

Why Your Skill Isn't Firing

A troubleshooting guide for skills gone quiet

The Core Idea

Almost every misfire traces back to one of three things: a vague description, a competing skill fighting for the same input, or phrasing that drifted from what worked before.

Diagnose It, In Order

1. Read your description out loud — would a stranger know exactly when to use it?
2. Check whether another skill's description could also match this input.
3. Try the exact phrasing you used the last time it worked.
4. Rewrite the description to name both the input and the output shape.
5. Test again in a brand-new chat, without naming the skill.

THE #1 MISTAKE

If a skill worked once and stopped, the description almost never changed — your phrasing did. Match the shape of the request, not the exact wording.