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Web interfaces

TUI

Quick start

1. Start the Gateway.

```
openclaw gateway
```

2. Open the TUI.

```
openclaw tui
```

3. Type a message and press Enter.

Remote Gateway:

```
openclaw tui --url ws://<host>:<port> --token <gateway-token>
```

Use `--password` if your Gateway uses password auth.

What you see

Header: connection URL, current agent, current session.



Chat log: user messages, assistant replies, system notices, tool cards.

Status line: connection/run state (connecting, running, streaming, idle, error).

Footer: connection state + agent + session + model + think/verbose/reasoning + token counts + deliver.

Input: text editor with autocomplete.

Mental model: agents + sessions

Agents are unique slugs (e.g. `main` , `research`). The Gateway exposes the list.

Sessions belong to the current agent.

Session keys are stored as `agent:<agentId>:<sessionKey>` .

If you type `/session main` , the TUI expands it to `agent:<currentAgent>:main` .

If you type `/session agent:other:main` , you switch to that agent session explicitly.

Session scope:

`per-sender` (default): each agent has many sessions.

`global` : the TUI always uses the `global` session (the picker may be empty).

The current agent + session are always visible in the footer.

Sending + delivery

Messages are sent to the Gateway; delivery to providers is off by default.

Turn delivery on:



/deliver on

or the Settings panel

or start with `openclaw tui --deliver`

Pickers + overlays

Model picker: list available models and set the session override.

Agent picker: choose a different agent.

Session picker: shows only sessions for the current agent.

Settings: toggle deliver, tool output expansion, and thinking visibility.

Keyboard shortcuts

Enter: send message

Esc: abort active run

Ctrl+C: clear input (press twice to exit)

Ctrl+D: exit

Ctrl+L: model picker

Ctrl+G: agent picker

Ctrl+P: session picker

Ctrl+O: toggle tool output expansion

Ctrl+T: toggle thinking visibility (reloads history)

Slash commands

Core:

/help

/status



`/agent <id> (or /agents)`

`/session <key> (or /sessions)`

`/model <provider/model> (or /models)`

Session controls:

`/think <off|minimal|low|medium|high>`

`/verbose <on|full|off>`

`/reasoning <on|off|stream>`

`/usage <off|tokens|full>`

`/elevated <on|off|ask|full> (alias: /elev)`

`/activation <mention|always>`

`/deliver <on|off>`

Session lifecycle:

`/new or /reset (reset the session)`

`/abort (abort the active run)`

`/settings`

`/exit`

Other Gateway slash commands (for example, `/context`) are forwarded to the Gateway and shown as system output. See [Slash commands](#).

Local shell commands

Prefix a line with `!` to run a local shell command on the TUI host.

The TUI prompts once per session to allow local execution; declining keeps `!` disabled for the session.

Commands run in a fresh, non-interactive shell in the TUI working directory (no persistent `cd /env`).



A lone `!` is sent as a normal message; leading spaces do not trigger local exec.

>

Tool output

Tool calls show as cards with args + results.

Ctrl+O toggles between collapsed/expanded views.

While tools run, partial updates stream into the same card.

History + streaming

On connect, the TUI loads the latest history (default 200 messages).

Streaming responses update in place until finalized.

The TUI also listens to agent tool events for richer tool cards.

Connection details

The TUI registers with the Gateway as `mode: "tui"`.

Reconnects show a system message; event gaps are surfaced in the log.

Options

`--url <url>` : Gateway WebSocket URL (defaults to config or `ws://127.0.0.1:<port>`)

`--token <token>` : Gateway token (if required)

`--password <password>` : Gateway password (if required)

`--session <key>` : Session key (default: `main` , or `global` when scope is global)



```
--deliver : Deliver assistant replies to the provider (default off)

--thinking <level> : Override thinking level for sends

--timeout-ms <ms> : Agent timeout in ms (defaults to
agents.defaults.timeoutSeconds )
```

Note: when you set `--url` , the TUI does not fall back to config or environment credentials. Pass `--token` or `--password` explicitly. Missing explicit credentials is an error.

Troubleshooting

No output after sending a message:

Run `/status` in the TUI to confirm the Gateway is connected and idle/busy.

Check the Gateway logs: `openclaw logs --follow` .

Confirm the agent can run: `openclaw status` and `openclaw models status` .

If you expect messages in a chat channel, enable delivery (`/deliver on` or `--deliver`).

```
--history-limit <n> : History entries to load (default 200)
```

Connection troubleshooting

`disconnected` : ensure the Gateway is running and your `--url/--token/--password` are correct.

No agents in picker: check `openclaw agents list` and your routing config.

Empty session picker: you might be in global scope or have no sessions yet.

< WebChat



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