

# Cheat sheet for lawyers using ChatGPT in Canada.

**1. Legal jurisdiction:** Remember that ChatGPT's training data primarily covers US law up until September 2021. While it can provide general legal insights, be cautious when applying it to Canadian law. Consult Canadian legal sources to ensure accuracy.

**2. Verify Canadian law:** Always verify legal information specific to Canada independently. Rely on primary legal sources such as statutes, regulations, case law, and legal commentary from reputable Canadian legal authorities.

**3. Provincial variations:** Recognize that Canadian law can vary across provinces and territories. Consider the jurisdictional context when seeking legal information or advice. ChatGPT may not be aware of these regional variations.

**4. Lawyer-client relationship:** Avoid disclosing confidential or privileged information to ChatGPT. As an AI language model, it does not provide a secure or confidential environment. Safeguard client confidentiality and privilege in accordance with professional obligations.

**5. Ethical considerations:** Ensure your use of ChatGPT aligns with the Law Society or Bar Association rules and guidelines in your jurisdiction. Adhere to ethical standards, including those related to client confidentiality, conflicts of interest, and competence.

**6. Legal research assistance:** ChatGPT can assist in legal research by suggesting relevant legal principles or cases. However, critically

evaluate and verify the information obtained, as it may not be comprehensive or up-to-date.

**7. Plain language summaries:** Use ChatGPT to generate plain language summaries of complex legal concepts for clients or colleagues. However, carefully review and simplify the output to ensure accuracy and comprehension.

**8. Drafting support:** ChatGPT can provide suggestions and guidance when drafting legal documents. Nonetheless, carefully review and edit the output to ensure accuracy, completeness, and compliance with Canadian legal requirements.

**9. Professional judgment:** Rely on your legal expertise and professional judgment when interpreting ChatGPT's responses. Consider the unique circumstances and specific facts of each case to arrive at the most appropriate legal conclusions.

**10. Ongoing updates and feedback:** Stay informed about any updates or improvements to ChatGPT's capabilities. Provide feedback to OpenAI regarding inaccuracies or limitations you encounter, as they value user input for enhancing the model.

Remember, ChatGPT is a tool that can aid legal professionals, but it does not replace the expertise and judgment of a qualified lawyer. Always consult with a licensed attorney for specific legal advice tailored to your Canadian jurisdiction and case.