



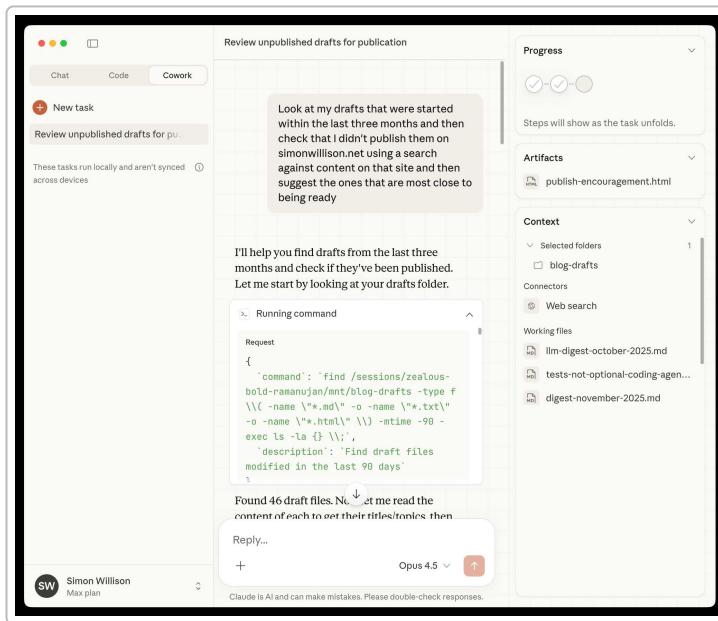
Claude UI examples and theming

Designers aiming to build interfaces that switch between design systems will want to understand how leading agents such as **Anthropic's Claude** present themselves. I reviewed public blog posts and OSS resources describing Claude's interfaces and brand palette. The images below were taken from reports of Claude's interfaces (Cowork, browser and code) and an open-source theme inspired by Claude's design system. Colour codes and typography recommendations come from the [vscode-claude-theme repository](#).

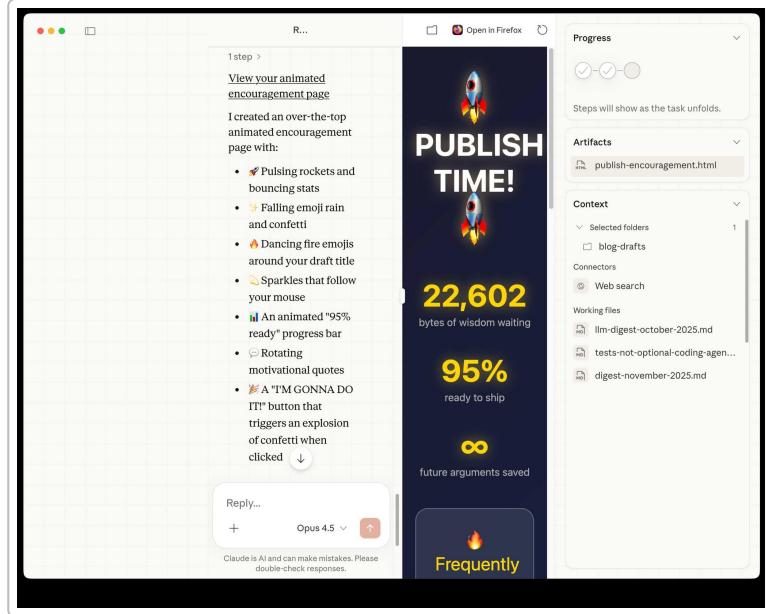
Examples of Claude's interfaces

Claude Cowork (desktop app) – light theme

The **Cowork** tab in the Claude desktop app resembles the existing Chat/Code tabs. A left sidebar lists open tasks and tabs for **Chat**, **Code** and **Cowork**. The main panel shows the current task with a grid-pattern background and a warm off-white colour. A right sidebar displays progress (with circular step indicators), **Artifacts** (files produced by the agent), **Context** (folders, connectors and working files) and a model selector. The reply input at the bottom uses rounded rectangles and a soft pink send button. Everything uses plenty of white space and gentle colour accents 1. The screenshot below shows this layout.



Another example shows how Cowork displays artifacts. An over-the-top animated encouragement page created by Claude appears in the centre while the task context and progress remain in the right sidebar 2. The palette stays warm and light.



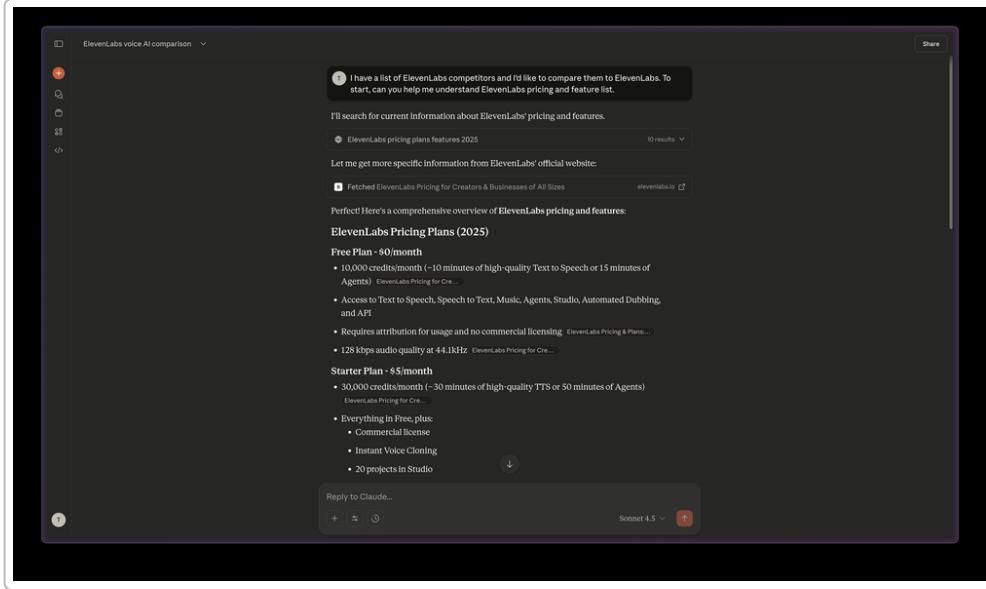
Claude Code (terminal interface)

Claude Code runs in the command-line and uses a retro, serif-styled interface. The header indicates the version and uses rounded corners with a salmon border. A welcome message and tips occupy a split panel; below it is a command prompt with a ">" prompt and suggestions. The entire interface uses a dark brown/black background with soft red/pink highlights ³. A screenshot from a blog post is shown below.



Claude in the browser – dark theme

Claude's web chat interface uses a dark theme (there is also a light theme according to user settings). Projects are listed in a left navigation pane. The chat area shows a conversation with messages in grey bubbles and tasks such as web searches or file uploads represented as card-like elements. Toolbars at the top enable switching between chat and search results, and at the bottom there is a reply box with icons for uploading files and switching models. The example below shows Claude summarising ElevenLabs' pricing and features ⁴.



Brand palette and typography

An open-source Visual Studio Code theme inspired by Claude's design system describes the colour palette and typography recommendations. These values likely approximate Anthropic's internal guidelines:

Theme	Colour	Role	Description
Primary accent	#C15F3C	Claude orange	Warm orange accent used for highlights, buttons and progress indicators 5 .
	#A14A2F	Darker orange	Used for emphasis or hover states 5 .
Light theme background	#FAF9F5	Background	Warm off-white used throughout Cowork/Chat UI 6 .
	#F5F4ED	Sidebar	Light warm grey for side panels 6 .
	#2C2C2C	Text	Dark charcoal for text on light backgrounds 6 .
Dark theme background	#1A1815	Background	Warm dark brown used in the browser chat interface 7 .
	#201D18	Sidebar	Medium dark brown 7 .
	#E8E6E3	Text	Light warm grey for text on dark backgrounds 7 .
Selection colour	#C15F3C30	Selection overlay	Transparent orange for text selection and interactive states 8 .

The theme recommends serif typefaces rather than modern sans-serifs to achieve a distinctive, editorial feel reminiscent of Claude's own UI:

- **Default font family:** ui-serif, Georgia, Cambria, 'Times New Roman', Times, serif
⑨ . Serif fonts give Claude's interfaces a warm, professional tone.
- **Font size:** 14 px with 1.6 line height for comfortable reading ⑩ .
- Premium font suggestions include *Tiempos Text, Styrene, Charter* and *Source Serif Pro* ⑪ .

Design takeaways

1. **Warm, friendly aesthetic:** Claude's interfaces avoid stark whites and blacks. Light themes use off-white backgrounds with beige sidebars; dark themes use deep browns instead of pure black. This creates a calm environment that feels less mechanical.
2. **Serif typography:** The UI favours serif fonts over common sans-serifs, contributing to a distinctive, editorial aesthetic. Use serif fonts with moderate sizes and generous line spacing.
3. **Strong accent colour:** A warm orange (around #C15F3C) appears in icons, buttons and progress indicators. Ensure sufficient contrast between the accent and backgrounds.
4. **Clear layout with sidebars:** Claude consistently uses sidebars to separate navigation (project/task lists) from the main content. A right sidebar provides context, progress and artifacts. This pattern can inform responsive layouts that support multiple tasks.
5. **Light vs dark modes:** Provide both light and dark themes. The dark mode uses deep browns with light grey text rather than high-contrast black/white. Maintain the same orange accent across both modes.
6. **Whitespace and grids:** Claude's design uses generous padding and grid backgrounds (visible in Cowork) to organise information. Avoid overcrowding; use distinct sections separated by subtle lines or backgrounds.

Suggestion for your UI

To create a UI that can switch between different design standards:

- Define CSS variables for the **primary accent colour, background, text, and sidebar** colours. Provide separate sets for light and dark themes based on the palette above.
- Use a serif font stack similar to Claude's; provide fallbacks to system serif fonts. Ensure the UI gracefully falls back when premium fonts are unavailable.
- Structure the layout with a left navigation pane and an optional right pane for context or settings. This matches Claude's pattern and allows flexible resizing.
- Include mode toggling controls in your settings to switch between light and dark themes while retaining the same accent colour.
- When designing interactive states (hover, focus), use transparent overlays of the accent colour (#C15F3C30) for subtle feedback.

By adopting these principles and colours, your UI can emulate the calm, professional aesthetic seen in Claude while remaining adaptable to other design standards.

1 2 First impressions of Claude Cowork, Anthropic's general agent

<https://simonwillison.net/2026/Jan/12/clause-cowork/>

3 4 Claude Code: What It Is, How It's Different, and Why Non-Technical People Should Use It

<https://www.producttalk.org/clause-code-what-it-is-and-how-its-different/>

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 GitHub - jnahian/vscode-claude-theme: A warm, professional VS Code theme

inspired by Claude's design system

<https://github.com/jnahian/vscode-claude-theme>