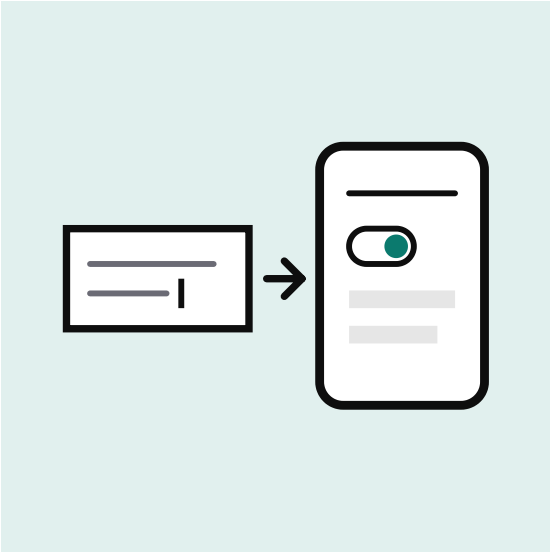
Method

AI prototyping

Using AI tools that write code from instructions to build, quickly, a prototype that works and can be tested with people.



In Spanish

Prototipado con IA

Origin

Karpathy called describing what you want and letting AI write the code "vibe coding" (2025); first studies with UX professionals: Li et al. (2025)

Output

Working prototypes, generated from instructions

What it's for

Before, a working prototype needed someone who could code, and many ideas were only tested as images. With AI, designers can test how an idea behaves, not just how it looks.

Key elements

Test the behavior

The prototype really responds; you can tap, type and make mistakes.

Start from the end

AI delivers something very finished from the start: designing means reviewing it, cutting and fixing.

Use and discard

The code is for learning, not production; it often has errors and is hard to maintain.

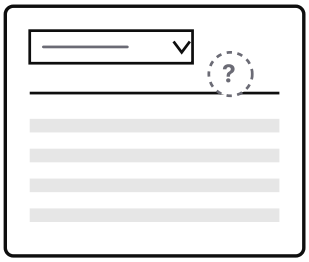
The judgment is yours

AI leans toward conventional solutions; the designer makes the design decisions.

An example

A filter to search a table with lots of data.

A mockup



A static screen with the filter drawn in; the person has to imagine what would happen. **They comment on the look.**

A generated prototype



You describe the filter, AI builds it and the person uses it with real data. **They test how it works.**

What is new is not that it looks better, but that designers can test behavior without waiting for development.

How it's done

1 

Describe the idea in words, examples or a sketch.

2 

Review what is generated, cut what is extra and fix what AI took for granted.

3 

Test it with people and discard the code once it has answered the question.

Applications in design

When to use it

When you want to test an interaction with people, a mockup is not enough and there is no development time.

Avoid

Shipping the generated code to production without anyone reviewing it.

Don't fall for it

That something works and looks finished does not mean it solves the right problem.

Connections

Related to

- Mockup
- Prototyping
- Usability testing
- Wireframe

Authors and works

2025	**Andrej Karpathy**	Called it “vibe coding” to program by describing what you want and accepting the code AI generates without reviewing it line by line.
2025	**Jie Li et al.**	Interviewed 20 UX professionals: they prototype faster and depend less on developers, but the code is fragile and hard to maintain.
2025	**Tianyi Li, Tanay Maheshwari and Alex Voelker**	In a real case, generated prototypes that could be used drew more detailed feedback than sketches, though they pushed toward conventional designs.

Sources

Original sources

- Karpathy, A. [@karpathy]. (2025, February 2). There's a new kind of coding I call "vibe coding" [Publicación]. X.
- Li, J., Hou, Y., Lin, L., Zhu, R., Cao, H., & El Ali, A. (2025). Vibe coding for UX design: Understanding UX professionals' perceptions of AI-assisted design and development. arXiv:2509.10652. View source (https://arxiv.org/abs/2509.10652)
- Li, T., Maheshwari, T., & Voelker, A. (2025). User-centered design with AI in the loop: A case study of rapid user interface prototyping with "vibe coding". arXiv:2507.21012. View source (https://arxiv.org/abs/2507.21012)

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