

CLAUDE CODE WITHOUT CODING

Agents and Subagents

Direct useful work with Claude Code agents

Use this guide beside the agent lectures. Follow the fictional Willow Desk business from a plan critique to a reusable agent, a parallel content review, a researched page change and an adapted community agent. Keep the practice files open while you work.



Arun Nagarathanam

11 lectures · prompts, ideas and checks

How to use this guide

Keep it open on your phone or a second screen while the lecture plays on your main screen.

ONE

Keep it beside the video.

Watch the lecture, then try the steps yourself.

TWO

Use the prompts.

Every dark window holds a prompt from the lecture. Select the text and copy it.

THREE

Check yourself.

Each lecture ends with one question. Answer it before you move on.

ALL LINKS AND COPY BUTTONS

Every link for this section, and every prompt with a working Copy button, is on one page of our website.

[Open the Section 10 page](#)

11 lectures

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What Does a Subagent Do?

See what a subagent is: a separate agent that works on one part of a larger job and brings its findings back.



IDEAS TO KEEP

01

The main agent directs the overall work, supplies the assignment and uses the return.

02

A subagent works on the part it received, in its own working conversation.

03

Claude Code already has built-in agents. You can also save a named agent when a responsibility keeps returning.

04

Willow Desk is an illustrative business with supplied practice files.



FOLLOW ALONG

- 1 Download and extract the Section 10 practice ZIP.
- 2 Open the extracted folder as a project in Claude Code.
- 3 Read START-HERE.md before the first demonstration.



FILES AND LINKS

[section-10-practice-pack.zip](#)

[START-HERE.md](#)

[Links and copy buttons on the website](#)



CHECK YOURSELF

What would you need to tell an agent before it could review a plan for you?

Give an Agent One Useful Job

Ask a built-in general-purpose subagent to critique a plan from a first-time customer's perspective.



IDEAS TO KEEP

01

A plan can sound sensible while leaving a useful question unanswered.

02

A perspective and a clear job focus the review: examine the plan, connect concerns to the comments and return questions.

03

Check the comments the agent cites before treating its reading as evidence.

04

The business decision stays with you.



FOLLOW ALONG

- 1 Open business-plan.md and customer-feedback.md in the practice project.
- 2 Send the critique prompt and open the running task to inspect the assignment.
- 3 Open initial-plan-critique.md and check each concern against the feedback IDs.

Claude Code · Critique the plan with a subagent

PROMPT

Use a general-purpose subagent to read demonstration-inputs/business-plan.md and demonstration-inputs/customer-feedback.md completely. Critique the proposed colour pilot from a first-time customer's perspective. Return up to 5 concerns or questions, each tied to a plan passage or feedback ID, with a useful next question to investigate. Leave both source files unchanged and keep the business decision with me. In the main conversation, save the returned critique unchanged as initial-plan-critique.md, read the report back and tell me which agent ran.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder



FILES AND LINKS

[demonstration-inputs/business-plan.md](#)[demonstration-inputs/customer-feedback.md](#)[Links and copy buttons on the website](#)

CHECK YOURSELF

The report says 3 comments support the new colours. What would you check before believing it?

What Should Your Agent Receive and Return?

Inspect the assignment Claude actually sent to the subagent and what came back.





IDEAS TO KEEP

01

A subagent starts with its own instructions and the task Claude provides, not your earlier conversation history.

02

Separate context does not mean a separate computer: the files stay in the same project.

03

A useful handoff names the purpose, the starting information, the actions allowed and the result needed back.

04

The returned report still takes space in the main conversation, so ask for a concise return and keep detail in a named file.



FOLLOW ALONG

1

Open the completed agent's task from the plan review.

2

Compare the delegated prompt with the request you typed.

3

Check that the purpose, files, perspective and limits survived the rewrite.



FILES AND LINKS

Links and copy buttons on the website



CHECK YOURSELF

If you send an agent only a filename, what might it not know?

Create an Agent You Can Reuse

Save the plan review as a named project agent, customer-plan-critic, and call it by name.





IDEAS TO KEEP

01

A custom agent is a Markdown file: opening fields identify it and set its configuration, and the body explains the work.

02

The description tells Claude when the agent is useful; the name is what you use in a prompt.

03

Read is enough when you name the files to examine.

04

A newly created agents folder may need a new conversation before Claude can find the agent.



FOLLOW ALONG

1

Ask Claude to create customer-plan-critic, checking the current documentation through Context7.

2

Open `.claude/agents/customer-plan-critic.md` and read its name, description, tools, model and instructions.

3

Call the agent by name; if it is not found, start a new conversation in the same project and try again.

4

Answer the first question in `knowledge-checks.md`.

● ● ● Claude Code · Create the critic agent

PROMPT

Create a project agent called customer-plan-critic in this project. Check the current agent documentation through Context7 first. It reviews a supplied business plan and customer feedback from a first-time customer's perspective. Return up to 5 concerns, each supported by a plan passage or feedback IDs, with a useful next question to investigate. Put the concerns in an easy-to-read table and list missing information afterwards. Preserve the source files and keep business decisions with me.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

● ● ● Claude Code · Call the critic by name

PROMPT

Use customer-plan-critic on demonstration-inputs/business-plan.md and demonstration-inputs/customer-feedback.md.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder



FILES AND LINKS

knowledge-checks.md

Links and copy buttons on the website



CHECK YOURSELF

A named agent exists on disk but Claude cannot find it. What do you try first?

Can a Skill Call Agents?

Run the content-review Skill, which hands 3 different review jobs to general-purpose agents.



IDEAS TO KEEP

01

A Skill can hold role instructions; Claude gives each role to a built-in general-purpose agent.

02

The audience agent reads the 8 viewer comments, the performance agent compares the figures and the script agent reviews the written plan.

03

The main agent checks the reports, updates the shared checklist and combines the findings.

04

Save a Skill to reuse instructions; save a named agent when the same responsibility keeps returning.



FOLLOW ALONG

- 1 Install content-review into this project's `.claude/skills/` folder.
- 2 Open the 3 inputs in `demonstration-inputs/content-review/`.
- 3 Invoke the Skill, accept a review subfolder and open an agent's details while it runs.
- 4 Read `revised-video-brief.md` when the main agent finishes.

Claude Code · Install the course Skills

PROMPT

Install the Skills from `skills/agent-fit` and `skills/content-review` into this project's `.claude/skills/` folder, preserving their complete folders and references. Read existing versions before replacing them and ask me if they differ. Show me the saved paths, read the installed files back and check that Claude can invoke each Skill. Install only these course Skills.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

Claude Code · Run the content review

PROMPT

`/content-review` Review `demonstration-inputs/content-review/viewer-comments.csv`, `performance.csv` and `video-script.md` in that same folder. Decide what the next version should explain or show more clearly, keeping a 45-second duration. Use separate audience, performance and script agents with distinct assignments. Save the three reports and `revised-video-brief.md` in `review-output/`. Preserve the inputs. The main conversation owns `review-output/progress.md` and tells me what finished.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder



FILES AND LINKS

`skills/content-review/SKILL.md``demonstration-inputs/content-review/video-script.md``demonstration-inputs/content-review/viewer-comments.csv``demonstration-inputs/content-review/performance.csv``demonstration-inputs/content-review/progress.md`

Links and copy buttons on the website



CHECK YOURSELF

Who updates the shared progress checklist, and why not each agent?

Give Different Agents Different Jobs

See why the 3 reviews could start together and why the combined brief had to wait for them.





IDEAS TO KEEP

01

Agents can run in parallel when each has the input needed to answer its own question.

02

A step that needs another agent's result waits until that result arrives.

03

The main agent surfaced a disagreement (comment V05 against the script agent's timing) instead of hiding it.

04

Watch times show something changed; the comments and script explain what to clarify.



FOLLOW ALONG

1

Open the 3 completed agents' details and note what each received.

2

Open revised-video-brief.md and check a recommendation against its quoted comment.

3

Read the opening-order choice and decide which revision you would make.



FILES AND LINKS

[Open the lecture's website section](#)**?**

CHECK YOURSELF

Before launching several agents, what should you check about each one?

Research a Project Before Changing It

Use a research agent to investigate a local product page, then choose and approve a small change.



💡 IDEAS TO KEEP

01

A research agent reads and searches in its own conversation; the main conversation gets the findings.

02

Research supplies reasons; you still choose the change.

03

Describe each failed click so Claude can repair the right thing.

04

Ask Claude to show suggestions and wait for approval before additional content changes.



FOLLOW ALONG

- 1 Open product-page.html and setup-guide.html and try their links.
- 2 Send the research prompt and open setup-research-brief.md.
- 3 Choose one change and send the editing prompt.
- 4 Open the page in the browser, click the guide link and report anything that fails.
- 5 Answer the second question in knowledge-checks.md.

● ● ● Claude Code · Research before changing

PROMPT

Use a research agent to read demonstration-inputs/product-page.html, demonstration-inputs/setup-guide.html and demonstration-inputs/customer-feedback.md. Identify unanswered setup questions, use web searches where relevant and suggest 3 useful improvements. Each suggestion should explain which feedback it addresses. Save the findings as setup-research-brief.md and leave the original files unchanged.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

● ● ● Claude Code · Make the chosen edit

PROMPT

Use any design Skill that you have and add a short setup section to the product page and a clear link to our existing setup guide. Use the guide's actual information.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

● ● ● Claude Code · Repair and propose, then wait

PROMPT

The full-guide link on the product page does not open the guide, the product-details link does not work, and the guide's return link does not open the product page. Repair those links. Use the same design Skill to improve both pages. For any additional content changes, show me your suggestions and wait for my approval.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder



FILES AND LINKS

[demonstration-inputs/product-page.html](#)

[demonstration-inputs/setup-guide.html](#)

Links and copy buttons on the website



CHECK YOURSELF

Why does the research come before the edit, and who chooses the edit?

Choose What an Agent Can Do

Match an agent's tools and model to its job, and keep your approval for real actions.





IDEAS TO KEEP

01

The tools field decides what an agent can do; the instructions decide which file and what content.

02

A saved model and effort choice applies each time the agent runs.

03

Every agent's usage counts alongside the main conversation.

04

maxTurns limits rounds of work; it is not a cost limit or a schedule.

05

Agent teams coordinate directly with one another; subagents return to the main conversation.



FOLLOW ALONG

1

Open customer-plan-critic.md and read its tools and model fields.

2

Ask the critic to save its own report and approve adding Write.

3

Start a fresh conversation to try the updated agent, then open the report.

4

Read the optional maxTurns example in AGENT-CONFIGURATION.md.

● ● ● Claude Code · Let the critic save its own report

PROMPT

Use customer-plan-critic to review the plan and feedback again, and have the agent itself save its report as customer-plan-critique.md in this project.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

Claude Code · Approve the tool change

PROMPT

Yes, add Write and use that filename.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

 FILES AND LINKS

AGENT-CONFIGURATION.md

Links and copy buttons on the website



CHECK YOURSELF

The definition now lists Write, but the report was not saved. What do you do next?

Find and Adapt Existing Agents

Adapt a community agent (VoltAgent's content-marketer) into a project agent for one setup-post job.



💡 IDEAS TO KEEP

01

An existing agent is a starting point to inspect, not a finished fit.

02

Keep the useful instructions and remove work the project does not need.

03

Keep the source attribution and MIT licence beside the adapted file.

04

Compare the draft with the source guide before changing or publishing anything.



FOLLOW ALONG

- 1 Open the VoltAgent Business and Product collection and read content-marketer.
- 2 Ask Claude to adapt it into setup-content-writer for the Willow Desk guide.
- 3 Open the saved definition, then run it in a new conversation if it is not found.
- 4 Compare the draft with setup-guide.html and ask for specific revisions.

● ● ● Claude Code · Adapt an existing agent

PROMPT

Use VoltAgent's content-marketer agent as a starting point: [paste the content-marketer link from this lecture's website section].

Adapt it for Willow Desk. It should read our setup guide and draft one helpful LinkedIn post in a simple conversational tone. Keep the setup information accurate and return the draft for me to review. Remove instructions for campaigns or services this project does not use. Save it as a project agent called setup-content-writer.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

● ● ● Claude Code · Run the adapted agent

PROMPT

Use setup-content-writer to turn our setup guide into a helpful LinkedIn post. Return a draft for me to review.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder



FILES AND LINKS

EXISTING-AGENTS.md

demonstration-inputs/agent-discovery/

Links and copy buttons on the website



CHECK YOURSELF

The draft says "saves guessing later". How do you decide whether that line stays?

Which Job Deserves an Agent?

Use the agent-fit Skill to decide whether a job deserves an agent, then work through the 5 common problems.





IDEAS TO KEEP

01

agent-fit asks one question at a time: up to 5, then up to 5 more if an important uncertainty remains.

02

A recommendation can be: keep it in the main conversation, give an existing agent one part, create a reusable agent or refine the idea.

03

A saved definition and a successful run are separate checks.

04

The 5 problems: choosing the work, a misunderstood job, the wrong agent, agents without a useful split, and not knowing what finished.



FOLLOW ALONG

1

Install agent-fit (AGENT-FIT-INSTALL.md) or use AGENT-FIT-PROMPT.md in the conversation.

2

Describe a recurring job and answer the questions.

3

Read the proposed brief and refine any rule that is broader than the job needs.

4

Open FIVE-PRACTICAL-SOLUTIONS.md and pick the prompt for your actual problem.

5

Answer the third question in knowledge-checks.md.

Claude Code · Ask agent-fit about a recurring review

PROMPT

I want an agent to review our business plan and customer feedback every week. Help me decide whether that's useful. I want to keep the final business decision with me.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

Claude Code · Confirm creation

PROMPT

Yes, create it.

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder

 FILES AND LINKS

skills/agent-fit/

AGENT-FIT-INSTALL.md

AGENT-FIT-PROMPT.md

FIVE-PRACTICAL-SOLUTIONS.md

AGENT-REPAIR-PROMPT.md

AGENT-COMPLETION-PROMPT.md

AGENT-FEEDBACK-AND-PROGRESS.md

Links and copy buttons on the website

?

CHECK YOURSELF

Claude chose a different agent from the one you meant. What two things do you do?

Choose Your Next Delegation

Choose one job of your own to delegate, with a result you can inspect.



IDEAS TO KEEP

01

Pick the part of the work an agent can take, and what you need back to use its return.

02

For a review, name the questions and the material; for a change, name the target and the action you authorize.

03

Independent reviews can run together; an edit chosen from research waits for the research.

04

If the first return misses something, explain what you expected and why.



FOLLOW ALONG

- 1 Choose a plan, source material or project that matters to you.
- 2 Use agent-fit, or follow the demonstrated route with the practice files.
- 3 Inspect the return and improve the instructions for the next run.

● ● ● Claude Code · Start your own delegation

PROMPT

```
/agent-fit I want to improve [describe your work and desired result]. Help me decide whether an agent would be useful. Ask one question at a time and refine the next question from my answer.
```

Paste into: Claude Code, in the extracted Section 10 practice folder



FILES AND LINKS

Open the lecture's website section



CHECK YOURSELF

What is one job you could delegate this week, and what would you need back?

Words used in this section

Agent

A Claude worker given an assignment, its own instructions and the actions it may use.

Main agent

The main conversation: it directs the work, supplies assignments and uses the returns.

Subagent

An agent working on one part of a larger job in its own working conversation.

Built-in agent

An agent Claude Code already includes, such as the general-purpose agent.

Custom agent

A named agent saved as a Markdown file with a name, description, tools, model and instructions.

Context

The information a model can work with during a conversation.

Handoff

The assignment Claude sends an agent: purpose, starting information, allowed actions and the result needed back.

Parallel work

Agents starting together because each already has what it needs to answer its own question.

Tools field

The list of actions an agent may use, such as Read or Write.

maxTurns

An optional limit on an agent's rounds of work; a run that stops there may return a partial result.

Agent team

Agents that coordinate directly with one another, rather than each returning to the main conversation.

Skill

A saved method; it can hold role instructions that the main agent delegates to agents.

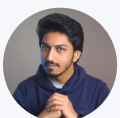
Work That Happens While You Are Not There

Continue with automation and scheduled tasks. Take a job you can already direct and arrange for it to start at the right time, with a result you know how to inspect.

Continue the course

Section 10 on the website

aruntastic.com



Written by Arun Nagarathanam
Part of Claude Code Without Coding



Check the choices you would make

Use the three knowledge checks in your practice ZIP. Answer each question before reading the answer notes.



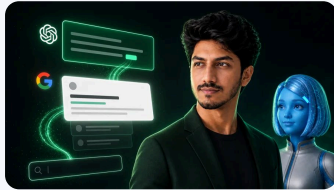
Try the course readiness quiz

The website quiz gives you more situations to think through alongside the course.

[Open the quiz](#)

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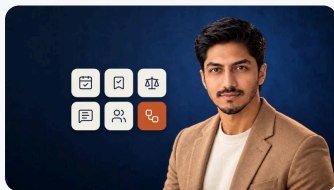
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Go deeper



TOOLKIT

SEO Accelerator Toolkit

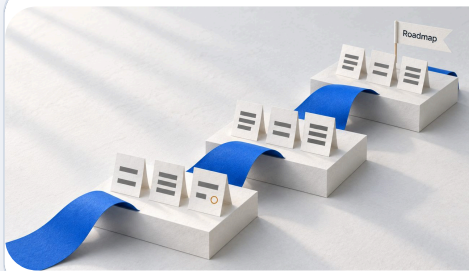
150+ copy-paste AI prompts for audience research, keywords, content, technical SEO and link building.



TOOLKIT

GEO Accelerator Toolkit

100 detailed AI prompts for GEO audits, entity building, content structure and client reporting.



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[Learn more](#)

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Preparing for a Claude certification?

Practice exams written by Arun: 600 questions across 4 mock exams and 2 drill banks. Unofficial preparation, not affiliated with Anthropic.



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CCAR-P

Architect Professional