Installing Claude Code (Fedora and MacOS)

Use Claude Code as a CLI tool with the Claude AI model. You can code directly within your terminal. You can build features from descriptions, debug, navigate codebases, and automate tasks.

Follow the instructions to set up Claude Code:

1. Install the Google Cloud CLI by following instructions in the Google Cloud Guide "Installing the latest gcloud CLI version." (MacOS instructions are on a separate tab.)

2. After running the gcloud init command,, select the option to sign in with your email account.

3. When prompted to enter a GCP project, select [1].

4. Set up your GCP project ID on the Google Cloud Platform by enabling Vertex AI API and selecting Claude Sonnet 4.5 as the model. Supply this to gcloud init. **Important: You will use this project ID in place of the generic GCP-PROJECT-ID variable in the following steps.**

5. Set up your default authentication by running the following commands. Grant permission when prompted. You may get an error after the first command; just ignore it and continue with the second command.

   ```
   gcloud auth application-default login
   gcloud auth application-default set-quota-project cloudability-it-gemini
   ```

   Note: leave cloudability-it-gemini in the previous line; that is static and the same for everyone.

6. Set the following environment variables by running the following commands, **making sure to replace the generic GCP-PROJECT-ID with your project ID.**

   ```
   export CLAUDE_CODE_USE_VERTEX=1
   export CLOUD_ML_REGION=us-east5
   export ANTHROPIC_VERTEX_PROJECT_ID=GCP-PROJECT-ID
   ```

7. Make this persistent by adding it to your ~/.bashrc or ~/.zshrc.

   ```
   echo 'export CLAUDE_CODE_USE_VERTEX=1' >> ~/.bashrc
   echo 'export CLOUD_ML_REGION=us-east5' >> ~/.bashrc
   ```

```
echo 'export ANTHROPIC_VERTEX_PROJECT_ID=GCP-PROJECT-ID' >>
~/.bashrc
source ~/.bashrc
```

If you are on a Mac, use zsh which is the default.

```
echo 'export CLAUDE_CODE_USE_VERTEX=1' >> ~/.zshrc
echo 'export CLOUD_ML_REGION=us-east5' >> ~/.zshrc
echo 'export ANTHROPIC_VERTEX_PROJECT_ID=GCP-PROJECT-ID' >>
~/.zshrc
source ~/.zshrc
```

8. Install and configure NPM by running one of the following commands:
    If you are on Mac:
    `brew install node`

    If you are on Fedora:
    `dnf install nodejs`

9. Set up the configuration in your bashrc:

    ```
    mkdir ~/.npm-global
    npm config set prefix '~/.npm-global'
    echo 'export PATH=$PATH:$HOME/.npm-global/bin' >> ~/.bashrc
    source ~/.bashrc
    ```

    If you are on a Mac, use zsh, which is the default:

    ```
    echo 'export PATH=$HOME/.npm-global/bin:$PATH' >> ~/.zshrc
    source ~/.zshrc
    ```
    Note: If you are still not able to run the "claude" command, create a symbolic link
    from "claude" via `claude='~/.npm-global/bin/claude'`

10. Install Claude Code by running the following command. If you previously installed
    Claude Code, you must first uninstall.

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

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

11. ***Important*** Navigate to your preferred working directory or make a new directory. The
    directory determines what files Claude Code can access and run.

12. Launch Claude Code by running:

```
claude
```

You're ready to start using Claude!

Claude is an AI in a CLI. You can chat normally or run various /commands.

Checking your installation

Try running /status to see information about your setup.

- You can verify your GCP project and check that the provider is "Google Vertex AI".
- You might want to run /init to generate a CLAUDE.md file with documentation on your codebase. If you use an IDE, try running claude in the built-in terminal.

If you are not running RHEL or Fedora, the end of your ~/.bashrc or ~/.zshrc might look like the following. This assumes that you have installed the google-cloud-sdk in your home directory:

```Shell
## Claude setup
# The next line updates PATH for the Google Cloud SDK.
if [ -f '/home/$USER/google-cloud-sdk/path.bash.inc' ]; then . '/home/USERNAME/google-cloud-sdk/path.bash.inc'; fi

# The next line enables shell command completion for gcloud.
if [ -f '/home/$USER/google-cloud-sdk/completion.bash.inc' ]; then . '/home/USERNAME/google-cloud-sdk/completion.bash.inc'; fi

export CLAUDE_CODE_USE_VERTEX=1
export CLOUD_ML_REGION=us-east5
export ANTHROPIC_VERTEX_PROJECT_ID=GCP-PROJECT-ID
export PATH=~/.npm-global/bin/:$PATH
```