

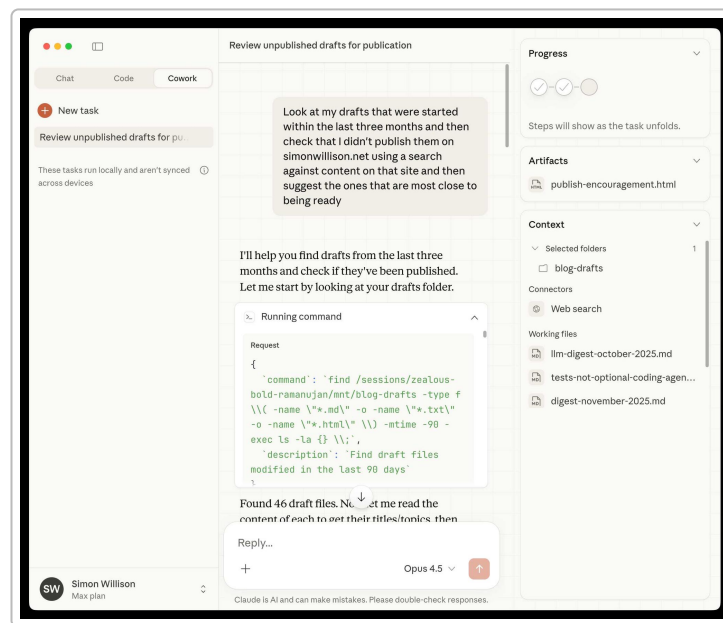
Claude UI examples and theming

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](#).

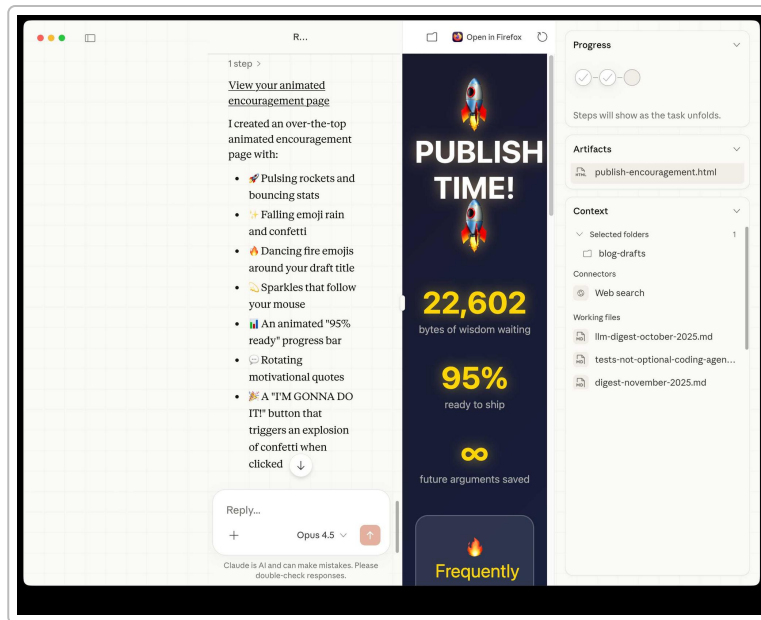
Examples of Claude's interfaces

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.

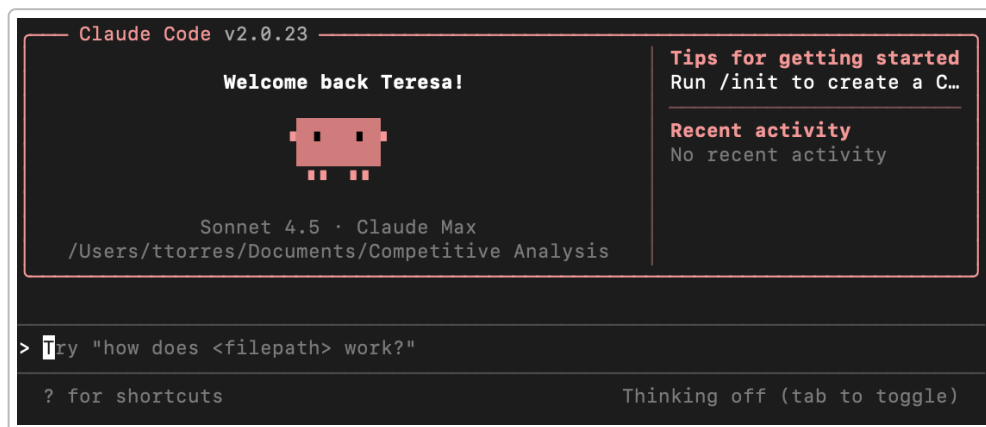


Another example shows how Cowork displays artifacts. An over-the-top animated encouragement page created by Claude appears in the centre while the task context and progress remain in the right sidebar ². The palette stays warm and light.



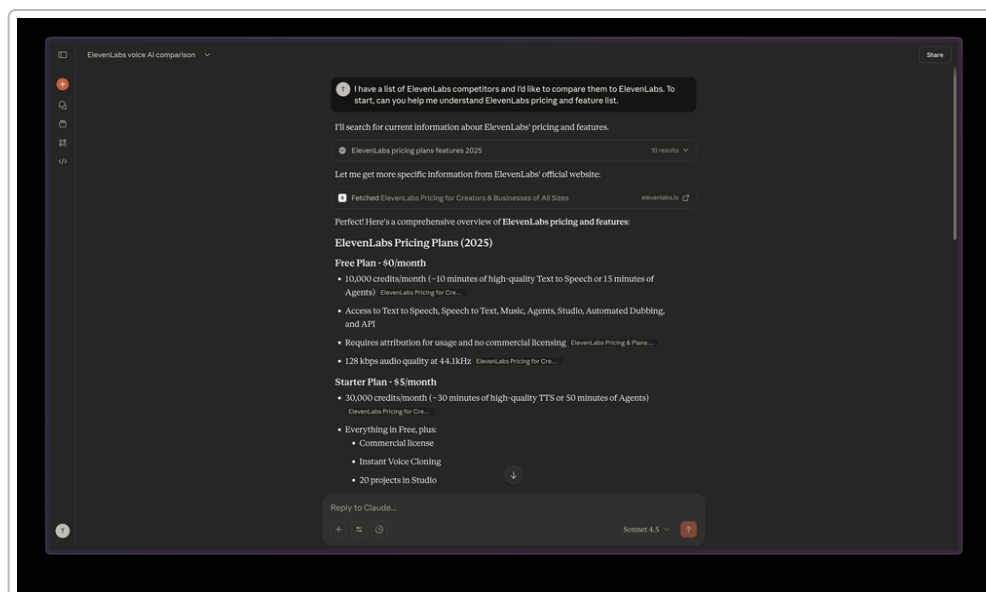
Claude Code (terminal interface)

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 reading¹⁰.
- 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/claude-cowork/>

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

<https://www.producttalk.org/claude-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>