Use files that tell AI what to do

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There are two files on most websites that can help or hinder an AI tool's use of your knowledge base: robots.txt and llms.txt. KnowledgeOwl has options for you to customize both of them, and if you're looking to maximize your AI performance or control which AI agents can access your knowledge base, you should customize them.

robots.txt

robots.txt is a plain text file that gives instructions to web crawlers and search engine bots about which pages or folders they can and cannot access. It's long been used to share the location of your sitemap; prevent private, duplicate, or administrative pages from indexed by search engines; and to stop search search engine bots from overloading your server with too many requests.

It also has the power to help you prevent generative AI scrapers or training bots from harvesting your content.

Why you should customize your robots.txt file

If you don't customize your robots.txt file and you have a public knowledge base, all tools and bots can access your content, including to train their models.

How to customize your robots.txt file

Refer to Customize your robots.txt for detailed instructions and sample code blocks to help grant/deny access to specific AI tools.

llms.txt

llms.txt is a plain text Markdown document that acts as a curated guide or cheat sheet for Large Language Models (LLMs) and AI agents. When an AI tool visits your knowledge base, it reads your llms.txt file to get a structured summary of your content rather than having to crawl and interpret everything from scratch.

Use the llms.txt file to feed AI tools key resources.

Why you should customize your llms.txt file

KnowledgeOwl doesn't generate any kind of default llms.txt file, so you need to customize it if you want to have one at all.

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How to customize your llms.txt file

Refer to Create your llms.txt for detailed instructions and sample formats.

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