

FREE GUIDE · NITTY GRITTY AI

# THE REAL CLAUDE COURSE

The no-hype version, written so anyone can follow it. What Claude actually does — and where to learn each one, free.

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No hype. Nothing held back.

START HERE

# A MAP. NOT A SALES PITCH.

This is the abbreviated bible: every real thing Claude can do, sorted into categories, each with a plain description and a link to the official, free source. Before any of it, four honest truths — so nothing here oversells.

1

**It's an engine, not magic.**

Claude reasons and writes — text and images in, text out. Brilliant at language, analysis, and code. Still a tool.

2

**It can be confidently wrong.**

Verify anything that leaves the building — numbers, names, citations, legal or financial points.

3

**It doesn't make photos.**

No photographic image generation. It does create visual and interactive content — charts, diagrams, documents, and working mini-apps.

4

**There's no secret prompt.**

Output quality tracks input quality. The one real skill is talking to it clearly. That's the whole game.

THE FIELD GUIDE

# WHAT CLAUDE ACTUALLY DOES.

Eight categories. Every one real, every one with a free official source. Find what fits your work — and go.

- 01 Out Of The Box

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- 02 Working With Your Documents

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- 03 Consistent & Personal

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- 04 Connecting & Automating

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- 05 Building & Interactive

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- 06 The Models

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- 07 The One Skill

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- 08 The Free Learning Stack

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# 01

## SECTION ONE

# WHAT IT DOES OUT OF THE BOX

The core abilities, the moment you open it — no setup.

## Writing & Editing

Draft, rewrite, summarize, and sharpen anything — emails, reports, posts, scripts — in the tone and length you ask for.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/intro>

## Reasoning & Analysis

Work through complex problems, compare options, pressure-test an argument, and explain hard ideas simply.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/intro>

## Coding

Explain, write, debug, and refactor code across most languages — from a one-line formula to a full feature.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/intro>

## Math & Calculations

Equations, step-by-step problem solving, and quantitative reasoning.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Translation & Multilingual

Read and respond fluently across many languages; translate and localize with nuance.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/about-claude/models/overview>

## Vision

Read and analyze images, screenshots, charts, diagrams, and handwriting — then act on what it sees.

**LEARN** → <https://docs.claude.com/en/docs/build-with-claude/overview>

# 02

## SECTION TWO

# WORKING WITH YOUR DOCUMENTS

Bring your own material in — get finished files back out.

## File Uploads

Drop in PDFs, Word docs, spreadsheets, CSVs, or images and have Claude read, summarize, analyze, or rewrite them.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Create & Edit Files

Claude produces real Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and PDF files — built behind the scenes by its document Skills.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Web Search & Fetch

Pull current information from the web and read full pages — for anything newer than its training, prices, or live facts.

**LEARN** → <https://docs.claude.com/en/docs/build-with-claude/overview>

# 03

## SECTION THREE

# CONSISTENT & PERSONAL

Stop re-explaining yourself. Set the context once.

## Projects

A workspace that remembers a set of instructions and reference files across every chat inside it — your standards, loaded once.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Memory

Claude can carry relevant context across conversations, so you're not starting from zero each time — and you stay in control of it.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Skills

Reusable instruction files that turn a repeatable process into consistent output. Pre-built ones (Word/PowerPoint/Excel/PDF) run automatically; custom Skills are available on paid plans with code execution.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/agents-and-tools/agent-skills/overview>

# 04

## SECTION FOUR

# CONNECTING & AUTOMATING

Let Claude reach your other tools and run multi-step work.

## Connectors (MCP)

Securely connect Claude to outside tools — drives, calendars, email, issue trackers — so it works with real data. Browse the directory in-app.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Claude Cowork

A desktop assistant that works across files on your computer, runs multi-step tasks, schedules recurring jobs, and can use your computer with permission.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Claude in Chrome

A browsing agent that navigates and acts inside your browser to complete tasks for you.

**LEARN** → <https://www.anthropic.com/learn>

## Claude for Excel & PowerPoint

Use Claude directly inside your spreadsheets and slide decks to build, analyze, and edit in place.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

# THE DOOR'S ALREADY OPEN.

Everything in this guide is free, from the source. The trick the hype-sellers run is convincing you it's locked. It isn't. Walk through.

# 05

## SECTION FIVE

# BUILDING & INTERACTIVE

For making things — from a one-off tool to software you ship.

## Artifacts

When Claude builds a document, chart, or working mini-app, it appears in a side panel you can edit, reuse, and keep.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com/en/collections/18031719-features-and-capabilities>

## Claude Code

Agentic coding that reads your codebase, edits files, and runs commands — in your terminal, IDE, desktop app, or browser. For engineers.

**LEARN** → <https://code.claude.com/docs/en/overview>

## The API / Claude Platform

Build Claude into your own products — with tool use, structured outputs, batch processing, streaming, and extended thinking.

**LEARN** → <https://docs.claude.com/en/docs/build-with-claude/overview>

# 06

## SECTION SIX

# THE MODELS

All current models handle text and image in, text out, vision, and many languages.

## Claude Opus 4.7

The most capable model — complex reasoning and agentic coding, a very large context window, high-resolution vision, and adaptive thinking. For hard, long tasks.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/about-claude/models/overview>

## Claude Sonnet 4.6

Frontier intelligence at scale — built for coding, agents, and everyday enterprise workflows. The strong all-rounder.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/about-claude/models/overview>

## Claude Haiku 4.5

Fast and efficient for lighter, high-volume tasks where speed matters most.

**LEARN** → <https://platform.claude.com/docs/en/about-claude/models/overview>

SECTION SEVEN

# THE ONE SKILL THAT DOES 80%.

Give it the context it can't see — who you are, who it's for, the real goal.

Be specific about the output — length, format, audience, what to leave out.

Show an example of what "good" looks like.

Iterate — don't restart. Tell it what to fix.

Ask it to think first on the hard problems.

LEARN → [docs.claude.com/en/docs/build-with-claude/overview](https://docs.claude.com/en/docs/build-with-claude/overview)

# 08

## SECTION EIGHT

# THE FREE LEARNING STACK

The whole curriculum, free at the source — no middleman.

## Anthropic Academy

Free official courses: Claude 101, AI Fluency, AI Capabilities & Limitations, Claude for Work, Build with Claude. Self-paced, with certificates.

**LEARN** → <https://www.anthropic.com/learn>

## Documentation

The manual for every feature, tool, and setting.

**LEARN** → <https://docs.claude.com/en/docs/build-with-claude/overview>

## Help Center

Account, plans, limits, and how-to articles for the app.

**LEARN** → <https://support.claude.com>

## The App

Where you actually use it — web, desktop, and mobile.

**LEARN** → <https://claude.ai>

ONE ENGINE, THREE ALTITUDES

# RUN IT AT ANY ALTITUDE.

01

## Universal

CLAUDE, STRAIGHT

Free, for anyone. The door everyone can walk through.

02

## Categorical

A PRIME COMPASS · FREE

The same engine, aimed at your world.

03

## Individual

ARCHETYPE COMPASS

The same engine, built for you exactly — and nobody else.



# NITTY GRITTY AI

NO HYPE. NO GATEKEEPING.  
JUST THE NITTY GRITTY.



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