THE AGI GUIDE PRESENTS

Claude Chat, Cowork, Code & Design

A plain-English breakdown of Anthropic's four Claude tools — and exactly when to use each one.

Claude is no longer just a chatbot. In 2026, Anthropic ships four distinct tools built on the same model — each designed for a different type of work. Most people have only used one. This guide breaks down all four in plain English so you can stop guessing and start getting real work done.

FREE LIVE TRAINING — JOIN US JUNE 17 AT 5 PM

Want to see all four tools in action? I'm hosting a free live training where I'll walk you through exactly how to use Claude Chat, Cowork, Code, and Design to save time and get real work done — no technical background required.

Join the invite list with this link:
https://chat.whatsapp.com/DhLFyX2JkARG20wzJDQyje?s=cl&p=i&mlu=0&amv=2

TOOL 01

Claude Chat

Think of Claude Chat as your thinking and writing partner. It lives in your browser at claude.ai, and it's the tool you reach for when you need to brainstorm, draft, research, or refine — all in a back-and-forth conversation. You ask, Claude responds, you iterate. That's the whole model.

Claude Chat also has built-in web search, which means it can pull current information, check facts, and do competitive research without you leaving the window. It's conversational by design — which makes it the fastest tool for ideation, writing, and thinking out loud.

What it's great for:

- Brainstorming video hooks and content ideas
- Writing and refining scripts, captions, and emails
- Researching competitors or summarizing articles
- Drafting and iterating on any kind of copy
- Practicing pitches or working through decisions

The honest limitation: Claude Chat doesn't touch your computer. It can't open files, organize folders, or run tasks on your behalf. For that, you need Cowork.

TOOL 02

Claude Cowork

Cowork is where you stop talking to Claude and start delegating to it. It runs inside the Claude desktop app and can actually access your computer — your files, your folders, your connected apps. You describe the outcome you want, Cowork proposes a plan, you approve it, and Claude executes.

This is the tool built for non-developers who want AI to do real work. No terminal. No code. Just plain English and a desktop app. It connects to Gmail, Google Drive, Notion, and more, so it can span multiple apps in a single task.

What it's great for:

- Organizing and renaming files across folders automatically
- Scanning emails and extracting action items into a task list
- Filling out forms or drafting documents from your existing files
- Pulling research from multiple sources and compiling a report
- Running any multi-step workflow that would take you 30 minutes manually

Pro tip: Most of what Claude Code can do, Cowork can also handle — without ever opening a terminal. If you're not a developer, Cowork is your power tool.

TOOL 03

Claude Code

Claude Code is the most powerful tool in the lineup — and also the most specialized. It runs in your terminal and is built for developers who want Claude to work directly inside a real codebase. It can build features, refactor entire files, write and run tests, fix bugs, and deploy projects, all without you copying and pasting a single line.

The key differentiator is depth of context. Claude Code can hold an entire repository in its working memory, which lets it make changes that span multiple files and stay consistent across the whole project. A chat window simply can't do that.

What it's great for:

- Building full-stack features end to end
- Refactoring messy codebases into clean, modular structures
- Writing and running automated tests and fixing failures
- Deploying projects via CLI (Netlify, Vercel, etc.)
- Debugging broken webhooks, APIs, or integrations

The honest take: If you're not a developer, you probably don't need Claude Code yet. Cowork covers most of the same ground without requiring a terminal. Claude Code is for people who want Claude to own the engineering layer.

TOOL 04

Claude Design

Claude Design launched in April 2026 and it's the newest addition to the lineup. It gives Claude a visual canvas — so instead of getting text back, you get actual designed output. Describe what you want, and Claude generates a first version. From there you can refine it through chat, direct edits, or sliders Claude generates for you.

This tool was built specifically for founders, marketers, and creators who have great ideas but no design background. It powers itself with Claude Opus 4.7, Anthropic's most capable vision model, and natively exports to Canva for final polish. It can even read your existing codebase to extract your design system and apply it consistently.

What it's great for:

- Prototyping app or website UIs from a plain description
- Building squeeze pages and landing page layouts without Figma
- Creating pitch decks and one-pagers for offers or sponsorships
- Designing marketing assets and visual content for your brand
- Generating wireframes to hand off to a developer

Perfect for personal brands: If you're building an audience and need to look professional without hiring a designer, Claude Design is built for you.

QUICK REFERENCE

Which Tool Do You Use?

Not sure which one to reach for? Use this as your cheat sheet:

- Need to brainstorm, write, or research? → Claude Chat
- Need to get a multi-step task done on your computer? → Cowork
- Need to build, refactor, or deploy software? → Claude Code
- Need to create something visual? → Claude Design

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Comment "Claude" on the post or send a DM to @the.agi.guide to grab your free seat.

This document was prepared by The AGI Guide. For more free resources, follow @the.agi.guide.