

SETUP + USE GUIDE

The AI Video Editor Kit

**Set it up once, then edit every video with
Claude**

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Start here

This kit turns Claude into your video editor.

You record your video. You put the clips in a folder. Then you type one sentence to Claude, and it takes out the long pauses, the bits where you started a sentence twice, and the parts where you said "ummm". After that it builds your on-screen graphics and puts the whole thing together into one finished video.

You set this up once. It takes about half an hour, and most of that is waiting. After that, every video you ever make starts with one sentence.

WHAT YOU'LL GET

A finished video with the dead air gone, your own title and step cards on screen, and the sound evened out so no part is too quiet. On a real 50 minute recording, about 35 minutes of nothing was removed and the finished video was 13 minutes.

TIP

You do not need to understand any code. Not one line. Every technical step in this guide is a box of text you copy and paste into Claude, and Claude does the work. If you ever get stuck, paste this: "I'm stuck on this step. Can you just do it for me and explain it in simple words?" That always works.

How much time this takes

1. Setting up, one time only

About 30 minutes. Most of it is waiting for things to install while you make a coffee.

2. Every video after that

About 20 minutes of your actual attention. Claude works for longer than that, but you can close the laptop and come back.

SIX WORDS YOU'LL SEE

So nothing sounds scary

These are the only technical-sounding words in this guide. Here is what each one really means.

The word	What it actually means
A clip	One video file from your camera or screen recorder. Most recordings make several.
Transcribe	Listening to your video and writing down every word, and the exact second you said it.
The cut	Your video with the rubbish taken out. Nothing added yet.
Render	Making the actual video file. This is the slow bit, a few minutes. Everything before it is fast.
Graphics	The full-screen cards in your video: the title, the step cards, the big numbers.
A connector	A way of giving Claude access to another company's tool. Optional. Only needed for one thing.

PART 1

What you need

One thing to pay for, four free things to install.

THE ONE THING YOU PAY FOR

A Claude plan

You need a paid Claude plan. The free plan will not work for this. Editing a video is a long job, and the free plan stops you part way through.

The cheapest paid plan (called Pro) is enough to start with. The part that does the editing is called Claude Code, and it is already included in the plan. You do not buy it separately and you do not install it separately.

Prices change, so look them up rather than trusting a number in a guide. Go to claude.ai/pricing and start on the cheapest paid plan. If you edit a lot of long videos and Claude tells you that you have run out for now, that is your signal to move up a plan. Not before.

CLAUDE DESKTOP

The app you'll work in

1. Go to claude.ai/download

Download the app for Windows or Mac.

2. Install it and sign in

Use the account you just put the paid plan on.

Use the desktop app, not the website, for editing videos. The desktop app is the one that can open a folder on your own computer and work with your video files. The website cannot reach your files.

FOUR FREE TOOLS

Claude installs these for you

These four do the actual work on your computer. All free, all one time.

Tool	What it does for you
Python	Runs the editing script. Think of it as the engine.
faster-whisper	Listens to your video and writes down every word with its exact timing.
FFmpeg	Does the actual cutting and joining of the video.
Node.js	Runs the tool that draws your on-screen graphics.

You do not install these by hand. Open the kit folder in Claude, paste the box below, and Claude checks what you already have, installs what is missing, and tells you if it needs you to click something.

 **Paste this to get set up**

TRY THIS PROMPT

“Read the CLAUDE.md and SOP.md in this folder, then set up everything I need to edit videos on this computer.

Check what is already installed, install what is missing (Python, faster-whisper, FFmpeg, Node.js), and explain each step in simple words.

Important: install faster-whisper into the SAME Python that will run edit_prep.py. Then prove it works by transcribing five seconds of audio. If there is more than one Python on this computer, tell me which one you used.

If there is anything I have to click, download or buy myself, tell me exactly what and where.”

WATCH OUT

That line about “the same Python” is not fussiness, and it is worth leaving in. Having two versions of Python on one computer is the most common way this whole thing breaks, and it breaks confusingly: everything looks perfect until the moment Claude tries to listen to your video, and only then does it fail. Asking Claude to prove it works up front saves you that headache.

TIP

If Claude asks for permission to install something, say yes. It is only installing the four free tools listed above.

PART 2

Set up your folder

Where things live, and how Claude gets access.

PUT THE KIT SOMEWHERE SENSIBLE

One time

1. Unzip the kit folder

Put it wherever you keep your work. Documents or Desktop are both fine. Do not rename the files inside it, because they refer to each other by name.

2. Open the folder in Claude Desktop

In the app, choose to open a folder, and pick the kit folder.

WHY THIS MATTERS (TIME & MONEY)

Opening a folder is how Claude gets permission to look at your files. It can only see inside the folder you opened. It cannot go wandering around the rest of your computer, and it cannot see your photos, your emails or anything else.

ONE FOLDER FOR EACH VIDEO

This matters more than it sounds

Inside the kit folder, make a new folder for each video. Call it something simple like my-first-video. Put every clip from that one recording inside it, and nothing else.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE — *what it looks like on your computer*

```
AI-Video-Editor-Kit/
  my-first-video/
    2026-07-30 09-29-53.mkv
    2026-07-30 09-38-27.mkv
    2026-07-30 09-41-53.mkv
```

WATCH OUT

One video per folder, not five. All the clips in the folder get joined together into one long video, in the order of their file names. If your recorder names files with the date and time, that order is already right. If you renamed them yourself, check the order when Claude shows it to you, because it will ask.

TIP

Your original recordings are never changed, ever. Everything Claude makes goes into a brand new folder called `_edit_output`. If you hate the result, delete that folder and start again. Your footage is untouched.

PART 3

Connectors

Optional. Read this before you set any up.

WHAT A CONNECTOR IS

In plain English

A connector plugs another company's tool into Claude, so Claude can use it on your behalf. You add it once, log in to that company with your own account, and from then on Claude can use it.

YOU MAY NOT NEED ANY OF THESE

The main job of this kit, cutting your video and building your graphics, needs no connectors at all. It runs on your own computer using the four free tools from Part 1. There is exactly one thing connectors are needed for: having AI generate B-roll footage for you. If you do not want that, skip this whole part.

Connector	Do you need it?
Higgsfield	Only if you want AI to create B-roll clips for you. Free 3-day trial, paid after that.
HyperFrames	Not needed for this kit. Your graphics are built free on your own computer. Only add this if you also want to make videos by chatting on the Claude website.

WHY THIS MATTERS (TIME & MONEY)

This is worth being clear about, because it saves you money. Your graphics are drawn on your own computer and cost nothing. The HyperFrames connector is a paid cloud service that does the same job for people who have no folder on their computer to work in. You have a folder, so you do not need it.

HOW TO ADD A CONNECTOR

The same steps for any of them

1. Copy the web address

Each connector has one. They are listed below. Copy the whole thing, including the https:// at the front.

2. Open your connector settings in Claude

In Claude Desktop or on claude.ai, go to Settings, then Connectors. You will see a list with tabs across the top saying All, Connected and Not connected.

3. Look for it in the list first

Type the name in the search box. If it is already there, click Connect and skip the next step.

4. If it isn't listed, add it by hand

Click the Add button in the top right, choose to add a custom connector, give it a name (just type Higgsfield or HyperFrames), and paste the web address you copied.

5. Sign in

A new window opens asking you to log in to that company and allow access. This is normal and it is how it should work. Use your own account with them, or make one if you do not have one yet.

6. Check for the tick

Back in the Connectors list, it should now show a tick in the Status column. That means it worked.

TIP

Nothing here asks Claude for your password. You log in on that company's own website, in their own window, and they simply tell Claude "yes, this person is allowed". Claude never sees your password.

HIGGSFIELD

For AI B-roll

This one generates video and image clips from a description. It is the only connector this kit ever actually needs, and only for B-roll.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE — *what to paste*

Name: Higgsfield

Web address: <https://mcp.higgsfield.ai/mcp>

Their setup page: <https://higgsfield.ai/mcp>

There is a 3-day free trial, so you can try B-roll before deciding whether it is worth paying for.

HYPERFRAMES

Only if you want the cloud version

Your graphics already work without this. Add it only if you also want to create videos by chatting on the Claude website, away from your computer.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE — *what to paste*

Name: HyperFrames

Web address: <https://mcp.heygen.com/mcp/hyperframes>

Their setup page: <https://hyperframes.heygen.com/guides/mcp>

WATCH OUT

This one needs a HeyGen account, and it charges credits both for creating a video and for producing the final file. That is why it is not part of the normal process here. On your own computer the same graphics cost nothing.

PART 4

Edit your first video

Getting rid of pauses, retakes and dead air.

STEP ONE: JUST ASK

One sentence

Paste this

TRY THIS PROMPT

“Edit the video in the folder my-first-video. Follow SOP.md.”

Change my-first-video to whatever you called your folder. That is the whole instruction. Claude reads the full set of rules that came with the kit and follows them.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

So nothing surprises you

1. It joins your clips and listens to the whole thing

It writes down every word and the exact moment you said it. This is the slow part: roughly 30 seconds of waiting for every minute of footage. A 20 minute video takes about 10 minutes. Go and do something else.

2. It reads what you said and decides what to cut

Whole sections you recorded twice. Sentences you gave up on halfway. Second attempts where you said it a bit differently. It writes all of these into a list you can look at and change.

3. It shows you the edit as text, before making any video

This is the cheap check. It cuts the sound only and reads it back to you, so you can see how the edit flows in a couple of minutes instead of waiting for the full thing.

4. It makes the video

Now you have your recording with the dead air and the retakes gone.

5. It counts the words to prove nothing was lost

It works out how many words should have survived, then counts how many actually did. If those two numbers do not match, something was wrongly deleted, and it tells you.

WHY THIS MATTERS (TIME & MONEY)

That word count is not busywork. An early version of this tool quietly deleted two real words from a finished video. The edit sounded fine, and the list of cuts looked completely sensible. Only counting the words caught it.

STEP TWO: LISTEN TO IT YOURSELF

The bit only you can do

Watch the cut once with your ears open. You are listening for the things Claude genuinely cannot find.

⚠️ WHY CLAUDE CANNOT CATCH THESE

When you say a word twice in a row, like "so, so" or "the next, the next thing", the tool that writes down your words tidies it up and writes it once. So the repeat is not in the text that Claude reads. Claude is not being careless. The repeat genuinely is not there to find. Your ears are the only thing that catches these.

So do one pass in whatever video editor you already use. CapCut, Premiere, DaVinci Resolve, Descript, Final Cut, iMovie, it really does not matter which. Take out the doubled words, anything that drags, and any bit you simply do not like.

How to save it when you're done

Setting	What to choose
Size and smoothness	The same as your original recording. Usually 1920 x 1080, at 60 frames per second.
Quality	The highest your editor offers. Do not shrink it here, Claude does that properly at the end.
File name	Your folder name, then _FINAL_CUT.mp4
Where to save it	Inside that video's folder, next to your clips.

💡 REAL EXAMPLE

If your folder is called my-first-video, save the file as my-first-video_FINAL_CUT.mp4 and put it in that folder. The name matters, because that is how Claude knows this is the version you approved.

📄 Then paste this**📄 TRY THIS PROMPT**

"I have done my listening pass. The version I approved is my-first-video_FINAL_CUT.mp4 in that folder.

Listen to it again to get the exact word timings, then build the graphics plan from that file."

💡 TIP

This hand-over is a designed step, not a sign that something went wrong. Claude is very good at spotting whole sections you recorded twice, and blind to tiny stumbles. You are exactly the opposite. Using both is what gets you a clean video.

PART 5

Your on-screen graphics

Title cards, step cards and big numbers.

WHAT THESE ARE

The cards viewers see

These are the full-screen cards in your video: the title at the start, a card announcing each step, a big number when you quote a statistic, and the subscribe card at the end. They are drawn fresh for every video, in your colours and fonts.

THINK OF IT LIKE...

Think of them like the name tags that appear on TV news when someone is interviewed, except full screen and made automatically to match your brand.

FIRST YOU APPROVE A PLAN

Nothing is built yet

Claude writes you a plan before making anything. The plan lists every card, and next to each one it shows the exact words from your video that the card sits on top of.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE — *what one line of the plan looks like*

Card: STEP 1 - INSTALL GIT

When: 1 minute 7 seconds, for 3.5 seconds

Sits on the words: "The first thing we need is Git for Windows"

WHY THIS MATTERS (TIME & MONEY)

Those quoted words are the whole point of the plan. They let you check that a card matches what you are actually saying at that moment, just by reading, without watching anything. Without them, a title card can easily end up sitting over the wrong sentence, and you would only find out after the video was finished.

Read the plan and change whatever you like. You can say things like "that is far too many cards", "take out the ones showing commands", or "make them all full screen". Nothing has been built yet, so changing your mind costs nothing at all.

THEN YOU SEE PICTURES

Still images, not videos

Once you approve the plan, Claude builds the cards and sends you a sheet of still pictures showing each one. You change them by describing what you want in normal words.

Things you can simply say

TRY THIS PROMPT

"Make the orange brighter.

That text is too small, and move it up a bit.

*Make the step cards appear more slowly.
Drop card 4 completely, it is not needed.
Use the same look as the title card for the ending.”*

 TIP

Always ask for pictures rather than finished video while you are still deciding. A picture takes a few seconds. A finished video takes several minutes. Only make the real thing once you are happy with the pictures.

TIMING YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT

Worked out from your words

Each card appears and disappears based on the exact moment you say the words it belongs to, taken from the recording itself rather than guessed. You never set a single timing by hand.

 REAL EXAMPLE

On a real video this caught a card counting 50, then \$10, then 1,000, while the voice was actually saying 50, then 1,000, then \$10. On screen the card would have disagreed with the narration. Working the timing out from the words caught it before the card was even built.

PART 6

B-roll, sound and captions

*The optional extras.***B-ROLL***The only part that costs extra*

B-roll is footage laid over the top while you keep talking. For example, a shot of a desk at night while you describe working late. You have two ways to get it.

1. Make it yourself, free

Get clips however you like, from your own camera or any AI tool. Put them in a folder called broll inside your video folder, and tell Claude to use them.

2. Have Claude generate it

This needs the Higgsfield connector from Part 3, and it is the one part of this whole process that costs money on top of your Claude plan.

**EVERYTHING ELSE IS FREE**

Cutting, listening, building the graphics and making the final video all run on your own computer. They cost nothing beyond your Claude plan. Generating B-roll with AI is the only step that spends extra money, and you can skip it completely.

**WATCH OUT**

B-roll only ever goes in the gaps between your graphics, never on top of a card. If it covered a card, your viewer would lose whatever that card was there to tell them.

SOUND EFFECTS*Small and quiet*

Each card gets a soft sound as it appears: a low whoosh for a full-screen card, a small blip when a number lands. They sit well underneath your voice so they never fight it. Just say "add the sound effects to the cards" and Claude puts them in.

CAPTIONS*Off unless you ask*

Big word-by-word captions, with numbers and money in your accent colour, are built into the kit. They are switched off by default for long videos, because subtitles across a whole long video are unusual and they fight with the cards already on screen.

** If you do want them****TRY THIS PROMPT**

"Turn captions on for this video. Fix the obvious spelling and mis-heard words first, then show me a sample picture before burning them in."

PART 7

The finished video

Putting it together and checking it.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER

One instruction

Claude places every card onto the version you approved and evens out the sound so no part is too quiet. Your original audio is copied across exactly as it was, so the picture and the sound can never drift apart.

Paste this

TRY THIS PROMPT

“Build the final video: put the graphics onto my approved cut, then even out the audio.

When it is done, show me the checks: the length compared to the original, a picture from inside each card, and a few pictures from parts with no card.”

THE FOUR CHECKS

Ask for these every single time

Check	What a good answer looks like
Length	Exactly the same as the version you approved, down to the millisecond.
Sound	Same format as your original, which proves it was copied and not squashed again.
Cards	A card shows where it should, and normal footage shows everywhere else.
Sharpness	Text on screen is as crisp as it was in your original.

WHY THIS MATTERS (TIME & MONEY)

The third check matters more than it sounds. It is easy to check that a card turns up, and forget to check that it goes away again. Asking for pictures from the parts with no card is what catches a card that overstayed its welcome.

IF YOU RE-RECORD A LINE LATER

Read this first

WATCH OUT

Every card is pinned to an exact moment in time. If you replace a piece of audio and the new piece is even slightly a different length, everything after it shifts along and every card lands in the wrong place. Either record the replacement to exactly the same length, or send Claude the new file and ask it to work all the timings out again from scratch. That is one instruction, but it is not optional.

If you did change the audio

 TRY THIS PROMPT

"I have replaced some audio, so the file is different now. Work out all the graphic timings again from the new file, then rebuild the final video."

PART 8

When something breaks

The handful of things that actually go wrong.

THE USUAL SUSPECTS

Most likely first

It can't listen to my video.: Almost always two versions of Python on the computer, with the listening tool installed in one and the script running in the other. Paste: "faster-whisper is not being found. Check every Python on this computer, tell me which one runs edit_prep.py, install faster-whisper into that one, and prove it works."

It says FFmpeg is not found.: It was installed while a window was already open, and that window has not noticed yet. Close Claude completely, open it again, and try once more.

There are still repeated words in my cut.: Expected, and explained in Part 4. Those repeats are not in the text Claude reads. Catch them in your own listening pass.

My graphics are in the wrong font.: The graphics tool quietly swaps a font it does not have for one it does. Paste: "Check the graphics for a font substitution warning, use a font that is actually available, then show me a picture."

A card is sitting on the wrong sentence.: The plan is wrong, not the card. Ask for the plan again with the exact words shown under each card, fix it there, then rebuild.

A connector won't connect.: Check you copied the whole web address including the https:// at the front, and that you finished the login window rather than closing it. Then look for the tick in the Status column.

It's taking forever.: Listening to your video is genuinely slow on a computer without a dedicated graphics card: around 30 seconds for every minute of footage. That is normal, not broken. Making the final video takes a few minutes. Everything else should feel quick.

TIP

Whatever goes wrong, this always works: "Something is wrong. Explain what you think went wrong in simple words, then fix it and show me proof that it is fixed."

PART 9

Cheat sheet

The whole thing on one page.

EVERY STEP IN ORDER

Print this and pin it up

your video, start to finish

- ✓ Record. Put every clip in one folder, with nothing else in it
- ✓ Say: Edit the video in the folder [name]. Follow SOP.md
- ✓ Check the clip order when Claude shows it to you
- ✓ Read the edit Claude shows you as text, before any video is made
- ✓ Check that the word count matches
- ✓ Watch the cut. Fix doubled words in your own editor
- ✓ Save it as [name]_FINAL_CUT.mp4, same size and smoothness as the original
- ✓ Approve the graphics plan, checking the words shown under each card
- ✓ Change the cards from the pictures, in plain English
- ✓ Add B-roll and sound effects if you want them
- ✓ Build the final video and ask for the four checks

The three rules that save you doing it all twice

1. Finish your cut completely before any graphics get built. Every card is pinned to a moment, so re-cutting moves all of them out of place.
2. Approve the plan before anything gets made. Changing a plan is free. Making the video again is not.
3. Do your listening pass. It is a real step in the process, not a sign of failure.

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