

Building your app — the setup checklist

Three free accounts, connected once. Then you just tell Claude what to build.

Think of it like setting up a workshop before you build anything. You need somewhere to keep your plans, somewhere to store your materials, and somewhere to display the finished thing. **Work top to bottom** — each step needs the one before it. It's all free to start.

1 Get your helper

Your tools

- ☐ **Install Claude Code** — this is what actually writes the app for you.
- ☐ **Get a password manager** — you'll collect several logins along the way, and this keeps them safe in one place.

Why: before you build anything, you need the assistant that does the building and a safe place for your passwords.

2 A home for your plans — GitHub

The filing cabinet

- ☐ **Create a free GitHub account** — this safely stores every file in your project, with a full history so nothing is ever lost.
- ☐ **Make a new private project folder** (called a "repository") and point Claude Code at it.

Why: everything you build lives here. You can always go back to how things were last week.

3 A place for your data — Supabase

The store room

- ☐ **Create a free Supabase account** — this is where your app keeps its information.
- ☐ **Choose a location in Europe**, then let Claude connect to it and build the structure for you.

Why: when your app needs to remember something, it stores it here. Europe keeps your data close to home.

4 A place to show it — Vercel

The shop window

- ☐ **Create a free Vercel account** — this puts your app live on the internet.
- ☐ **Link it to your GitHub folder** — from now on it publishes your updates automatically, with no effort from you.
- ☐ **Give Vercel the Supabase "keys"** so the shop window can reach the store room.

Why: this is what people actually visit. Once linked, every change you make goes live on its own.

5 Build and go live

The fun part

- ☐ **Tell Claude what you want built** — check it over, then publish with one click.
- ☐ **Add your own web address** and switch on automatic backups.

Why: your job is the decisions — what it does, what it's for. Claude handles the wiring.

⚠ The one rule that matters most

Your "keys" are like house keys. Some are safe to leave on show; one gives full access to everything. Claude knows which is which — just **never paste a key into a public place, a chat, or an email**. Keep them only in the private settings of Vercel or Supabase. Get this one habit right and you've avoided the most common beginner mistake.

Your workshop: GitHub (plans) → Supabase (materials) → Vercel (shop window). Set them up in order, connect once, then build.