

Vibe Coding

Image I created using Midjourney then edited with Figma

Member-only story

This Just Became the Most Important Tool in Frontend (Here's Why)

The goldmine I've always wanted solved



Alex Dunlop

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6 min read · Oct 1, 2025

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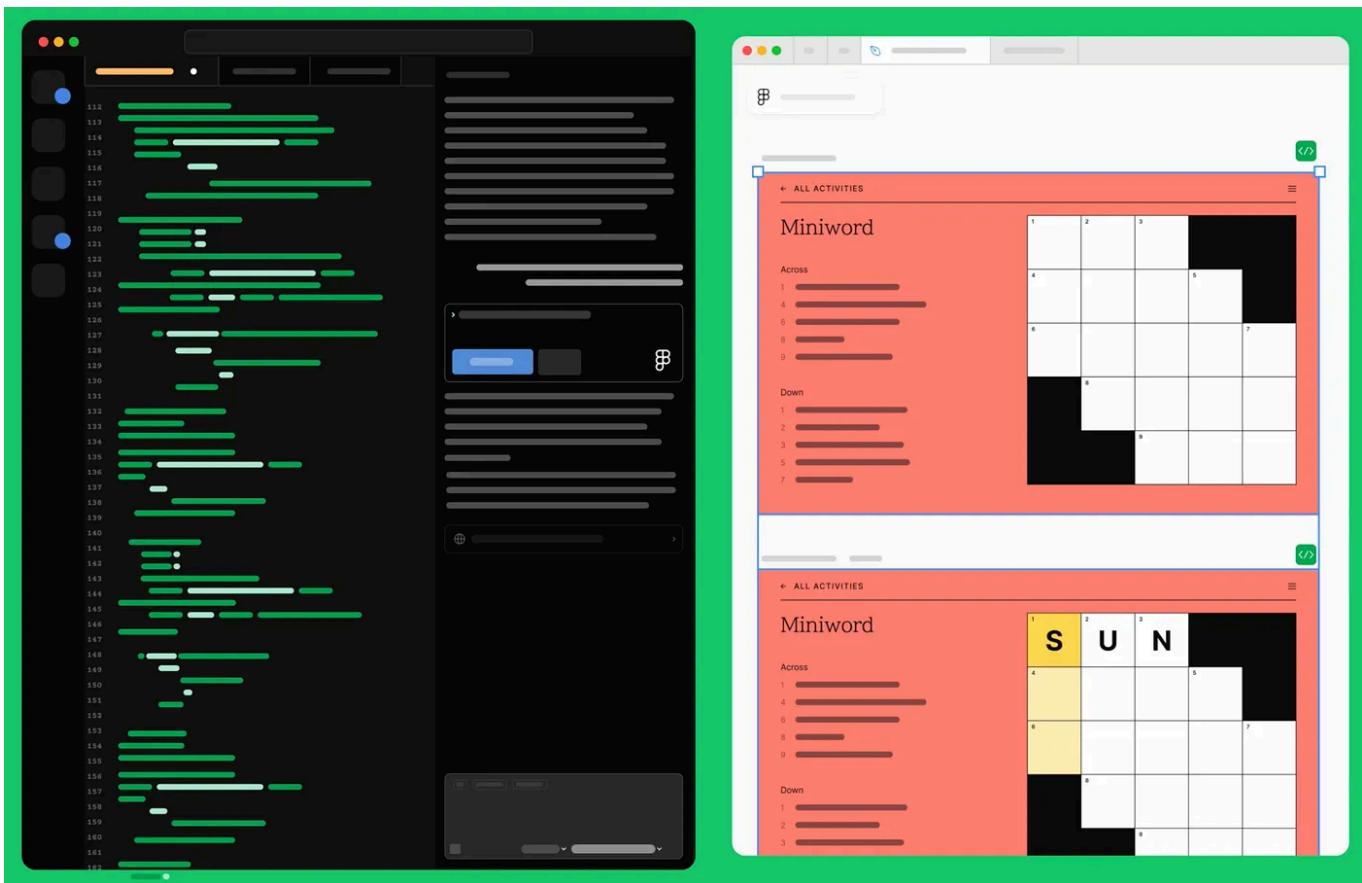
There's been a massive goldmine when it comes to going from Figma to the Frontend.

For years, this goldmine has been sitting there, waiting to be solved. I am always asked about this goldmine, with people hoping I have the answer.

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Just last week I was asked "*Hey Alex, what is the best way to automate Figma to Frontend*", I would give answers but never completely confident in a map to the treasure.

Then I fully gave the Figma MCP a go, and suddenly the goldmine isn't just a myth anymore, we have access to it.



Figma MCP diagram

The Goldmine Everyone Could See (But Nobody Could Reach)

Every frontend developer knows the goldmine and why they want it.

Picture this, a designer gives you a Figma file. You copy it, magically it's production ready code (with all the variants and styles correct) and now you focus on the logic that matters.

Now come back to reality, you spend hours manually translating designs, tweaking padding, and margins, making sure the opacity and colours are correct. Your designer makes changes (and you do it again).

“But Alex” you say, “You can already solve this but follow correct patterns”.

That's great and all but in reality I have never seen those patterns setup, and once again we have a SPA with designs coming straight from Figma.

The thing is the goldmine has been there and people have been hunting. I have tried countless attempts at solving this same issue.

- No code tools.
- Figma alternatives (that plugin to code).
- Even teaching designers code.

The problem is each attempt was a fail at mining.

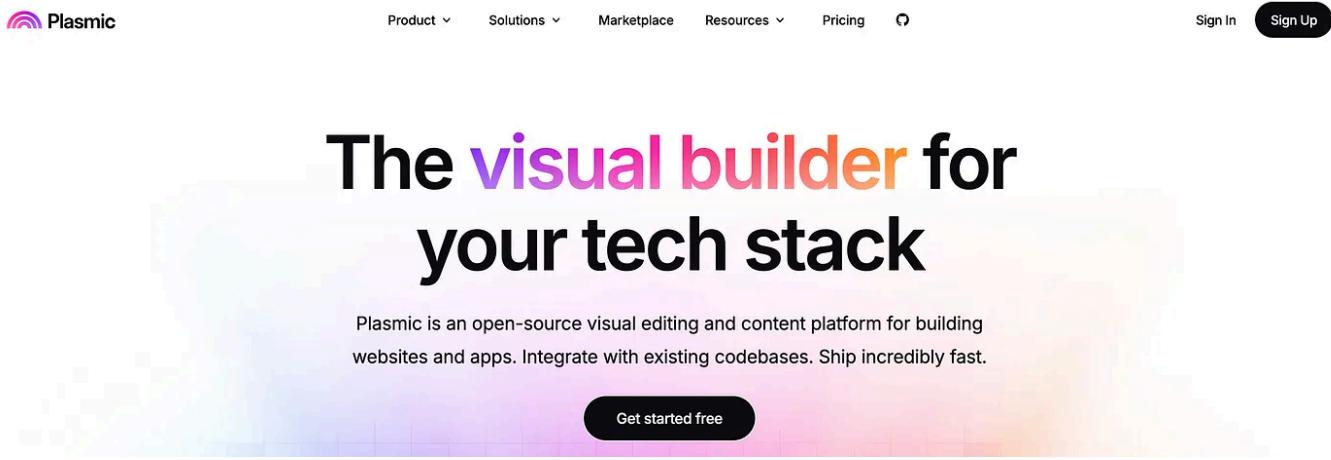
My Journey Through Failed Tools

For literally years, I've been trying to reach the goldmine. I've been sold with fake pickaxes.

Plasmic

I loved this tool, the demos were great, the Figma plugin was awesome.

The issue being that it was slow, there's vendor lock in, it doesn't work like Figma or like Code.



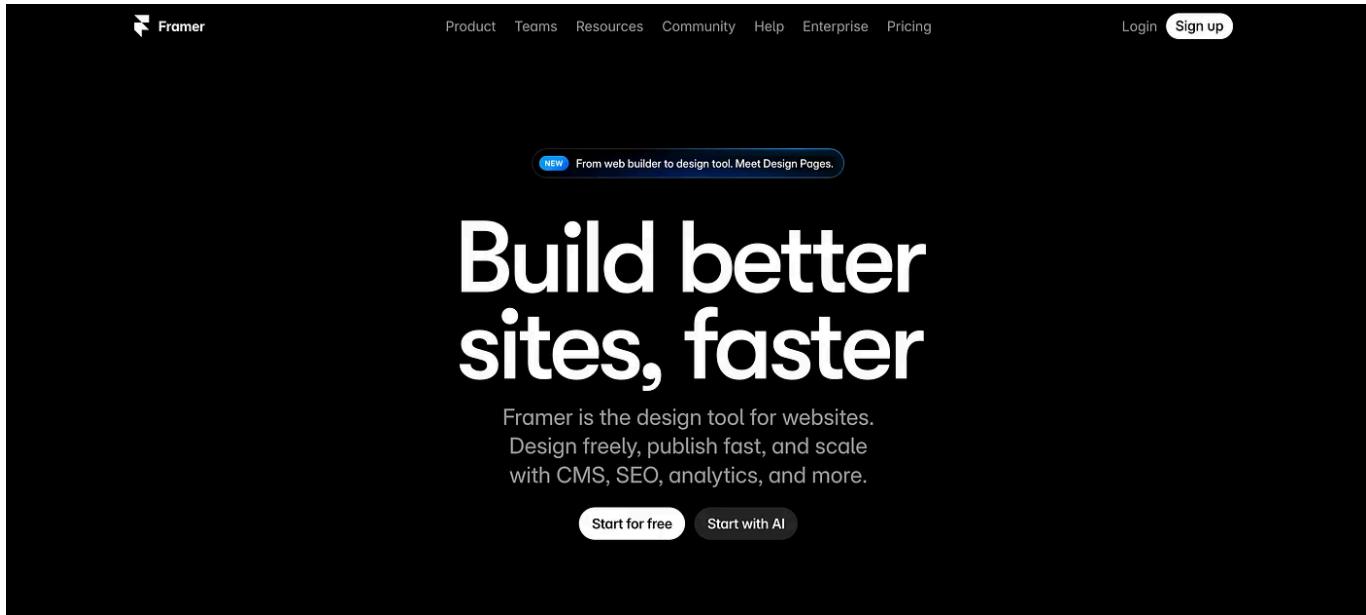
The screenshot shows the Plasmic landing page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Product, Solutions, Marketplace, Resources, Pricing, and a search icon. To the right are Sign In and Sign Up buttons. The main headline reads "The visual builder for your tech stack" in large, bold, black and orange text. Below the headline, a subtext states: "Plasmic is an open-source visual editing and content platform for building websites and apps. Integrate with existing codebases. Ship incredibly fast." At the bottom, there is a "Get started free" button.

Plasmic landing page

Framer

Amazing looking product, the design to code looked like what I was looking for.

I found it good for simple websites, but for building actual complex applications it fell over.

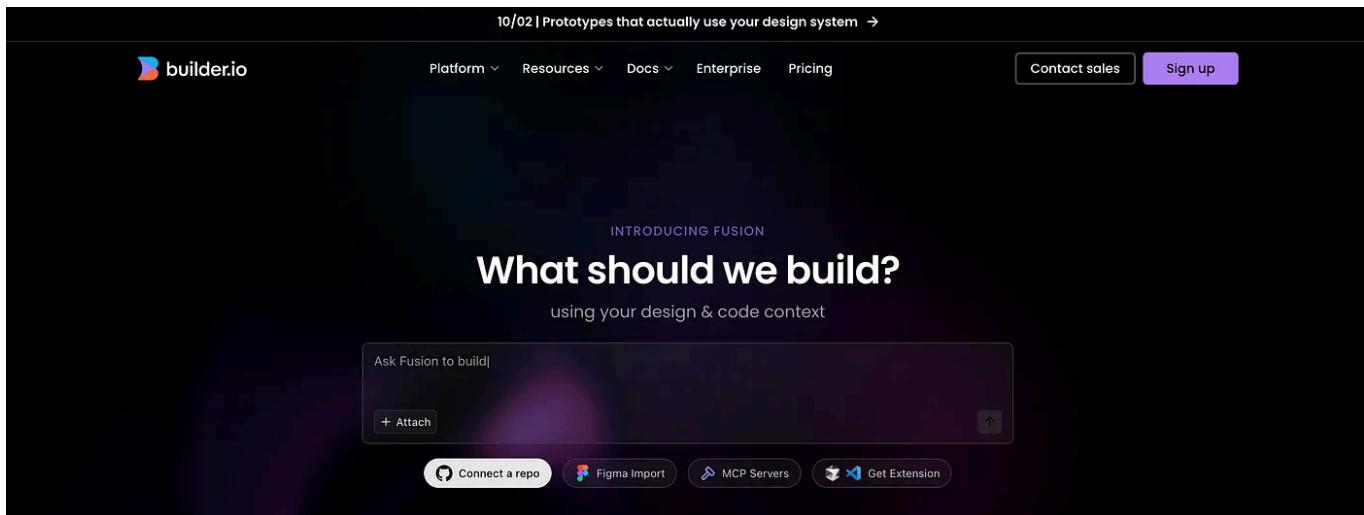


Framer landing page

Builder.io

This one got my hopes up. The integration you see all over YouTube. We even tried this at work.

The code that it generated was just bad, it didn't match any patterns, or even use components correctly. We dropped it at work.



Builder.io landing page

The Pattern I Wanted

After years of failing, I started to understand what would cause failure to begin with.

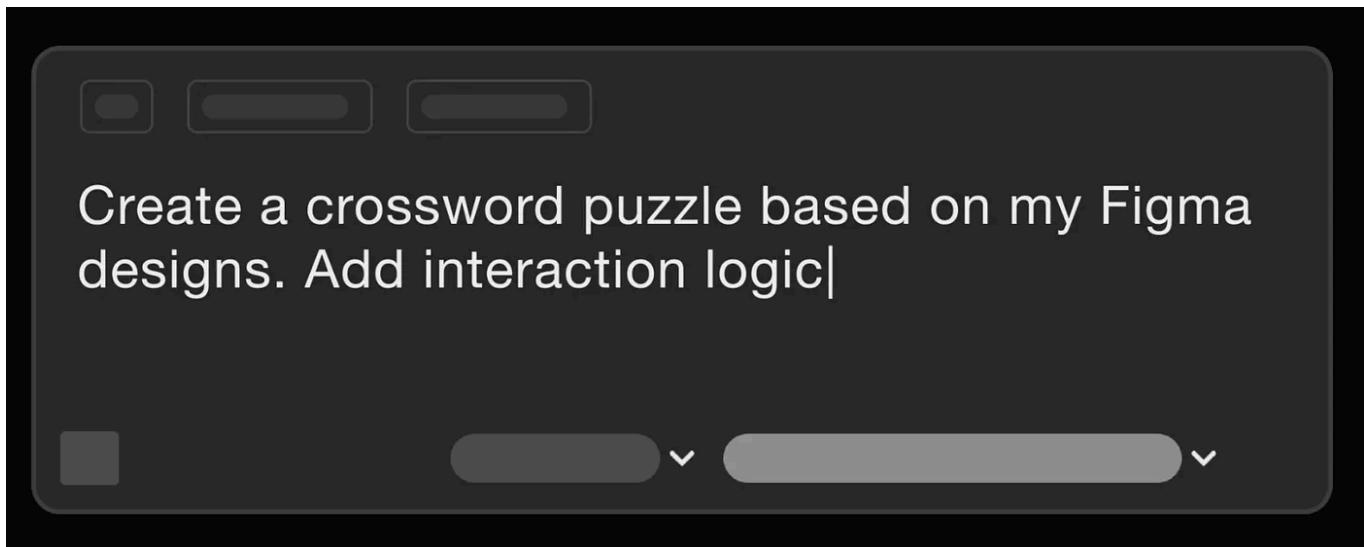
Every tool tried to be a rigid solution, the problem something like this can't be rigid.

Every tool wants:

- Control over your designs.
- Control your code.
- Manage your components (vendor lock in).
- Choose your workflows.

The way they promised the goldmine, was by locking you in.

The goldmine isn't creating another platform, it's working with the tools we already use.



Figma MCP prompt example

Then I Finally Found Figma MCP

Figma MCP is the biggest thing to happen to frontend development since the creation of single page web apps.

For everyone saying it should be server-side rendering, well that isn't something new. We had that with PHP.

What's actually new is this, **Figma MCP doesn't try to mine the goldmine alone**. It instead unlocks it for you.

Instead of being another platform trying to do too much, it's a road. It connects Figma directly to the AI coding tools we're already using, Cursor, Claude Code, VS Code.

That's the goldmine we were looking for.

What Actually Works

I made a quick video showing how I use the Figma MCP and how you can use it too.

Here's that process:

- Open Figma, select a design (I used Figma AI to generate a task app).
- Copy the link to the selection.
- In Cursor, paste with: “*build this link*”.
- Cursor requests to use the Figma MCP.
- It generates Next.js + Tailwind code that actually follows my setup.
- The result is responsive and production-ready.

It works so fast and simple that I was able to show it in a 2 minute video.

Why This Works When Everything Else Failed

Figma MCP gives AI what they have been needing and missing.

- Your components from your design system.
- Your design tokens.
- Layout structure understood by Figma themselves.

Every MCP I tried to guess the context from screenshots or did a poor job understand Figma.

Figma MCP just works well.

The Treasure Map Is Simple

After so long of hard setups that don't work, Figma MCP takes 5–10 minutes.

1. Enable the MCP in Figma.
2. Connect to your editor.
3. Start using it (copy a link and paste in prompt).

Bam just like that you're done.

What Nobody Wants To Admit

Here's my hot take that not all developers agree on.

I get nervous about AI automating frontend work, but there are parts I absolutely want automated.

No offense to designers, but when we build something and then you redesign it, not once, twice, but three times it sucks.

The truth is the fun isn't in:

- Slightly changing colors.
- Slightly changing paddings or margins.
- Slightly changing widths.

The fun is in solving actual interesting problems.

The goldmine was never about replacing frontend developers. It's about automating the boring stuff so we can focus on problems that actually need engineering.

Try It This Weekend

If you have 30 minutes:

- Enable Figma MCP in your desktop app.
- Connect it to Cursor or Claude Code.
- Take one design from your backlog and build it.

If you have 2 hours:

- Set up Code Connect for your design system.
- Add code syntax for your design tokens.

I'm planning a follow up video with advanced Figma MCP tricks. [Subscribe](#) for that.

At The End Of The Day

I've spent years looking for something like this, and it's finally here.

The answer is Figma MCP.

It's not just powerful, it also doesn't try to control everything.

It was never about making another platform for us, but building on top of our existing built tools.

Have you tried Figma MCP? What are your thoughts?

If you read the post and enjoyed it, please leave a clap, it means a lot to me.

Follow for more posts like this!

I'm not affiliated with Figma, Cursor, or Anthropic. All opinions and experiences shared are my own.

Resources:

- [My YouTube Video.](#)
- [Figma MCP Docs.](#)
- [Advanced Figma MCP Tricks \(coming soon\).](#)

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Vibe Coders is where we share ideas that help shape the future.



Written by Alex Dunlop

1.94K followers · 5 following

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I help engineers build with AI. Working at a leading AI company (Popp AI) and Co-Founder of a Olympic AI company (Cub). Passionate about helping developers.

Responses (5)



Bgerby

What are your thoughts?



Mihai Costea

5 days ago

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This tool is a miracle indeed. By the way, you don't need to paste the link of the selection, in Visual Code I sonly ask "Check the selected figma design and implement it" and Figma MCP automatically knows what I have selected.

Good article!



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[Reply](#)



RemoSan
3 hours ago

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Looks like a very useful workflow, thanks for sharing! Another tool to try out is “Subframe”, it is very similar to Figma with some clever conceptual evolutions.



[Reply](#)



Syed Munawar Hussain Bukhari
6 hours ago

...

Great post! Hope you'll check out mine too



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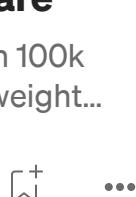
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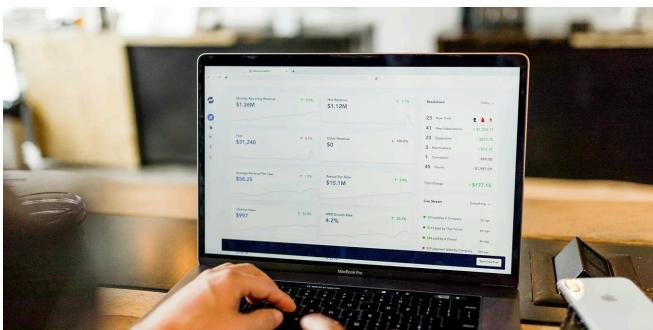


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Context Usage

claude-opus-4-1-20250805 • 240k/200k

- System prompt: 3.3k tokens (1.6%)
- System tools: 11.6k tokens (5.8%)
- MCP tools: 167.8k tokens (83.9%)
- Custom agents: 64 tokens (0.0%)
- Memory files: 6.7k tokens (3.3%)
- Messages: 50.6k tokens (25.3%)

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Sevak Avakians

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