Getting Started with Claude Code

A Step-by-Step Guide

Getting Started with Claude Code

Your AI coding assistant in the terminal

> Important Notice
>
> The company has not yet released an AI policy permitting
> the use of Claude Code for work purposes.
>
> Please use personal time and resources only
> for any experimentation with this tool.

What you'll learn:

1. Subscribe to Claude Pro or Max
2. Install Claude Code
3. Authenticate and start coding!

Time needed: ~10 minutes

What is Claude Code?

Think of it as having an expert programmer sitting next to you

Claude Code can:

- Write code for you
- Fix bugs in your projects
- Explain how code works
- Set up entire applications

You don't need to be a programmer to use it!

Just describe what you want in plain English.

Step 1: Get a Claude Subscription

▓▓▓ You need Claude Pro or Claude Max

Go to: https://claude.ai

Click "Sign Up" or "Log In"

Choose your plan:

Plan	Price	Best for
Pro	$20/month	Individual use
Max	$100/month	Heavy usage

▌ Both plans include Claude Code access!

Step 2a: Install on Mac

▓▓ Option 1: Using Homebrew (recommended)

Open Terminal app and paste:

```
brew install claude-code
```

▓▓ Option 2: Using npm

If you have Node.js installed:

```
npm install -g @anthropic-ai/claude-code
```

Don't have Terminal? Press `Cmd + Space`, type "Terminal", press Enter

Step 2b: Install on Windows

▓▓ First: Install Node.js

   1. Go to https://nodejs.org
   2. Download the LTS version
   3. Run the installer, click Next through all steps

▓▓ Then: Install Claude Code

Open Command Prompt or PowerShell and type:

```
npm install -g @anthropic-ai/claude-code
```

How to open Command Prompt: Press Windows + R, type cmd, press
Enter

Step 3: Get Your Authentication Token

▨ Log in to Claude.ai

    1. Open your browser
    2. Go to https://claude.ai
    3. Sign in with your Pro/Max account

▨ Find your token

    1. Click your profile icon (bottom left)
    2. Click "Settings"
    3. Go to "Claude Code" section
    4. Click "Copy Token"

> Keep this token secret - it's like a password!

Step 4: Start Claude Code

▓▓ Open your terminal

Mac: Terminal app Windows: Command Prompt or PowerShell

▓▓ Type the command

```
claude
```

▓▓ First time? You'll see:

```
Welcome to Claude Code!

Please enter your authentication token:
█
```
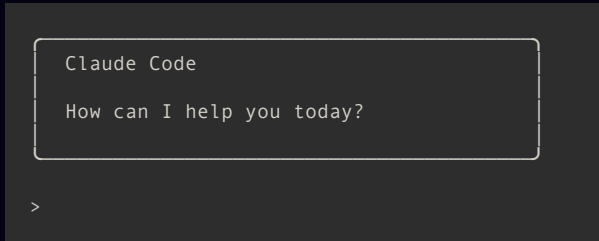
Paste your token (Cmd+V or Ctrl+V) and press Enter

You're Ready!

▓ What you'll see

```
Claude Code

How can I help you today?
```

>

▓ Try saying:

| "Create a simple webpage that says Hello World"

Claude will write the code and save it for you!

Helpful Tips

▓▓▓ Basic commands to remember

What to type	What it does
claude	Start Claude Code
/help	Show help menu
/clear	Start fresh
exit	Quit Claude Code

▓▓▓ Talk to it naturally

- "Fix the error in my code"
- "Explain what this file does"
- "Add a button to my webpage"

Claude understands plain English!

Need Help?

▓ Common issues

"Command not found" → Restart your terminal and try again

"Invalid token" → Get a fresh token from claude.ai

"npm not found" (Windows) → Reinstall Node.js and restart your computer

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▓ Resources

- Documentation: https://docs.anthropic.com
- Claude.ai: https://claude.ai

Questions? Ask your friendly neighborhood developer!