



RIYADH

# Introduction to Cursor

October 24, 2025

DAL Health Datathon

# Who Am I?



Let me introduce myself



Oregon State  
University



deep.ä. sa

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MSc AI and BSc CS from Oregon State University

2023 PyTorch Ambassador Award & Cursor Ambassador

Accelerating technology and AI development in

ma7.dev | @ma7dev

Malaa



CURSOR

RIYADH

# Agenda

## Introduction to AI Tools



The AI landscape and where Cursor fits

## Introduction to Cursor



Deep dive into features and capabilities

## Using Cursor for Everything



Beyond coding - writing, planning, and more

# Introduction to AI Tools



Understanding the AI landscape before diving into Cursor

# The AI Revolution in 2025



## AI Everywhere

- AI tools have transformed how we work
- From writing to coding to design
- Making experts 10x more productive
- Making beginners competitive



## Why AI Tools Matter

- Automate repetitive tasks
- Learn as you work
- Reduce errors and bugs
- Ship faster and iterate more

# AI Tools Landscape



## Writing & Chat

- ChatGPT (321M+ users)
- Claude (Anthropic)
- Gemini (Google)
- Perplexity AI



## Design & Images

- Midjourney
- DALL-E 3
- Canva AI (220M+ users)
- Leonardo AI



## Coding

- Cursor
- GitHub Copilot (1M+ paid)
- Windsurf
- Cline (Open Source)



## Video & Audio

- Runway ML
- Google Veo 3
- Synthesia
- Suno (Music)



## Content Creation

- Jasper AI
- Copy.ai
- Writesonic
- Notion AI



## Automation

- Zapier AI
- n8n
- Microsoft Copilot
- Replit Ghostwriter

# AI Coding Tools: The Landscape

## GitHub Copilot



Multi-IDE integration

- Works in VS Code, JetBrains, Neovim
- Battle-tested: 1M+ Fortune 100 users
- Seamless GitHub workflow integration

## Windsurf



Agentic-first approach

- Powerful autonomous task execution
- Excellent multi-file reasoning
- Modern, intuitive interface

## Cline



Open source extension

- Completely free & open source
- Fully customizable to your needs
- Active community development

## Cursor



AI-native coding IDE

- Massive context: 32K tokens (4x larger)
- Complete toolkit: Tab + Chat + Agent
- Proven scale: \$500M ARR, VSCode fork

# Introduction to Cursor



Let's dive deep into Cursor's capabilities

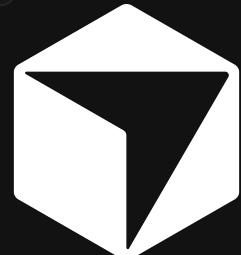
## **Anysphere** (parent company)

- \$9.9B valuation (June 2025)
- \$900M funding raised
- \$500M+ annual recurring revenue

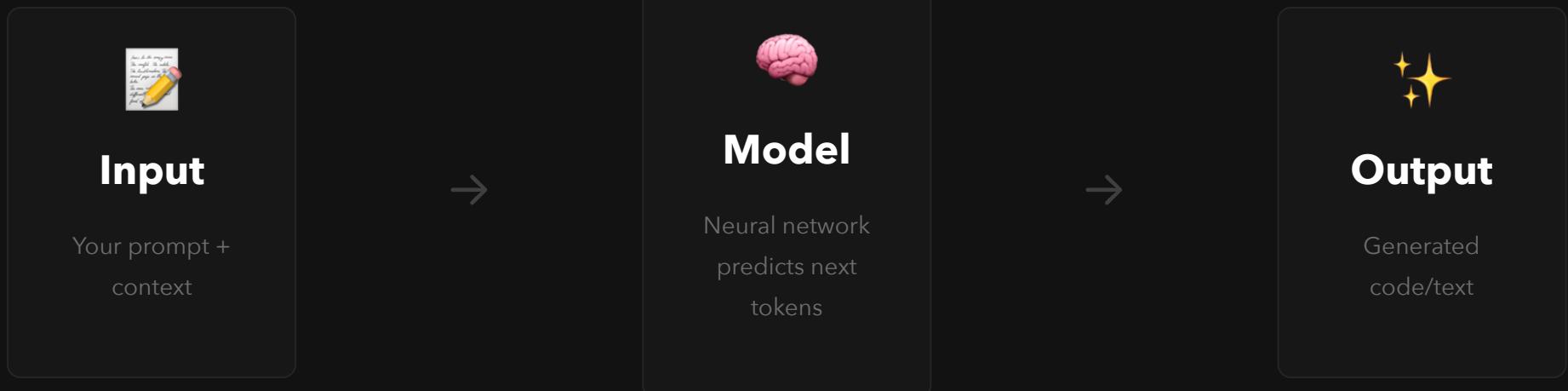
## **Cursor** (the product)

- AI-native code editor
- Built on VS Code foundation
- ~1B lines of code generated daily

 Anysphere  
Logo



# How LLMs Work (The Basics)



# LLMs in Code Editors Made Simple

## You Say:

"Make this button green"

## AI Sees:

Your code + files + request

## AI Thinks:

"Based on patterns, this needs CSS changes"

## AI Delivers:

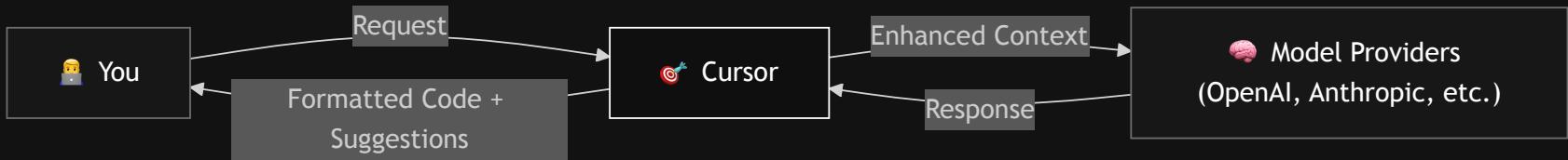
Updated code with green button

## The Secret

Better Context = Better Results

- Include relevant files
- Describe your goal clearly
- Show error messages
- Provide examples when helpful

# Cursor: The Smart Middle-Man



# Interactive Features

## ★ Cursor Tab

Next-gen autocomplete

- Multi-line suggestions
- Cross-file awareness
- Fusion Tab Model

## ▀ CMD+K

Inline code magic

- Quick edits
- Natural language commands
- Instant refactoring

## 💬 Chat

AI coding partner

- Four powerful modes
- Contextual assistance
- Background agents

# Chat Modes: Your AI Coding Partner



## Agent Mode

"Build this feature for me"

- ⚡ Autonomously writes & edits code
- 📁 Makes multi-file changes
- ⚡ Perfect for: Building features from scratch



## Plan Mode

"How should I approach this?"

- 📋 Creates step-by-step implementation plans
- 🖊 Suggests approaches before coding
- ⚡ Perfect for: Planning complex features



## Ask Mode

"Explain this code to me"

- 📖 Get code explanations & insights
- 🔎 Learn how systems work
- ⚡ Perfect for: Understanding codebases



## Custom Mode

"Work exactly how I want"

- 🎨 Create your own AI workflows
- 👤 Team-specific configurations
- ⚡ Perfect for: Enterprise teams

# Core Features

-  **Context Enhancements:** Smarter file and directory inclusion
-  **Docs:** Enable AI to use human-readable documentation as context
-  **Rules:** Set up user-specific or project-specific rules to guide AI behavior
-  **AI Commit Messages:** Intelligent git commit generation
-  **Checkpoints:** Restore previous states easily
-  **Multi-Root Workspaces:** Manage multiple repositories with cross-folder indexing
-  **Model Context Protocol (MCP):** Interact with external tools
-  **Background Agent:** Parallel task execution for larger tasks
-  **Bugbot:** Automated bug detection and fixing
-  **Enhanced Tab Model:** Multi-file edits, refactoring, and navigation
-  **Refreshed Inline Edit:** Improved CMD+K with new UI and options

# Latest Features (v1.7 & Beyond)

-  **Agent Autocomplete**: Suggestions while typing for better prompting
-  **Sharable Deep Links**: Easy prompt sharing across team
-  **Hooks** (beta): Better control over Agent loop with redaction and blocking
-  **Team Rules**: Centralized standards and QA rules across projects
-  **Plan Mode**: Create and modify plans directly in the editor
-  **PR Index**: Pull request analysis and management (Ultra plan)
-  **Max Mode**: Token-based pricing for complex tasks requiring extensive context
-  **AI Models Integration**: Support for GPT-5, Claude Sonnet 4.5, Gemini 2.5 Pro
-  **Remote Agents**: Run parallel AI assistants in remote environments
-  **Unified Request Pricing**: Predictable, consolidated billing model
- and much more...

# Common Pitfalls to Avoid

- **✗ Vague requests** without sufficient context
- **✗ Ignoring error messages** and logs in your requests
- **✗ Not using project rules** to guide AI behavior
- **✗ Overwhelming AI** with irrelevant information
- **✗ Expecting perfection** on first try - iterate!
- **✗ Not exploring models** - each has its strengths

# Best Practices & Tips

1.  **Context is King:** Provide clear, relevant context
2.  **Provide error messages:** AI can't fix what it doesn't know about
3.  **Use Rules:** Set up project-specific guidelines
4.  **Leverage @ Symbols:** Be explicit about what you want
5.  **Iterate:** Start broad, then refine your requests
6.  **Experiment:** Try different models for different tasks

# Pricing

## Hobby

**Free**

Limited AI requests, includes 2-week Pro trial

## Pro

**\$20/month**

All AI models + \$20 API usage

## Pro+

**\$60/month**

3x usage + \$70 API credits

## Ultra

**\$200/month**

20x usage + \$400 API credits + priority access

## Teams

**\$40/user/month**

Pro features + team management + SSO

Cursor for Students: Free for 1 year with academic email

Enterprise plans available with custom pricing | Source: Cursor.com, October 2025

# Live Demo

Show Cursor features in action

# Using Cursor for Everything



Beyond coding - Cursor as your universal AI assistant

# Using Cursor for Everything



## Development

- Code generation & refactoring
- Bug fixing & debugging
- Documentation writing
- Test creation



## Beyond Code

- Technical writing
- Architecture planning
- Code reviews
- Learning new technologies



## Team Workflows

- Onboarding new developers
- Code style enforcement
- Knowledge sharing
- Project standardization



## Advanced Usage

- Custom model integration
- Workflow automation
- Multi-project management
- Performance optimization

# Live Demo

Using Cursor for Everything in Action

# Cursor Saudi Arabia Community



## Active Chapters (Monthly Meetups)

-  Riyadh
-  Khobar
-  More cities coming!



## Join Our Community

- Visit [cursor-sa.org](http://cursor-sa.org)
- Stay updated on future events
- Want to bring Cursor to your city? Reach out to us!
- Join our Discord server

# Next Steps & Resources

## Try Cursor

Download and start your free trial

## Join Community

Discord, forums, local groups

## Learn More

[docs.cursor.com](https://docs.cursor.com) for comprehensive guides and documentation

## Future Meetups ([cursor-sa.org](https://cursor-sa.org))

Monthly sessions with advanced topics and workshops

# Thank You! 🙏

## Special Thanks to DAL

For the opportunity to present Cursor at the Health Datathon

## Let's Connect & Build Together

@ma7dev

Follow for more AI development insights and Cursor updates

Visit [cursor-sa.org](http://cursor-sa.org) for future events

