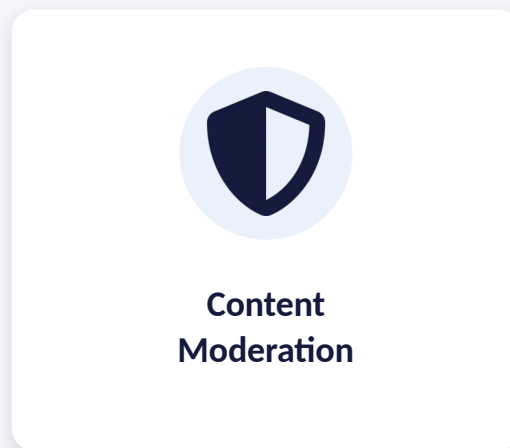
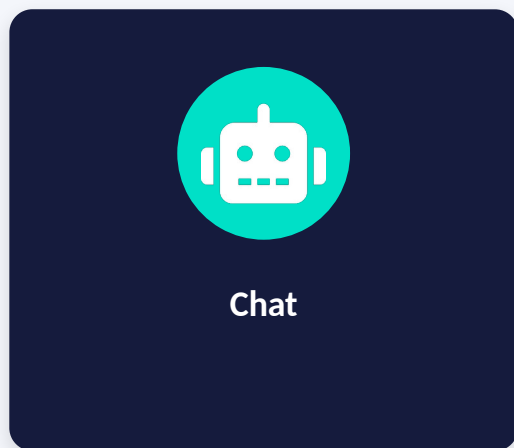
Provider module = the connector

Install one to link a specific AI company to your site. You can install more than one if you want options.

03

Setting a default AI model

Head to `/admin/config/ai/settings`. Think of models like employees with different skills — some write, some moderate, some generate images.



Why bother? Other modules skip asking “which model should I use?” every time — they just use your default. You can still override it per task.

04

Adjusting the timeout

AI requests don't always come back instantly. Long translations or “thoughtful” reasoning models can take a while.



60

seconds

the default wait time before Drupal gives up on an AI response.

Using a slower model? Increase this under Advanced Settings on the same page so your site doesn't cut off a slow-but-working request too early.

05

Moderation: don't skip this one

The setting most people overlook — and it matters more than it sounds.



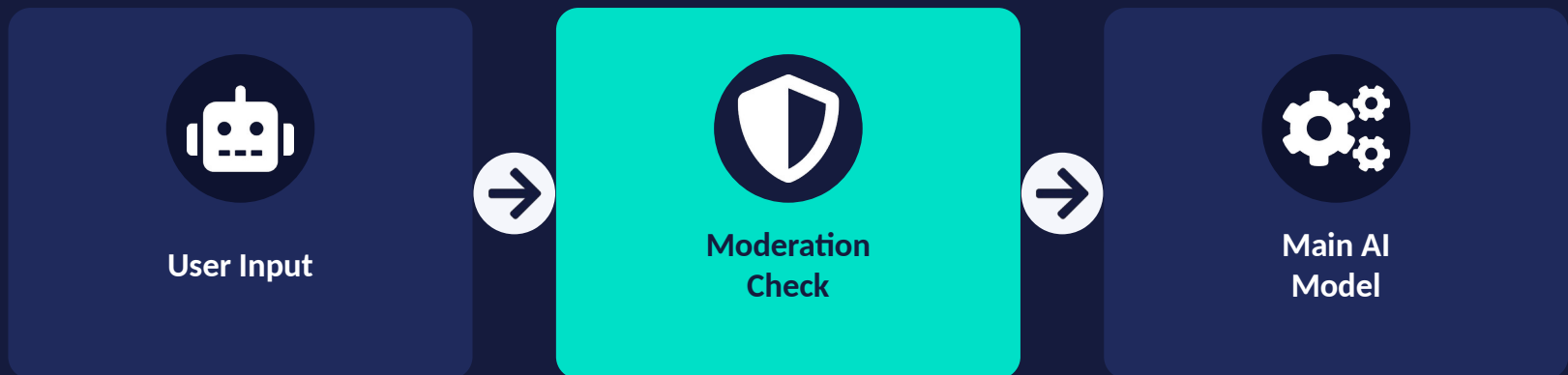
If your site lets users send content to an AI — like prompts into a chatbot — someone will eventually send something inappropriate.

The real risk: many AI companies will suspend your account if too many requests violate their content policies — even if it wasn't your site's fault directly.

06

How moderation works

A checkpoint sits before your content ever reaches the main AI model.



If it's flagged as unsafe, the request gets stopped before it ever reaches the AI — protecting your users and your standing with the provider.

Path: `/admin/config/ai/ai-external-moderation`

07

A few things worth knowing



Some providers auto-moderate

OpenAI and Mistral already moderate content on their end — you may not need extra setup if you're only using them.



Others need manual setup

For providers that don't moderate automatically, the AI module lets you add it yourself.



You choose the moderator

Pick a provider and one or more models to act as moderator, and optionally limit it to specific tags.

THE BOTTOM LINE

The AI module is the foundation, not the finished feature.

- ✓ Provider connected
- ✓ Default models chosen
- ✓ Timeout adjusted if needed
- ✓ Moderation in place if exposing AI to users

Once it's set up properly, everything built on top just works more smoothly — without each module needing its own config.



Setting up AI on your Drupal site?

Not sure where to start with providers, defaults, timeouts, or moderation? We'll walk through it with you — no sales pitch, just a direct conversation.

[Get in Touch →](#)

Read the full breakdown on our blog:

source369.com/insights/drupal-ai-module-beginners-guide-general-settings