

Vibe Coding for PMs

Nik Martelaro | July 29, 2026

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Vibe coding



Andrej Karpathy ✓

@karpathy



“There's a new kind of coding I call "**vibe coding**", where you fully give in to the vibes, embrace exponentials, and forget that the code even exists. It's possible because the LLMs (e.g. Cursor Composer w Sonnet) are getting too good. Also I just talk to Composer with SuperWhisper so I barely even touch the keyboard. I ask for the dumbest things like "decrease the padding on the sidebar by half" because I'm too lazy to find it. I "Accept All" always, I don't read the diffs anymore. **When I get error messages I just copy paste them in with no comment, usually that fixes it.** The code grows beyond my usual comprehension, I'd have to really read through it for a while. Sometimes the LLMs can't fix a bug so I just work around it or ask for random changes until it goes away. It's **not too bad for throwaway weekend projects**, but still quite amusing. I'm building a project or webapp, but **it's not really coding** - I just see stuff, say stuff, run stuff, and copy paste stuff, and it mostly works.”

Why Prototype with AI

 Remove the bottleneck of working with a developer

 Think through your user interaction

 Figure out potential tech system architecture

 Get to **testing** faster

*Don't let your dreams
be dreams*



What You Need to Know to Prototype with AI

Design Skills

- Finding needs
- Brainstorming ideas
- Creating requirements
- Sketching a user journey

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- User interface elements
- UI Frameworks
- Database
- API Calls

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AI Tool Use

- Selecting a tool
- Prompting
- Environment setup
- Vibe coding
- Recovering from errors

Context for vibe coding

Some tips



Have a Product Requirements Document



Specify libraries or design systems that you want to use (some work better than others)



Focus first on the interface



Talk about user actions



Copy errors and say, “Can you fix this?”



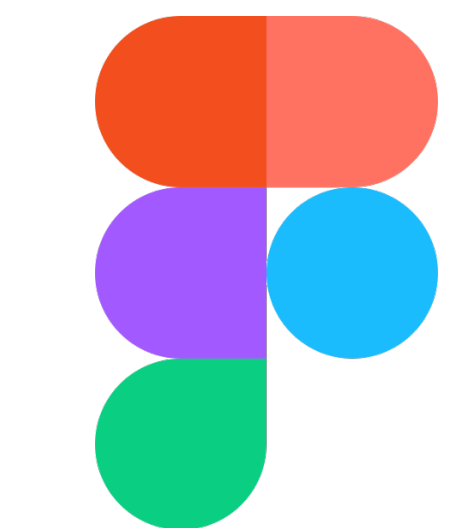
Be open to reverting and trying a different path



Tech Stack

🥞 The Basics of an AI Prototyping Stack

Some examples - there's more out there :)



Figma

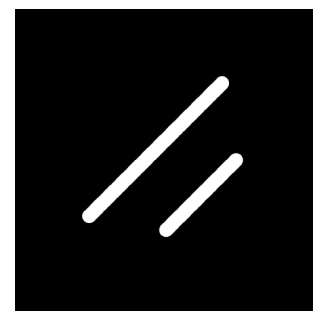


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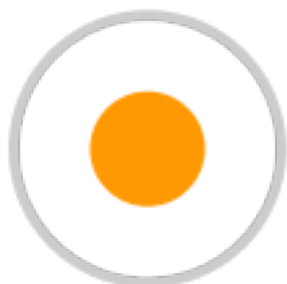


Keynote

UI Design
(Optional)

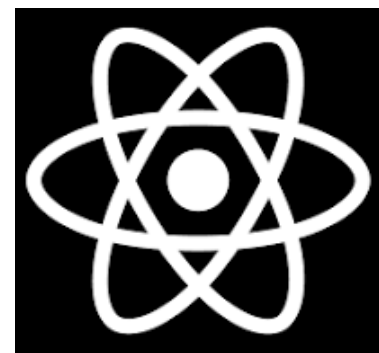


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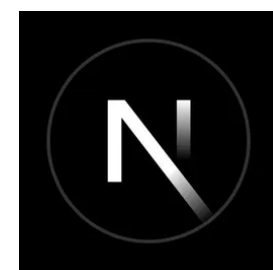


DaisyUI

Design System
(Optional)



React



Next.js



Svelte

Front-End/App
Framework



Firebase



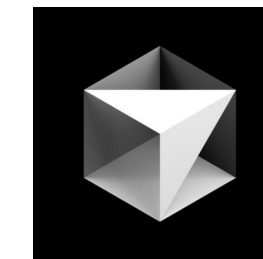
Supabase



Database
(Optional)



GitHub Copilot



Cursor



Figma Make

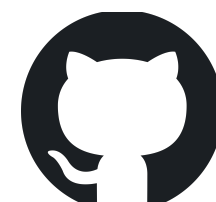
Google AI Studio



Code
Generator



App Hosting



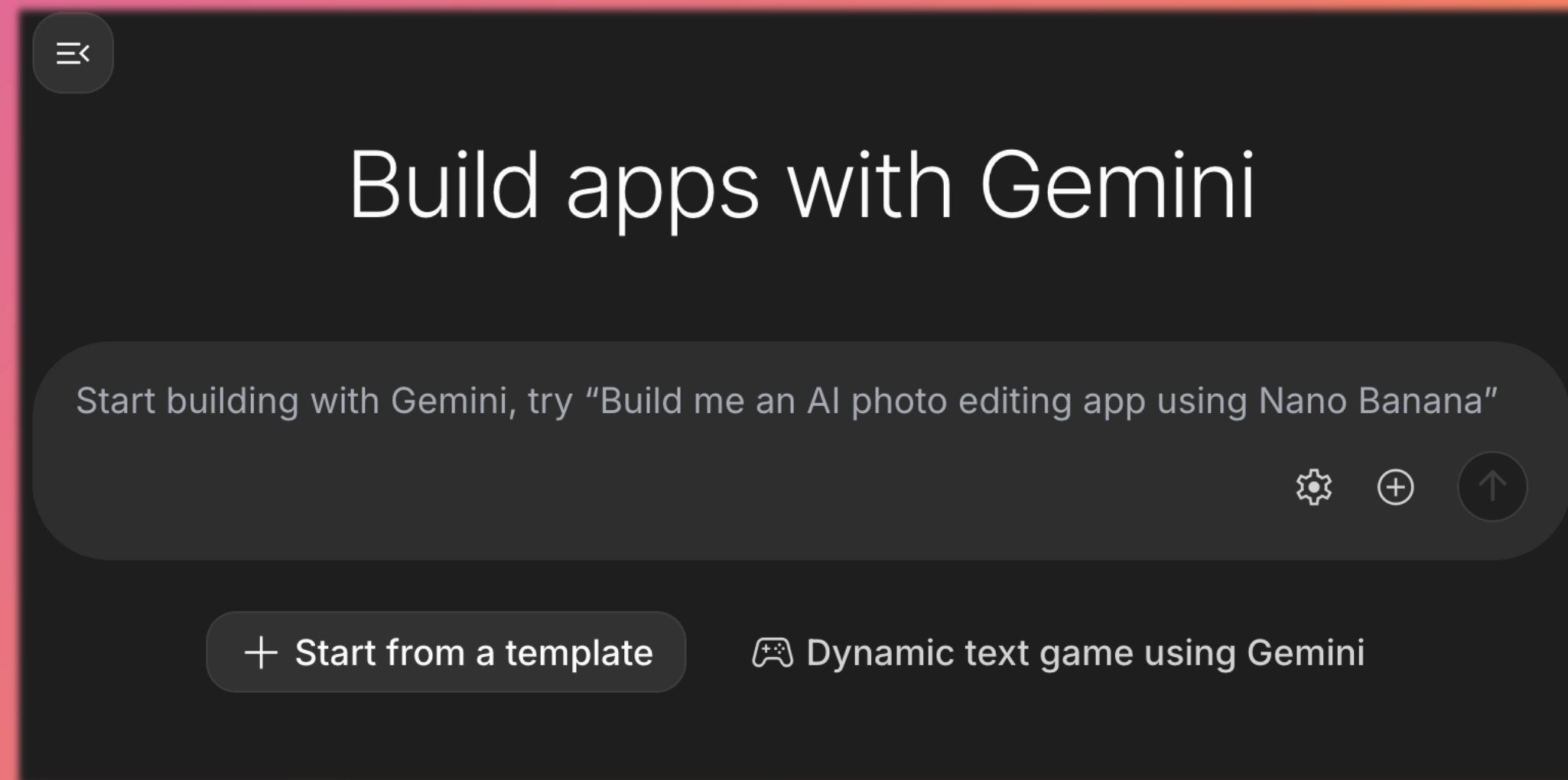
Code Version Control + Hosting (GitHub)



Quick Tools

Two fast (free) vibe coding platforms

Google AI Studio “Build Apps with Gemini”



Figma Make

Prompt it. Then push it
with Figma Make.

What do you want to make?

Onboarding flow Data dashboard Gradient gallery

Make your ideas real with AI. Start with a design and prompt
your way to a functional prototype, fast.



Recreating the masters

Training Design Senses

By David Hoang (Atlassian AI)

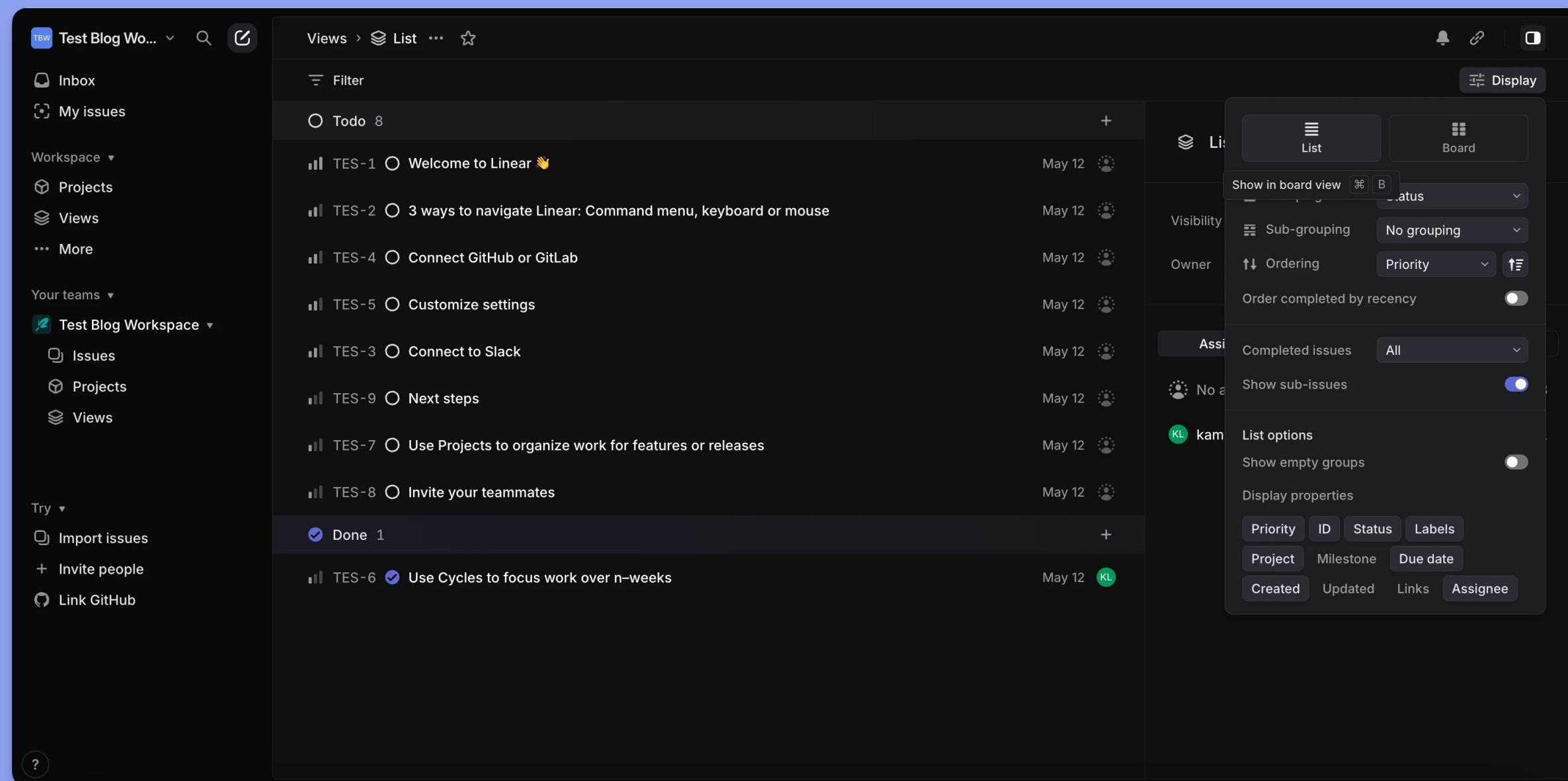
 **Train the Eye**

 **Design Dexterity**

 **Fluency of Aesthetics**

 **Establish Rhetoric**

Recreating the masters



Pick a site that you admire

Don't screenshot it! Put it up next to you

Work iteratively with an AI to recreate it (don't say the product name!)

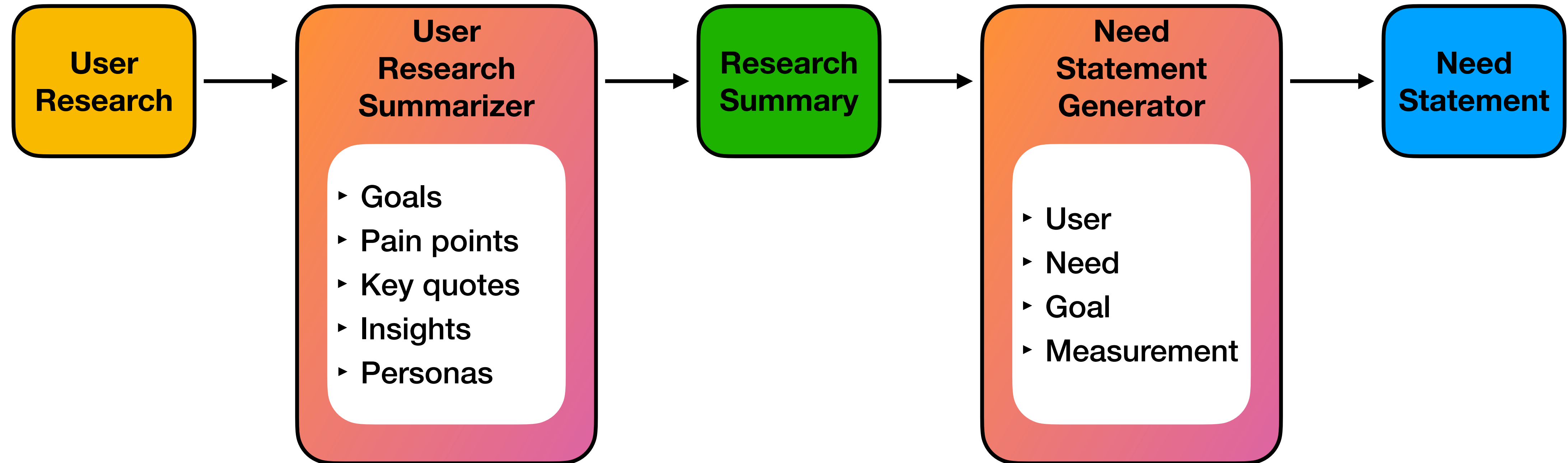
What user flows? What components?



Vibe-flow

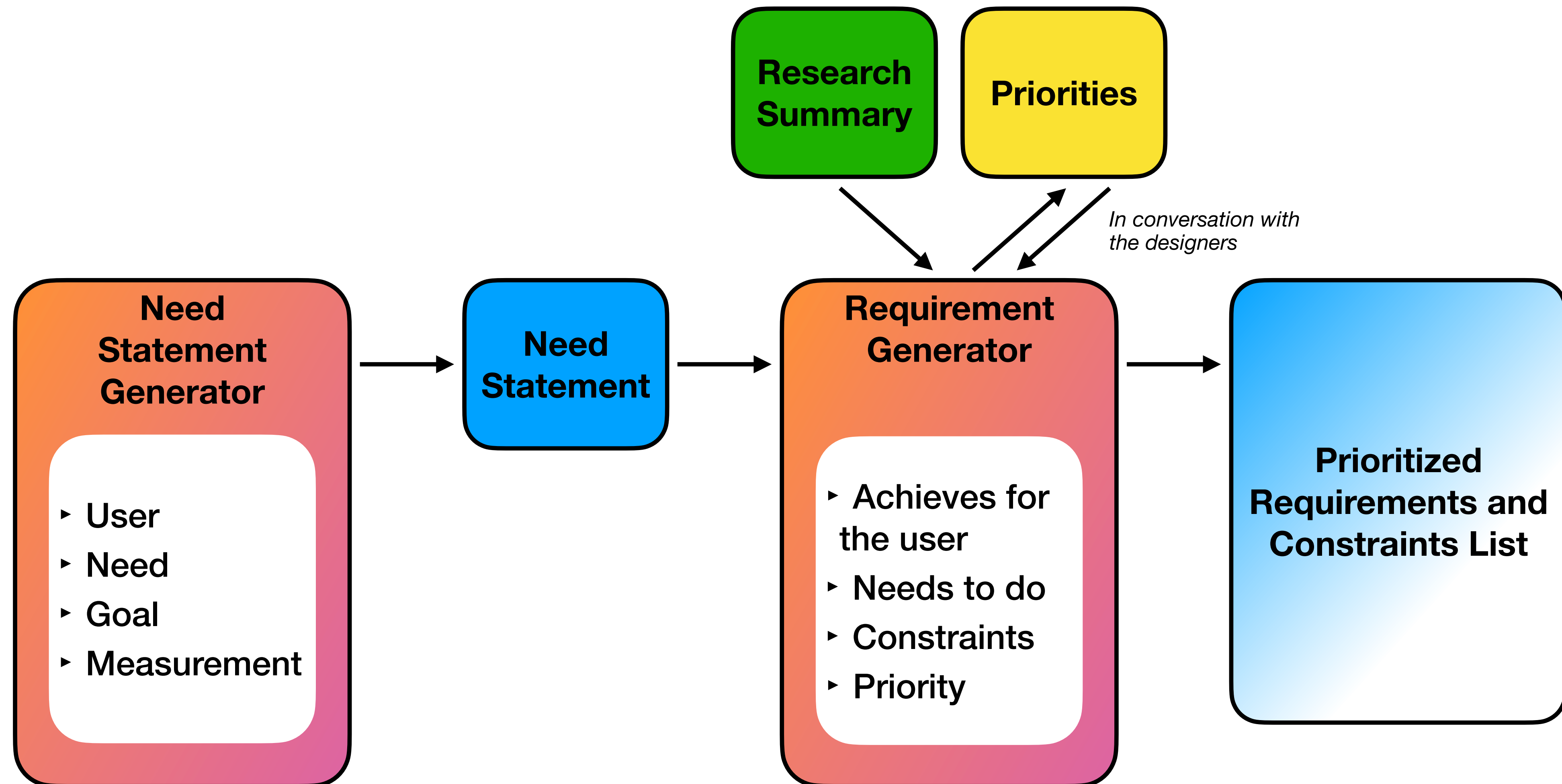
Generating Needs Statements

A proposed pipeline



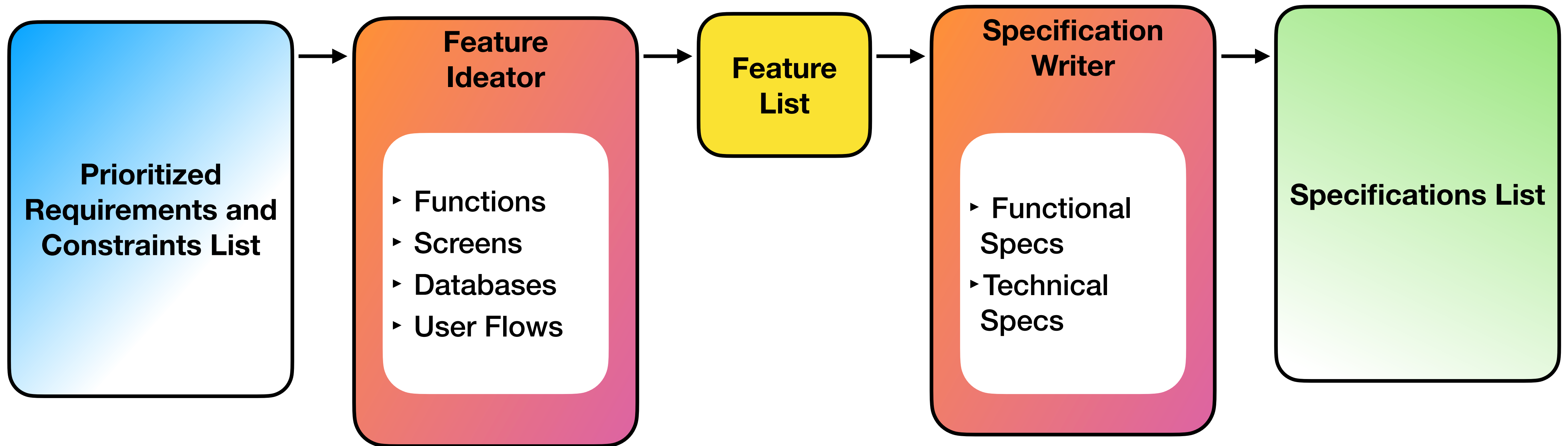
Generating Requirements

A proposed pipeline



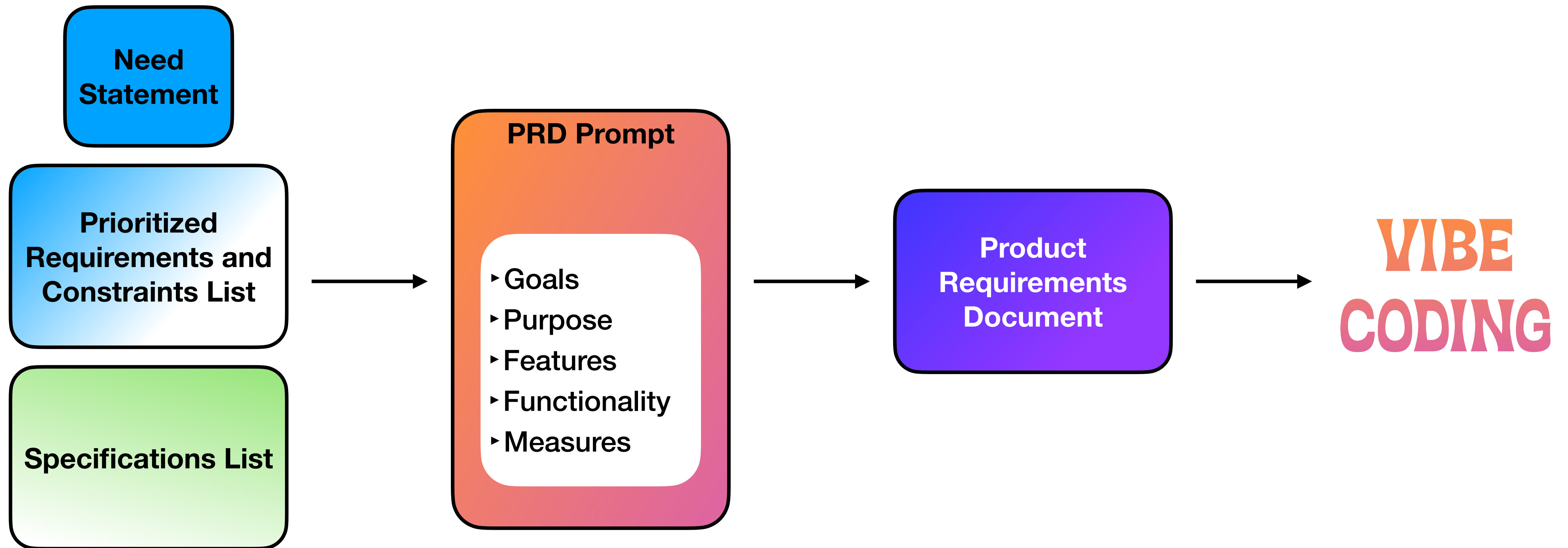
Generating Specifications

A proposed pipeline



Generating PRDs

A proposed pipeline





Metacognition

Metacognition

*“Metacognition is an **awareness of one's thought processes** and an understanding of the patterns behind them...*

*Metacognition can take many forms, such as **reflecting on one's ways of thinking,***

*and **knowing when and how oneself and others use particular strategies for problem-solving.**”*

Metacognitive Regulation

 **Planning:** refers to the appropriate selection of strategies and the correct allocation of resources that affect task performance.

 **Monitoring:** refers to one's awareness of comprehension and task performance.

 **Evaluating:** refers to appraising the final product of a task and the efficiency at which the task was performed. This can include re-evaluating strategies that were used.

Metacognitive Design Support

Have AI ask you metacognitive questions

- What is the most challenging aspect of this design problem?
- What options might solve this problem?
- What process are you using to solve this problem and are there other processes you could use?
- Can you tell me why you are going with this idea?
- Can you walk me through this solution?
- What is working with this design? What is not?

Metacognitive Agents

Have the AI enact metacognitive strategies

- Have the AI ask for feedback on a prototype or plan (could be AI created or human created)
- Have the AI reflect on the feedback and the design context and verbalize these back to you
- Have the AI summarize, reflect on important details and store examples in a memory file
- Have an AI agent enact critique of the AI create content (Actor-Critic model)



Studio Time

Is it good?