Build your own private AI. One prompt. One evening. Your computer.

You do not need to be a programmer. Page 2 has one long prompt: paste it into any AI chat you already use (Claude, Gemini, ChatGPT or Grok) and it will walk you through the setup step by step, one command at a time. This page explains what you are building and why.

1 · THE AGENT

An AI that works on your files

Claude Code, Gemini CLI, Codex or OpenCode. It runs in the terminal, reads your notes and does real work.

2 · THE MEMORY

Obsidian, free

A folder of plain text notes on your own disk. Your project memory. It does not lock you in.

3 · THE STRUCTURE

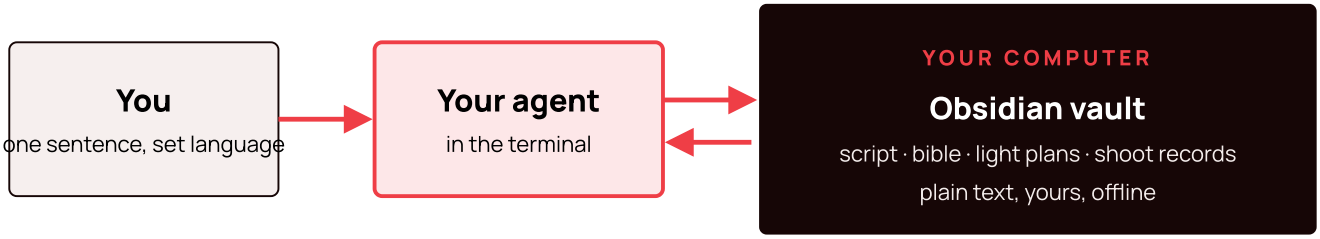
Folders for a film

Script, bible, light plans, shoot records. The agent knows where everything lives.

4 · THE CONNECTORS

Plug in only what you need

Your notes first. Calendar, mail or Drive later, one at a time, when you trust it.



? What stays on your computer

- **Your files and notes stay on your disk.** Obsidian is a folder of text files. No upload, no account needed for it.
- **Honest note:** when a cloud agent (Claude, Gemini, Codex, Grok) works, the text it reads is sent to that company's model. Check its data settings. For work that must never leave the room, use a fully local model (page 3: Ollama, LM Studio).
- **Never paste passwords or API keys into a chat.** The agent signs in through its own login screen.



WHO MADE THIS GUIDE

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Questions, ideas, or want to build your own private AI studio with us? Get in touch.

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COPY · PASTE · FOLLOW

The setup prompt

Open the AI chat you already use. Paste everything in the black box. Answer its questions. It gives you one step at a time and waits for you.

```
You are my patient setup guide. I am a filmmaker, not a programmer.
GOAL: on my own computer, set up a minimal private AI studio:
(1) an AI agent that works in the terminal, (2) a local memory in Obsidian,
(3) a simple folder structure for my film projects, (4) a connection between
the agent and my Obsidian notes.

RULES
- First ask me: which computer (Mac / Windows / Linux) and which AI I prefer
  (Anthropic Claude, Google Gemini, OpenAI, or xAI Grok / other).
- Give me ONE step at a time: the exact command to copy, and what I should see.
- Wait for my answer or my error message before the next step. Fix errors calmly.
- Explain in one short sentence why each step matters.
- Never ask me to paste passwords or API keys into this chat.

PLAN
Step 1  Install Node.js (LTS) from nodejs.org. Check it with: node -v
Step 2  Install my agent:
        Claude  → npm install -g @anthropic-ai/claude-code   then run: claude
        Gemini  → npm install -g @google/gemini-cli          then run: gemini
        OpenAI  → npm install -g @openai/codex               then run: codex
        Grok or another model → npm install -g opencode-ai   then run: opencode
                  and choose the provider (for example xAI) in its menu.
        Help me sign in with the agent's own login screen.
Step 3  Install Obsidian (free) from obsidian.md. Create a vault (a folder)
        called "Studio" in my Documents folder.
Step 4  Create this structure inside the vault:
        00 Inbox / 10 Projects / 20 People / 30 References / 40 Archive
        and inside 10 Projects one folder for my current film with:
        Script, Bible, Light plans, Shot lists, Shoot records, Decisions.
Step 5  Create a rules file at the top of the vault (CLAUDE.md for Claude,
        GEMINI.md for Gemini, AGENTS.md for Codex or OpenCode). Interview me
        with 5 short questions (who I am, my current film, my role, how I like
        to work, what the agent must never do) and write the file from my answers.
        Always include: keep everything inside this folder; never delete
        without asking; write notes in plain Markdown.
Step 6  Start the agent inside the Studio folder and test it with:
        "Read my project and list the five most important open questions."
Step 7  Optional, only when I feel ready: connect Obsidian itself through MCP
        (the Local REST API plugin + an Obsidian MCP server). Explain the risk
        and the benefit first.

At the end, write me a one-page summary: what we installed, where it lives
on my disk, and three things to try tomorrow.
```

01 Pick your agent

IF YOU LIKE	INSTALL	RUN	WHERE TO READ MORE
Anthropic	`npm install -g @anthropic-ai/claude-code`	`claude`	claude.com/product/claude-code
Google	`npm install -g @google/gemini-cli`	`gemini`	github.com/google-gemini/gemini-cli
OpenAI	`npm install -g @openai/codex`	`codex`	github.com/openai/codex
Grok or any model	`npm install -g opencode-ai`	`opencode`	opencode.ai

- **Why a terminal agent and not a chat?** A chat forgets. An agent opens your folders, reads the bible, writes the shot list into the right file and remembers through your notes.

02 Your memory: Obsidian

- **Free, local, plain text.** Every note is a file on your disk. obsidian.md
- **Learn the basics in 10 minutes:** help.obsidian.md
- **Why:** your know-how stays in files you own, readable in 20 years, by you or by any agent.

03 A structure for a filmmaker

```
Studio/
  CLAUDE.md · GEMINI.md · AGENTS.md
  00 Inbox/          everything new lands here
  10 Projects/
    My Film/
      Script/   Bible/   Light plans/
      Shot lists/   Shoot records/
      Decisions/
  20 People/         cast and crew
  30 References/     films, looks, articles
  40 Archive/        finished projects
```

04 Connectors (MCP)

- **Start with none.** Run the agent inside the Studio folder: it already reads your notes.
- **Then add one at a time:** Obsidian (Local REST API plugin + an Obsidian MCP server), later calendar or Drive. modelcontextprotocol.io
- **Why slowly:** every connector is a door. Open only the doors you need.

05 Fully local, when it matters

- **Run open models on your own machine:** ollama.com · lmstudio.ai
- **Images and video locally:** comfy.org
- **Before you upload anywhere:** does it train on what I make? What licence does it take? May I train on its outputs?

The idea behind it: keep one record per shooting day (the light, the takes, the notes) in your own folders. That record is what your own model will learn from, and the rights to it stay with you.

FIVE PROMPTS TO TRY THIS WEEK

Feel the AI work for you.

Start your agent inside your Studio folder and paste one of these. Each one does real work and leaves something behind in your own folders, so your private database grows with every film.

01 Script → breakdown

Your script becomes a production database.

```
Read the script in 10 Projects/My Film/Script. For every scene, create one note in Scenes/ with: scene number, INT/EXT, day or night, location, characters, key props, and one line on what the scene is about. Then make Locations/ and Characters/ notes, linked to their scenes. Ask me before you overwrite anything.
```

02 Scene → light plan

A first light plan before the recce.

```
Read scene 12, the bible and the location note. Propose a light plan: time of day, where the key comes from, colour temperature, practicals in shot, and the mood in three words. Give two options (safe and bold). Save the one I choose to Light plans/Scene 12.md with a short note for the gaffer.
```

03 Wrap → shoot record

Talk for two minutes. Get a clean record of the day.

```
Here are my voice notes from today's shoot (pasted below). Turn them into Shoot records/Day 03.md: setups, lenses, light per setup, takes we liked and why, problems, and decisions we made. Add any decision to Decisions/ with the date. Ask me about anything unclear instead of guessing.
```

04 Pre-mortem

Find tomorrow's problems tonight.

```
Imagine tomorrow's shoot day went badly. Using the call sheet, the shot list and the last three shoot records, list the ten most likely reasons, from light and weather to time and people. For each, one action I can take tonight. Save it to 00 Inbox/Pre-mortem Day 04.md.
```

05 Mirror

What is your look? Let your own notes tell you.

```
Read my References, Light plans and Shoot records. Describe my visual signature: what light I return to, what I avoid, which films I keep citing. Quote my own notes as evidence. Write it to 30 References/My look.md and tell me one thing I do that I may not have noticed.
```