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# Libra AI — An Open-Source Alternative to V0 and Lovable

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I've been jumping between AI coding tools lately.

First, it was **V0 by Vercel**, then **Lovable**, then a couple of random GitHub projects promising "AI-powered app generation."

They all sound exciting in theory:
*"Just describe your idea, and we'll build your app for you."*
Except, most of the time, they either:

1. Give you a broken mess of code.

2. Lock you into their platform forever.

3. Or worse… both.

So when someone mentioned **Libra AI** to me, my first thought was, *"Here we go again…"* But I still tried it.

And honestly? I'm glad I did.

## First Impressions

Libra is different from the others because it's **open-source** and **self-hostable.** It's built **natively for Cloudflare Workers,** so the deployment story is smooth.

But what really caught my attention was this:

- You describe what you want.

- Libra **generates the code.**

- It hooks up **authentication**, **payments**, and **database migrations.**

- Then it **deploys everything** to the edge.

And here's the kicker — **you own the code.** No black box. No "trust us, we'll host it for you." Everything stays with you.

## Why It Feels Refreshing

I've used **V0** and **Lovable.** They're good, but there's always a trade-off: you get speed, but you lose control. Libra doesn't make you choose.

A few things I liked right away:

- It supports **multiple AI models** — Claude, OpenAI, Gemini, DeepSeek.

- The code it writes is **clean and readable.** You don't feel like you're debugging a robot's output.

- It has its **own IDE,** so no setup headaches.

- Built-in **GitHub sync.** Push, pull, deploy. Done.

It feels like having a **junior developer** who actually knows what they're doing. And unlike real junior devs, it doesn't complain when you rewrite half the code.

## Putting It to the Test

I wanted to see how far I could push it, so I gave Libra a simple prompt:

> "Make me a dashboard with login, two charts, and Stripe subscriptions."

In about a minute, I had a working app:

- **Next.js 15** frontend

- **React 19** components

- Authentication routes set up

- Stripe integrated

- Database migrations ready

I was expecting to fix a bunch of stuff manually. To my surprise, it just… worked. The first time. That's rare.

## The Project Structure

Libra uses a **Turborepo** monorepo setup, which keeps things neat without being rigid. Here's a simplified look:

```
libra/
├── apps/        # Web, auth, deployment, docs, CDN
├── packages/    # API, database, authentication, UI components
├── tooling/     # Configs and TypeScript settings
└── scripts/     # GitHub environment management
```

What I liked is that you can **swap things out easily**. Don't want Stripe? Replace it. Want a different database? Go ahead. It doesn't fight you.

## Getting Started

Here's how I got Libra running locally. It wasn't complicated:

## Step 1 — Clone the Repo

```
git clone https://github.com/nextify-limited/libra.git
cd libra
bun install
```

*(Yes, it uses **Bun** instead of npm. Faster and smoother.)*

## Step 2 — Configure Environment Variables

```
cp .env.example .env
```

Edit `.env` with your database info, Stripe keys, and Cloudflare settings.

## Step 3 — Initialize Databases

For the main **PostgreSQL database:**

```
cd packages/db
bun db:generate
bun db:migrate
```

For authentication (D1 / SQLite):

```
cd apps/web
bun wrangler d1 execute libra --local --command='SELECT 1'
cd packages/auth
bun db:generate
bun db:migrate
```

## Step 4 — Start the App

```
bun dev
```

Or just the main app:

```
cd apps/web && bun dev
```

Once it starts, open http://localhost:3000 and play around.

## Deployment Was Surprisingly Easy

This part impressed me. Libra was **built for Cloudflare Workers**, so deployment wasn't an afterthought.

The GitHub workflows are already there. You push to the main branch, and it handles:

- Web app

- CDN

- Auth services

- Docs

- Screenshots

Your app goes live **on the edge** — automatically. No extra setup, no weird configs.

## Who Libra Is For

I think Libra makes sense if:

- You're a **solo dev** building prototypes and side projects.

- You're a **startup** that wants to save weeks on boilerplate.

- You like AI-powered development but **don't want vendor lock-in**.

- You want **complete control** of your infrastructure and code.

If you want a drag-and-drop toy, this isn't it. But if you wish to **speed without giving up control**, Libra hits the sweet spot.

I didn't expect much at first, but Libra surprised me. It's not perfect — sometimes you'll encounter rough edges — but considering it's **this flexible and open-source,**

it's already ahead of most competitors.

I love how it combines **AI speed** with **developer freedom.** You get the best of both worlds: faster builds without sacrificing control.

Lovable     AI     Ai Agent     Ai Tools     Generative Ai Tools

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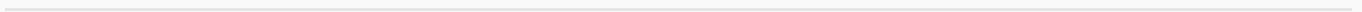
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