

Add these five connectors before you use Claude Code

One line of text each. They let Claude Code look things up, read websites, use a browser, see your site's numbers and reach your other apps.

WHAT A CONNECTOR IS

A plug that lets Claude Code use another tool

Out of the box, Claude Code can only work with the files on your computer. It cannot search the web, open a browser or look inside your other apps. A connector (the technical name is an MCP server) is a small add-on that gives it one of those abilities. You add it once and Claude Code uses it on its own whenever a task needs it.

WHAT THESE FIVE DO

Five abilities Claude Code does not have on day one

CONNECTOR	IN ONE LINE	WHAT YOU NEED
Perplexity	Lets Claude look things up	A Perplexity API key (paid per use)
Firecrawl	Lets Claude see the internet	Nothing. The basics are free
Playwright	Gives Claude hands	Nothing. Free
PostHog	Lets Claude see your customers	A PostHog account with your site in it
Composio	Plugs Claude into everything	A Composio account

WHAT IT REPLACES

Copying and pasting between tabs

Without connectors you are the go-between: you search, you copy the page, you paste it in, you check the result in your browser, you read your own analytics and type the numbers back. Each connector removes one of those trips. Three of the five cost nothing to try.

BEFORE YOU START

Two things need to be on your computer

→ **Open Terminal.** On a Mac: press **⌘ + Space**, type “Terminal”, press Enter. On Windows: press the Windows key, type “PowerShell”, press Enter.

A plain window with text opens. This is normal. Every command in this guide is pasted here, followed by Enter.

→ **Check Claude Code is installed.** Paste this and press Enter:

```
claude --version
```

You should see a version number. If you see “command not found”, install Claude Code first: the instructions are at code.claude.com/docs.

→ **Check Node.js is installed.** Node.js is a free program most connectors run on. Paste this and press Enter:

```
node --version
```

You need v18 or higher. If you see “command not found” or a lower number, download the installer marked LTS from nodejs.org, run it, then close Terminal and open it again.

Paste one line into Terminal for each**1 Perplexity**

NEEDS A PAID API KEY

This lets Claude look things up.

Claude Code only knows what it learned in training, so it does not know what happened last week. With Perplexity it searches the live web first, and it has a deep-research mode for longer reports.

```
claude mcp add perplexity --env PERPLEXITY_API_KEY="your_key_here" -- npx -y @perplexity-ai/mcp-server
```

Get your own key at console.perplexity.ai and put it in place of **your_key_here**, keeping the quotation marks. The key is billed per use and is separate from a Perplexity Pro subscription. It is yours alone: never paste it into a post or send it to anyone.

TRY IT “Use Perplexity to find what changed in Instagram’s algorithm this month, with sources.”

2 Firecrawl

FREE TO START

This lets Claude see the internet.

Give it any web address and it hands Claude the whole page as clean text. Claude can read a competitor’s pricing page, or your own site, without you copying anything.

```
claude mcp add --transport http firecrawl https://mcp.firecrawl.dev/v2/mcp
```

No key or account needed for reading a page and searching (there is a speed limit). Reading a whole website at once needs a free Firecrawl account and key from firecrawl.dev.

TRY IT “Read the pricing page of [a competitor’s website] and list their plans and prices in a table.”

3 Playwright

FREE

This gives Claude hands.

Claude Code gets its own browser. It can open a page, click buttons and fill in forms, so it can test what it just built for you or do repetitive clicking.

```
claude mcp add playwright npx @playwright/mcp@latest
```

Made by Microsoft. The first time Claude uses it, a browser window opens by itself. That is the connector working, not something going wrong.

TRY IT “Open my website, click through every link in the menu and tell me which ones are broken.”

4 PostHog

NEEDS A POSTHOG ACCOUNT

This lets Claude see your customers.

PostHog is a free-to-start tool that records what visitors do on your website. With the connector you can ask Claude how many people signed up this week, or which errors visitors are hitting, and it answers from your real numbers.

```
npx @posthog/wizard@latest mcp add
```

A short setup runs in Terminal and asks you to log in to PostHog in your browser. Pick Claude Code when it asks where to install. This one only helps if PostHog is already tracking your site; if not, set that up first at posthog.com.

TRY IT “How many people signed up this week compared to last week?”

5 Composio

NEEDS A COMPOSIO ACCOUNT

This plugs Claude into everything.

One connector that reaches more than a thousand apps, such as Gmail, Slack and most CRMs. You connect an app once and Claude Code can act in it, without a separate connector for each.

```
curl -fsSL https://composio.dev/install | sh
```

Mac and Linux. This is Composio's official installer; it also adds itself to Claude Code. When it finishes, close Terminal, open it again and run **composio login** to create or sign in to your account in the browser.

TRY IT “Connect my Gmail with Composio, then list the emails from this week I have not replied to.”

LAST STEP

Check that they are in

- 1 **Start Claude Code.** In Terminal, type **claude** and press Enter.
- 2 **Type /mcp and press Enter.**

You see a list of your connectors. Each should say “connected”. If one says it needs authentication, select it and follow the login it opens. That's it.

GOOD TO KNOW

Remove one: run `claude mcp remove perplexity` (or `firecrawl`, `playwright`). **See what is installed:** `claude mcp list`. **Start small:** Firecrawl and Playwright are free and need no account, so add those two first. **Stay in control:** Claude Code asks before it uses a connector for the first time; read what it wants to do before you say yes, especially for anything that sends or changes something.