A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

Building AI Agents

with Claude, ChatGPT & Grok

Free sample — Chapter 1 and Chapter 4, complete and unabridged.

NO-CODE PATH | LIGHT-CODE PATH | WORKSHEETS & TEMPLATES

AMBIENT AI PRESS



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Read This First

This is a free sample of *Beginner's Guide to Building AI Agents — with Claude, ChatGPT & Grok*.

It contains two complete chapters from the book, chosen because together they take you from "what is an agent?" to a written plan for your own:

- **Chapter 1 — What Is an AI Agent?** The clear, jargon-free picture: what an agent is, how it differs from a chatbot, and what it is genuinely good and bad at.
- **Chapter 4 — Plan Your First Agent.** The five planning steps, a worked example, and the worksheet you fill in for your own agent.

Nothing here is cut down or watered down. These are the full chapters as they appear in the book.

> → ACTION STEP
> Read Chapter 1, then actually fill in the worksheet at the end of Chapter 4. A plan on paper takes fifteen minutes and saves you hours of poking at a chat window.

When you have your plan, the rest of the book shows you how to build it — in Claude, ChatGPT or Grok, with no code, or with a little code if you want it.

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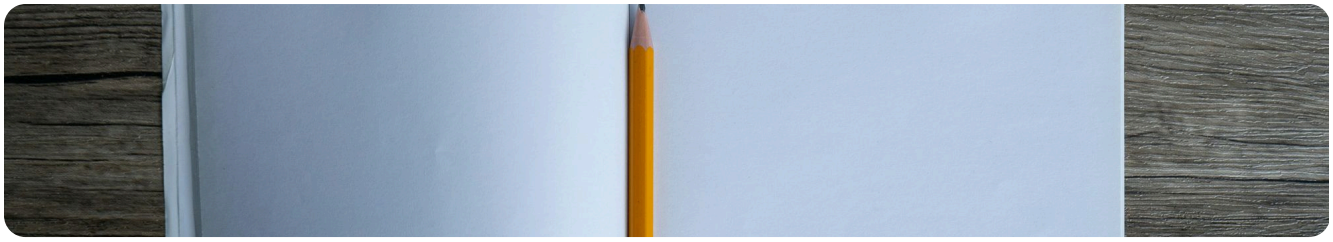
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CHAPTER 01

NO-CODE LIGHT CODE

What Is an AI Agent?



You have probably already chatted with an AI. You type a question, it types an answer. That is useful, but it is only half the story.

An **AI agent** goes further. Instead of just answering, it can *work toward a goal*: look things up, use tools, take a few steps in a row, check its own progress and hand you a finished result.

This chapter gives you a clear picture of what that means, without jargon.

A simple definition

> NOTE
> An AI agent is an AI model that is given a goal, instructions and tools, and that can decide which steps to take, one after another, until the goal is reached.

Three words in that definition matter most:

- **Goal.** The agent is working toward an outcome, not just replying to one message.
- **Tools.** The agent can do things beyond writing text, such as searching the web, reading a file or adding an event to a calendar.
- **Steps.** The agent can take an action, look at the result and decide what to do next.

Chatbot vs agent

The easiest way to understand an agent is to compare it with a plain chatbot.

	CHATBOT	AI AGENT
What you give it	A message	A goal
What it does	Writes one reply	Plans, takes actions, checks results
Tools	Usually none	Search, files, apps, code and more
Number of steps	One	As many as the task needs
What you get back	An answer to read	A finished piece of work
Your role	Drive every step	Set the goal, review the result

An everyday example

Imagine you want to plan a Saturday trip to a nearby town.

With a chatbot, you ask, "What should I do in Riverton on Saturday?" You get a list of general ideas. Then you open a weather site, check opening hours, search for a lunch spot and copy everything into a note yourself.

With an agent, you say, "Plan a relaxed Saturday in Riverton for two adults, under $100, and put it in a one-page plan." The agent might:

1. Search for the weather forecast.
2. Look up a few attractions and their opening hours.
3. Find a lunch spot within budget near the first attraction.
4. Notice that one museum is closed on Saturdays and swap it for a park.
5. Write the final one-page plan.

Same topic. Very different amount of work left for you.

What agents are good at

Agents shine when a task has a clear goal and several predictable steps. For example:

- **Research and summarize.** "Find five recent articles on indoor herb gardens and summarize the key tips."
- **Sort and respond.** "Read these customer questions, group them by topic and draft a reply for each."
- **Prepare documents.** "Turn my meeting notes into an action list with owners and due dates."
- **Answer from your own material.** "Answer student questions using only my course handbook."
- **Routine admin.** "Every Monday, gather last week's orders and write a short summary."

What agents are *not*

It helps to set honest expectations from the start.

- **Agents are not magic.** They work best on clear, well-described tasks. Vague goals produce vague results.
- **Agents are not always right.** The model can misread a page, pick the wrong tool or state something false with confidence. You still review important work.
- **Agents are not fully independent employees.** Beginners should keep a human in the loop, especially for anything that sends messages, spends money or deletes data.
- **"Agent" is a spectrum.** A custom assistant with good instructions and one tool is a simple agent. A system that runs for an hour across many apps is a complex one. You will start simple, and that is exactly right.

> **TIP**
> If you can explain a task to a new assistant in a few sentences and a short checklist, it is probably a good first agent.

The agent spectrum

Think of it as a ladder. Each rung adds a bit more independence.

1. **Chatbot.** Answers one message at a time.
2. **Custom assistant.** Has saved instructions and maybe your files, so it behaves the same way every time.
3. **Tool-using assistant.** Can search, read documents or connect to an app when needed.
4. **Multi-step agent.** Chains several tool uses together to finish a goal.
5. **Automated agent.** Runs on a schedule or trigger, without you starting each conversation.

This book takes you from rung 2 to rung 4, with a peek at rung 5. That covers most useful beginner projects.

> **TAKEAWAY**
> A chatbot answers; an agent works toward a goal using instructions, tools and multiple steps. Start with simple, clearly defined tasks and keep yourself in the loop.
>
> **Action step:** Write down three tasks you repeat every week. For each one, note the goal and the steps you usually take. You'll use this list in Chapter 4.

CHAPTER 04

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Plan Your First Agent

Ten minutes of planning saves hours of fiddling. The most common reason beginner agents disappoint isn't the platform or the model. It's a fuzzy goal.

This chapter walks you through a simple five-step planning method, then gives you a worksheet to fill in.

Step 1: Pick one small, repeatable job

Good first agents do **one job** that you (or someone else) do **often**. Look back at your list from Chapter 1 and choose the task that is:

- Done at least weekly
- Easy to explain in a few sentences
- Low risk if the agent gets something wrong
- Easy to check

Too big: "Run my online shop." **Just right:** "Draft friendly replies to common customer questions about shipping and returns, using my store policy."

Step 2: Describe success

Write what a great result looks like. Be concrete.

- **Who** is it for?
- **What** does the finished output look like (length, format, tone)?
- **How** will you know it worked?

Example: *"A reply under 120 words, in a warm tone, that answers the question correctly using my policy, and ends by offering further help."*

Step 3: List the steps and tools

Write the steps you'd follow yourself, then note what each step needs.

STEP	NEEDS A TOOL?	WHICH ONE?
Read the customer's question	No	—
Find the matching policy section	Yes	Attached policy file
Draft a reply	No	—
Check the reply against the rules	No	—

If a step needs information the agent can't reach, you've found a gap to fix before you build.

Step 4: Set the rules and limits

Decide what the agent must **always** do, must **never** do and should do **when unsure**.

- **Always:** use the policy file; stay polite.
- **Never:** promise refunds outside the policy; share other customers' details.
- **When unsure:** say so and suggest contacting a human.

Step 5: Choose your path and platform

Use Chapter 3 to pick a platform, and decide between the No-code and Light-code paths. When in doubt, start no-code. You can always rebuild in code later.

> **TIP**
> Collect five real example inputs now, such as five genuine customer questions. You'll use them to test your agent in Chapter 12.

Worked example: "Shop Reply Helper"

QUESTION	ANSWER
Job	Draft replies to shipping and returns questions
Success looks like	Under 120 words, warm, accurate to policy, offers further help
Steps	Read question → find policy → draft → check rules
Tools	Attached store policy file
Memory	Policy file; no long-term memory needed
Always / Never	Always cite policy; never promise refunds outside it
When unsure	"Let me check with the team and get back to you."
Path & platform	No-code, the platform I already pay for
Test inputs	Five real customer emails from last month

> **TAKEAWAY**
> One small job, a clear picture of success, the steps and tools, firm rules, and a chosen path. That's a plan.
>
> **Action step:** Fill in the worksheet on the next page for your first agent before you open any platform.

Worksheet: My First Agent Plan

Agent name: _____

1. The one job this agent does:

_____

_____

2. Who it's for: _____

3. What a great result looks like (length, format, tone):

_____

_____

4. Steps and tools:

#	STEP	TOOL NEEDED
1		
2		
3		
4		

5. Knowledge and files it needs:

_____

6. Rules

Always: _____

Never: _____

When unsure: _____

7. My path: ☐ No-code ☐ Light code

8. My platform: ☐ Claude ☐ ChatGPT ☐ Grok

9. Five test inputs:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

10. Before I build, I have:

- ☐ Kept the job small and low risk
- ☐ Written down what success looks like
- ☐ Listed every tool and file the agent needs
- ☐ Decided what needs my approval
- ☐ Collected real test inputs

Get the Full Guide

You now know what an agent is and you have a plan for your first one. The full book is what turns that plan into something that runs.

What is inside the complete guide

Part 1 — Foundations. What an agent is, the five core parts of every agent, and how to choose between Claude, ChatGPT and Grok for what *you* want to build.

Part 2 — No-code builds. Step-by-step builds in Claude, ChatGPT and Grok, plus connecting your agent to everyday tools with no-code automation. Screens, settings and exact instructions.

Part 3 — Light-code builds. Your first API call, and the agent loop in code — explained line by line for people who have never written a script.

Part 4 — Make it good, safe and affordable. Instruction templates you can copy, how to test your agent properly, the safety rules that matter, what it actually costs to run, and how to keep your data private.

Plus: project ideas to start from, a troubleshooting FAQ, a plain-English glossary, and worksheets throughout.

60 pages. Written for beginners. No prior coding, no prior AI experience.

How to get it

₹799 for the complete PDF.

> → ACTION STEP
> Send a DM with the word **AGENT** to **@PrepPixels** on Instagram, and you will get the full guide.

That is it — one message. I answer every DM myself, so if you are unsure whether the book fits what you are trying to build, ask me before you buy.

One last thing

Whatever you decide, build the agent you planned in Chapter 4. The people who get value from AI are the ones who build the small, boring, useful thing — not the ones who read about it.