

# AWO Adoption Guide

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This guide shows how to adopt **Aurora Workflow Orchestration (AWO)** in real projects — from a solo, manual workflow to a team setup with CI. It assumes familiarity with Git and basic command-line usage.

AWO is a reproducibility protocol (method), not a software library. You can adopt it **manually** first, then automate enforcement later.

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## 1. Scope and Outcomes

By the end of this guide you will: - Initialize a project using AWO's file structure. - Produce a **signed, reproducible run** with an auditable record under `/runs/`. - Log decisions and assumptions using ADRs and falsifiability manifests. - Validate the run against the **AWO Method Spec v1.2.1**. - Know how to upgrade from manual orchestration to CI, and later to CRI-CORE.

## 2. Prerequisites

- Git, Python 3.10+.
- A Git hosting provider (e.g., GitHub).
- Optional: Pandoc for local PDF builds (otherwise use the repo's CI workflows).

## 3. AWO in One Page

- **What it is:** a procedural standard that makes AI-human research

**falsifiable, auditable, and citable.**

- **What it isn't:** a monolithic tool or framework you must install before working.
- **How it works:** you structure your work, log decisions, run experiments, and produce **attested artifacts** (hashes, signatures, checksums) that prove exactly what happened.

You do not need CRI-CORE to use AWO. CRI-CORE later automates enforcement.

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## 4. Adoption Tiers

### Minimum (Individual)

- Manual logs under /logs/.
- ADRs for decisions under /decisions/.
- Falsifiability manifest per experiment.
- One signed run under /runs/<timestamp>/ with:
  - workflow\_frozen.json (what ran), report.md (what happened), approval.json (who signed).
- SHA256 checksums for public artifacts.

### Standard (Small Team)

- Everything in Minimum, plus:
- CI workflows to build PDFs and guard docs (doc-guard).
- Required reviews for ADRs and releases.
- Release notes with artifact checksums.

### Full (Institutional / Public)

- Everything in Standard, plus:
  - Automated attestation and schema validation via CRI-CORE.
  - Policy gates (e.g., “no run without a falsifiability manifest”).
  - Organization-level provenance registry and release automation.
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## 5. Your First AWO Project (Step by Step)

If you have no data yet, use a synthetic or toy dataset; the process is the goal.

### 1. Create a new repository

```
my-awo-project/  
docs/  
decisions/  
figures/  
logs/  
runs/  
README.md
```

2. **Add a falsifiability manifest** Use the template at /templates/falsifiability-manifest.md to draft your hypothesis and disproof criteria. For each actual run, place the manifest in the run folder as runs/<timestamp>/manifest.json (or runs\_manifest.md).

3. **Create ADR-0001** Create decisions/ADR-0001.md:

Title: Scope and Baseline Assumptions  
Status: Accepted  
Context: Why this project exists; key assumptions.  
Decision: What we will do first.  
Consequences: Trade-offs and risks.

4. **Record a workflow plan** Create docs/WORKFLOW\_PLAN.md with a short, numbered plan and a rough timing.
5. **Run a minimal AWO execution** If you cloned the AWO repo to borrow utilities, from its root:

```
python cli.py --init --demo
```

Otherwise, run your own script(s); capture all parameters to runs/<timestamp>/workflow\_frozen.json. (Optional: store raw inputs under runs/<timestamp>/inputs/.)

6. **Freeze and sign the run** Create:

- runs/<timestamp>/workflow\_frozen.json
- runs/<timestamp>/report.md
- runs/<timestamp>/approval.json

Include SHA256 checksums for any public outputs.

7. **Tag a read-only snapshot**

- Create a Git tag and a release description that lists:
  - Manifest version(s), ADRs referenced, and artifact checksums.

8. **Validate against the spec** Open docs/AWO\_Method\_Spec\_v1.2.md and walk the conformance list:

- Structure present, manifests present, run attested, decisions logged, signatures/checksums recorded.

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## 6. Manual Orchestration (Before CRI-CORE)

Manual orchestration is a first-class path. Use it when CI is not set up yet.

- State clearly in your README: “This project uses **manual orchestration** under AWO v1.2; no automated CI.”
- Keep provenance local but signed.
- Use human approvals in approval.json and reference ADRs in every report.
- Keep SHA256SUMS.txt at the repo root when you publish artifacts.

You can later retrofit CI (Standard tier) and CRI-CORE (Full tier) without rewriting history.

## 7. Solo Researcher Tips

- Keep ADRs short ( $\leq 1$  page) and frequent.

- Prefer toy datasets or deterministic tasks for early runs.
- Close the loop quickly: hypothesis → run → report → tag.
- Document failures explicitly; they count as evidence.

## 8. Directory Layout (Starter)

```

/docs/           # manifests, plans, method links
/decisions/      # ADRs (ADR-0001..)
/figures/        # diagrams
/logs/           # narrative logs or time-stamped notes
/runs/           # attested outputs per run
README.md

```

## 9. Provenance Artifacts and Logs

- `workflow_frozen.json` – exact steps and parameters executed.
- `report.md` – results, observations, failures.
- `approval.json` – signatures or approvals (human-in-the-loop).
- `SHA256SUMS.txt` – checksums of released artifacts.
- Optional: signed tarball of `/runs/<timestamp>/` for archival.

## 10. Decision Logging and Falsifiability Manifests

- **ADRs** capture *why* changes happened; one ADR per substantive decision.
- **Falsifiability manifests** define *what would disprove* the hypothesis.
  - Template lives in `/templates/falsifiability-manifest.md`.
  - The run's live copy must be stored in `runs/<timestamp>/run_manifest.json` (or `run_manifest.md`) and referenced by `approval.json`.
- Cross-reference ADR IDs inside `report.md` and release notes.

## 11. Verification Checklist

- ☐ Repository follows AWO structure (docs, decisions, logs, runs).
- ☐ Falsifiability manifest exists and is referenced.
- ☐ At least one run is frozen and signed under `/runs/`.
- ☐ ADRs exist and are cited in the run report.
- ☐ SHA256 checksums published for outputs.
- ☐ Release/tag contains links to manifests and run artifacts.
- ☐ README links to AWO Method Spec, Whitepaper, and this guide.

## 12. Example Projects Using AWO

These are manual orchestration examples — built before CRI-CORE was available. They show how AWO principles work without automated CI. All provenance, audit, and decision artifacts were managed by hand and logged per AWO v1.2.

- Waveframe v4.0 (Cosmology) — AWO structure with falsifiability logs, ADRs, and reproducible documentation.

- Societal Simulator (Systems modeling) — Interactive sandbox applying AWO with manual provenance and audit.

Full runtime automation is demonstrated in the CRI-CORE repository and will be extended in template kits.

## 13. Troubleshooting and Common Pitfalls

- **No data yet:** Use toy data; focus on process, not results.
- **Messy parameters:** Write them to `workflow_frozen.json` at runtime.
- **Unclear decisions:** Create ADRs even for small choices; they prevent ambiguity later.
- **Non-determinism:** Pin seeds and constrain thread counts (e.g., `PYTHONHASHSEED=0, OMP_NUM_THREADS=1`).

## 14. Cross-Links and References

- Method Spec: `docs/AWO_Method_Spec_v1.2.1.md`
- Whitepaper: `docs/AWO_Whitepaper_v1.1.md`
- Template: <https://github.com/Waveframe-Labs/AWO-Template>
- Main README: `../README.md`

## 15. License

- Documentation: CC BY 4.0
- Code: Apache 2.0