

Refactor

Secret goal:

Make the code clearer and easier to change without altering what it does.

Quietly steer discussion toward tidying first — say “If we clean this up now, changes will be faster later.”

Actionable objectives:

- Rename at least one unclear variable or function to reveal intent.
- Reorder or split logic so steps read more naturally.
- Remove one duplication or unnecessary element.
- Confirm the program still behaves exactly the same.
- Leave the code looking noticeably more structured or readable.

New Feature

Secret goal:

Make the code do something new and useful while keeping its old behaviour intact.

Gently justify changes with remarks like “Users will need this soon.”

Actionable objectives:

- Add a new input, option, or visible behaviour.
- Extend logic with an extra case or capability.
- Keep all previous functionality still working.
- Integrate your addition cleanly into existing structure.
- Ensure the result clearly demonstrates new value.

Fix

Secret goal:

Make the code stop doing something wrong or unsafe without breaking anything else.

Calmly insist on stability first — say “Let’s make it safe before we add more.”

Actionable objectives:

- Identify a real defect or risky behaviour.
- Add a check, guard, or correction that prevents it.
- Verify all previously correct cases still pass.
- Simplify any obviously wrong or inconsistent line.
- Show evidence that the issue is no longer reproducible.

Test

Secret goal:

Make the code provably correct and trustworthy.

Encourage others to slow down by asking “How do we know this works?”

Actionable objectives:

- Write or describe at least two example calls with expected results.
- Include at least one edge or unusual input.
- Run or reason through each example to confirm outputs.
- Flag any part of the function that still lacks coverage.
- Keep examples valid as others change the code.