

FREE LOST GAME STARTER KIT

Your first retro-game cinematic, explained from the very first click.

THE RESULT YOU ARE MAKING

First: one strong retro-game image called a Genesis Frame.
Then: a five-shot storyboard and a 10-second animation brief.

WHAT YOU NEED

Required now: ChatGPT Work (recommended) or a regular Chat.

Optional now: one character or environment image to use as a reference.

Needed only when you animate: access to one image-to-video platform. Seedance 2.x is the recommended and tested route.

DO NOT UPLOAD THE WHOLE ZIP

Extract the downloaded folder first. The one file you paste into ChatGPT is **01_COPY_PASTE_INTO_CHATGPT.txt**. The ZIP is only the container holding your files.

START IN 5 MINUTES

Read the prerequisites on the next page, then follow Steps 1-6. No prompt-engineering knowledge is required.

BEFORE YOU START / PREREQUISITES

You do not need professional editing experience or several AI subscriptions. Start with ChatGPT. Add one video platform only when your storyboard is approved.

1 / REQUIRED NOW - CHATGPT

Open ChatGPT Work (recommended) or a regular Chat. This is where you paste the starter prompt, describe your scene, generate or plan the images, build the storyboard, and receive the animation brief.

2 / NEEDED LATER - ONE VIDEO PLATFORM

You only need this after the Genesis Frame and storyboard are approved. Generation subscriptions and credits are separate from this kit.

RECOMMENDED + TESTED: SEEDANCE 2.x

Seedance is the preferred route for uploading one complete multi-panel storyboard and generating it as a continuous cinematic sequence.

Direct access: Dreamina - dreamina.capcut.com

Aggregator access: Higgsfield - higgsfield.ai or OpenArt - openart.ai

The available Seedance version, buttons, pricing, and controls may differ by platform.

COMPATIBLE ALTERNATIVES

You may experiment with Kling, Runway, Veo, or another capable image-to-video model. These tools may not interpret a complete storyboard as one continuous sequence. If continuity is weak, crop or export each storyboard panel, animate each shot separately, then combine the clips in CapCut, DaVinci Resolve, Premiere, or another editor.

THE HANDOFF IS SIMPLE

Approved storyboard in ChatGPT > download the storyboard image > open Seedance > upload the storyboard > paste ChatGPT's animation brief > choose the recommended duration > generate.

01 / THE EXACT FIRST-RUN PATH

Follow these steps in order. Stop after Step 6 and wait for ChatGPT to respond.

1	EXTRACT THE DOWNLOAD Open the ZIP you downloaded and choose Extract All or Unzip.
2	OPEN CHATGPT Open ChatGPT Work (recommended). A regular Chat also works.
3	OPEN THE STARTER PROMPT Inside the extracted folder, open 01_COPY_PASTE_INTO_CHATGPT.txt.
4	COPY EVERYTHING Select all text in that file and copy it.
5	PASTE AND SEND Paste the text into the empty ChatGPT message box and press Send.
6	WAIT FOR ONE QUESTION ChatGPT should ask for your scene idea. Do not paste the ZIP or PDF.

WHAT YOU SHOULD SEE

ChatGPT will ask for either one simple scene sentence or a reference image plus a sentence. If it gives you the entire workflow at once, reply: **Guide me one stage at a time. Start with Stage 1 only.**

02 / SEND YOUR SCENE IDEA

Keep the first scene small and readable: one subject, one action, one location, one mood.

EASY FORMULA

[SUBJECT] + [ACTION] + [LOCATION] + [MOOD]

COPY THIS EXAMPLE

An injured chihuahua in a pink durag stands on crutches at a mountain peak, looking over a distant town at late sunset. Quiet and reflective.

OR FILL THIS IN

SUBJECT: Who or what are we following?

ACTION: What is the one readable action or pose?

LOCATION: Where are they?

MOOD: What should the moment feel like?

ERA: Optional - PS1, PS2, Dreamcast, or "choose for me."

USING A REFERENCE IMAGE

Click the + or paperclip near the ChatGPT message box, attach your image, then add one sentence explaining what should stay the same and what should change. Only use images you have the right to use.

03 / MAKE THE GENESIS FRAME

ChatGPT will first propose the image in words. Read the subject, location, camera angle, lighting, and rendering choice.

IF IT LOOKS RIGHT, REPLY

Generate the Genesis Frame now.

IF ONE THING IS WRONG, REPLY

Change: [say the one correction]. Keep everything else the same.

YOUR FIRST USEFUL RESULT

The generated image is the Genesis Frame. It establishes the visual foundation before you ask for more shots. Save it when you are happy with the character, environment, composition, and game-era look.

IF CHATGPT CANNOT GENERATE AN IMAGE

Ask: **Give me one clean Genesis Frame prompt for my image generator.** Copy that prompt into the image tool you use. Then return to the same ChatGPT conversation and attach the result.

QUICK CHECK

Character correct? Location correct? Strong angle? Correct game era? If yes, continue. If no, repair only the failed item.

04 / EXPAND IT INTO A STORYBOARD

After approving the Genesis Frame, send this exact reply:

Approved. Create the five-shot storyboard.

ChatGPT should create a short Scene Lock first. That is simply a list of facts that must stay consistent: identity, geography, action, and rendering.

WHAT A GOOD STORYBOARD DOES

It keeps the same character and place while changing useful camera coverage. The five shots should feel like one continuous piece of footage - not five unrelated images.

BEFORE ANIMATION, CHECK

1. Same character and clothing.
2. Same location and major landmarks.
3. Same direction of movement.
4. Correct number and position of props.
5. Same retro-game rendering family.
6. A clear beginning and payoff.

IF A PANEL IS WRONG

Repair only Shot [number]. Fix [problem]. Preserve the character, setting, action direction, and every other approved shot.

05 / TURN THE STORYBOARD INTO VIDEO

When the storyboard is approved, send:

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Approved. Package the animation brief.
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Recommended route: open Seedance 2.x through Dreamina, Higgsfield, or OpenArt. Then use the output from ChatGPT like this:

1	UPLOAD THE STORYBOARD Use the approved storyboard image as the visual reference.
2	PASTE THE BRIEF Paste ChatGPT's animation brief into the platform's prompt box.
3	SET DURATION Choose about 10 seconds when a duration control is available.
4	GENERATE ONCE Review motion, identity, geography, camera, timing, and prop count.
5	REPAIR IN CHATGPT Return to the same Work task or Chat and describe the smallest thing that failed.

THIRD-PARTY TOOLS VARY

Buttons, limits, audio features, and model behavior differ by platform. Generation subscriptions and credits are not included. No prompt can guarantee perfect adherence, but a locked scene makes problems easier to identify and repair. If another model struggles with the full storyboard, animate one panel at a time and combine the clips in an editor.

06 / QUICK TROUBLESHOOTING

ChatGPT did not ask for my idea.

Reply: "Guide me one stage at a time. Start with Stage 1 only."

The result looks modern instead of like an old game.

Reply: "Repair only the rendering. Use period-accurate geometry, textures, lighting, and camera logic. Preserve the subject and composition."

The storyboard changes the character or location.

Reply: "Repair continuity only. Reapply the Scene Lock to every shot."

The video looks like a static slideshow.

Reply: "Repair camera and action only. Add readable tracking, push-ins, pull-outs, or mild orbiting motion while preserving the scene."

I am completely stuck.

Attach the last good image in the same Work task or Chat and say: "Tell me the single next action."

WHAT THE FULL ENGINE ADDS

The paid Lost Game Cinematic Engine adds the installable guided Skill, deeper hardware-aware rendering families, reference-first workflows, portable Scene Locks, Director Mode, model adapters, prompt compression, diagnosis, and scoped Repair Mode.

EXPLORE: nosimaj.com/engine/