

Workshop setup guide: VS Code, Ollama, and Claude Code

Please complete this before the workshop.

This is **not a coding workshop**. We use these tools because they let us build a practical AI workspace: folders, notes, prompts, context, and outputs in one place.

You do **not** need coding experience.

What you need to install

Please install these three tools:

1. VS Code

Used to open and edit your AI workspace.

2. Ollama

Used to run AI models locally on your computer.

3. Claude Code

Used as the AI assistant that can work inside your folder system.

1. Install VS Code

Download here:

<https://code.visualstudio.com/download>

Windows

1. Click **Windows**.
2. Open the downloaded installer.
3. Keep the default settings.
4. Finish installation.

5. Open **Visual Studio Code**.

Mac

1. Click **Mac**.
2. Open the downloaded file.
3. Drag **Visual Studio Code** into **Applications**.
4. Open **Visual Studio Code**.

Linux

Download the correct version for your Linux distribution from the VS Code page.

2. Install Ollama

Download here:

<https://ollama.com/download>

Windows

1. Download Ollama for Windows.
2. Open the installer.
3. Follow the setup steps.
4. After installation, restart your computer if needed.

Mac

1. Download Ollama for macOS.
2. Open the downloaded file.
3. Install Ollama.
4. Open Ollama once after installation.

Linux

Open Terminal and run:

```
curl -fsSL https://ollama.com/install.sh | sh
```

3. Test Ollama

Open your terminal:

- Windows: open **PowerShell**

- Mac: open **Terminal**

- Linux: open **Terminal**

Run:

```
ollama --version
```

If you see a version number, Ollama is installed.

Then download the workshop model:

```
ollama run qwen2.5-coder:1.5b
```

It may take a few minutes.

When it opens, type:

```
Hello, are you working?
```

If it replies, Ollama works.

To exit, type:

```
/bye
```

4. Install Claude Code

Download/install here:

<https://code.claude.com/docs/en/quickstart>

Follow the documentation guide for your machine

5. Test Claude Code

Open your terminal:

- Windows: **PowerShell**

- Mac: **Terminal**

- Linux: **Terminal**

Run:

```
claude --version
```

If you see a version number, Claude Code is installed.

6. Connect Claude Code with Ollama

Run:

```
ollama launch claude
```

This starts Claude Code using Ollama.

It will ask what model to use. Use recommended one

7. Create your workshop folder

Create a new folder somewhere easy to find.

Suggested name:

AI-Workspace

Good locations:

- Desktop
- Documents
- iCloud Drive
- OneDrive

- Google Drive

During the workshop, we will build this folder into your personal AI workspace.

Final checklist

Before the workshop, please check that you have:

- VS Code installed
- Ollama installed
- Claude Code installed
- The model `qwen2.5-coder:1.5b` downloaded
- A folder named `AI-Workspace`
- Terminal or PowerShell available

If something does not work, still join the workshop. We'll help with setup at the beginning.