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Build your first deep agent in minutes

This guide walks you through creating your first deep agent with planning, file system tools, and subagent capabilities. You'll build a research agent that can conduct research and write reports.

Prerequisites

Before you begin, make sure you have an API key from a model provider (e.g., Anthropic, OpenAI).

Step 1: Install dependencies

```
pip uv poetry

pip install deepagents tavily-python
```

Step 2: Set up your API keys

```
export ANTHROPIC_API_KEY="your-api-key"
export TAVILY_API_KEY="your-tavily-api-key"
```

Step 3: Create a search tool

```
import os
from typing import Literal
from tavily import TavilyClient
from deepagents import create_deep_agent

tavily_client = TavilyClient(api_key=os.environ["TAVILY_API_KEY"])

def internet_search(
    query: str,
    max_results: int = 5,
    topic: Literal["general", "news", "finance"] = "general",
    include_raw_content: bool = False,
):
    """Run a web search"""
    return tavily_client.search(
        query,
        max_results=max_results,
        include_raw_content=include_raw_content,
        topic=topic,
    )
```

Step 4: Create a deep agent

```
# System prompt to steer the agent to be an expert researcher
research_instructions = """You are an expert researcher. Your job is to conduct research on a given query. You have access to an internet search tool as your primary means of gathering information.

## `internet_search`

Use this to run an internet search for a given query. You can specify the max_results to return.

agent = create_deep_agent(
    tools=[internet_search],
    system_prompt=research_instructions
)
```

Step 5: Run the agent

```
result = agent.invoke({"messages": [{"role": "user", "content": "What is LangChain?"}])

# Print the agent's response
print(result["messages"][-1].content)
```

What happened?

Your deep agent automatically:

- Planned its approach:** Used the built-in `write_todos` tool to break down the research task
- Conducted research:** Called the `internet_search` tool to gather information
- Managed context:** Used file system tools (`write_file` , `read_file`) to offload large search results
- Spawned subagents** (if needed): Delegated complex subtasks to specialized subagents
- Synthesized a report:** Compiled findings into a coherent response

Next steps

Now that you've built your first deep agent:

- Customize your agent:** Learn about [customization options](#), including custom system prompts, tools, and subagents.
- Understand middleware:** Dive into the [middleware architecture](#) that powers deep agents.
- Add long-term memory:** Enable [persistent memory](#) across conversations.
- Deploy to production:** Learn about [deployment options](#) for LangGraph applications.

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Connect these docs programmatically to Claude, VSCode, and more via MCP for real-time answers.

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