

AI DESIGN SET-UP

Your AI Design Studio, Inside Your Editor

Set up Pencil, Claude Code and VS Code so an AI agent designs documents, decks and pages for you, on your own machine. Three tools, mostly extensions.

Turn Intent Into Impact.



THE IDEA

Describe the design. Watch it appear.

Design tools used to mean learning the software. With this set-up you type what you want in plain words, and an AI agent builds it on a real design canvas inside your editor: brand documents, slide decks, one-pagers, social posts. You stay the director; it does the drawing.

YOU

Describe the outcome

→ **CLAUDE CODE**
Plans and directs

→ **PENCIL**
Draws it on the canvas

Three tools, one workflow

Two are extensions you add inside VS Code. Together they turn plain instructions into finished, on-brand designs.



1

VS Code

The workspace

The free editor with a built-in terminal.
Everything lives and runs here.

Free



2

Claude Code

The AI agent

Reads what you ask and directs the design.
Shown here with Claude Code; Codex works
the same way.

Paid Claude plan



3

Pencil

The design canvas

A design tool like Canva, but built so an AI
agent can draw on it directly.

Free, early access

Add two extensions

1 Get VS Code

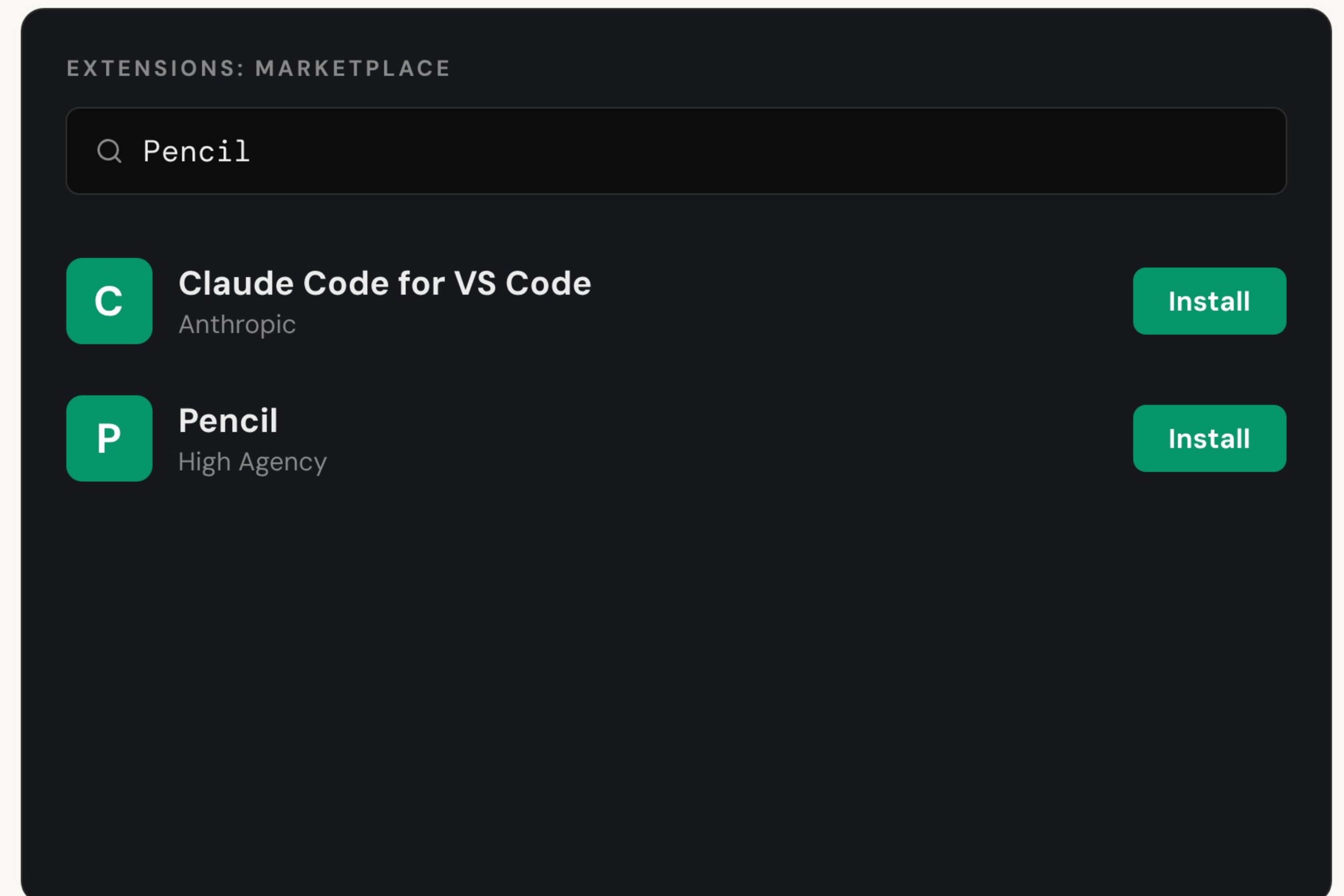
Install the free editor from code.visualstudio.com and open it.

2 Add Claude Code

Open the Extensions panel, search “Claude Code”, click Install, then sign in with your Claude plan.

3 Add Pencil

In the same panel, search “Pencil” and click Install. That is the whole setup.



They find each other automatically

There is no fiddly configuration. When you open Pencil it quietly starts a small helper on your own computer. Claude Code notices it and can start using the design canvas straight away.



✓ To check it worked, type `/mcp` to Claude Code. If Pencil shows up in the list, you are ready to design.

Design by conversation

1 Open a new .pen file

That is Pencil's design file. It opens as a blank canvas.

2 Describe what you want

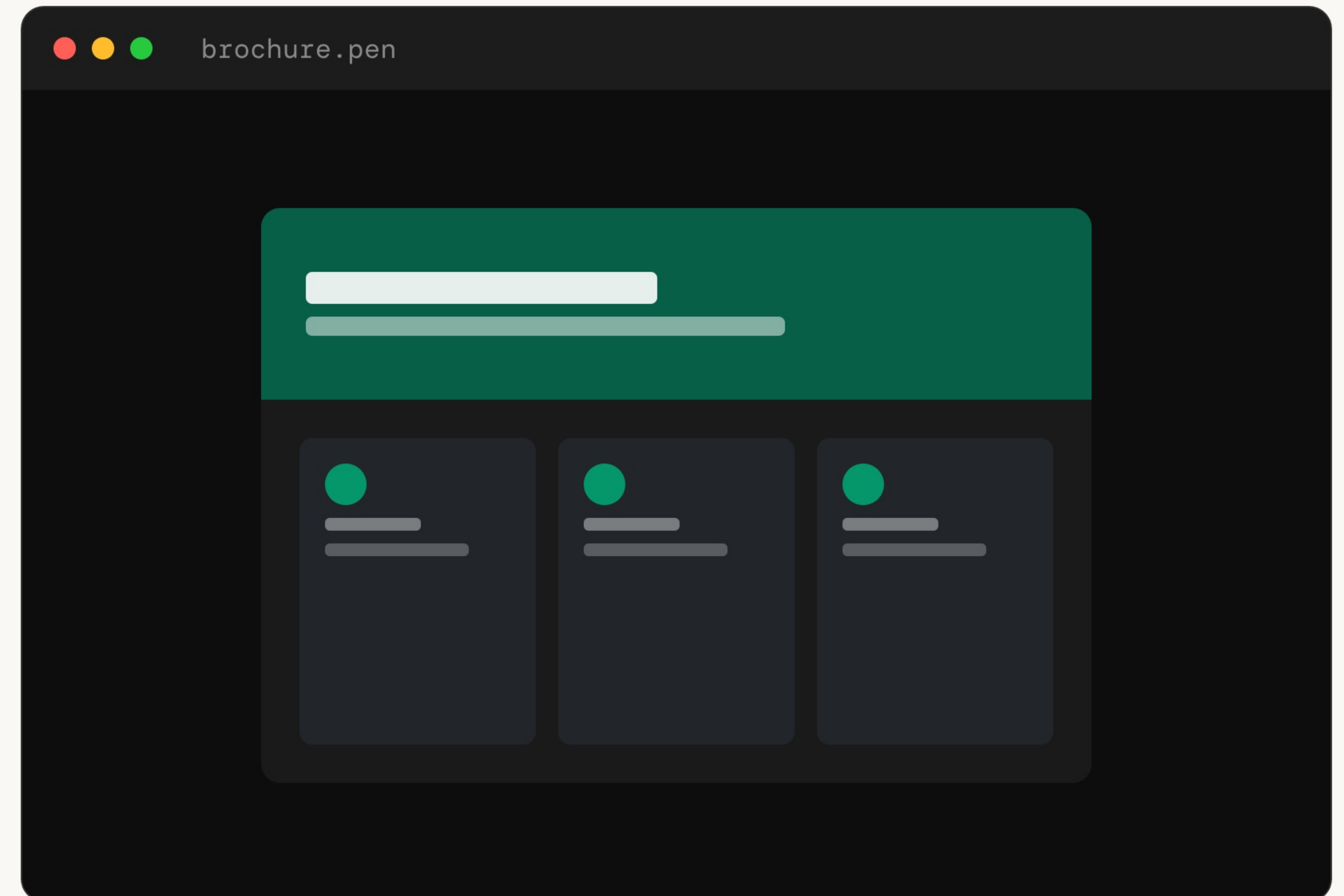
Tell Claude Code: "design a one-page brochure with my logo, three sections and a green accent."

3 Watch it build

The agent draws it on the canvas in front of you. Ask for changes in plain words.

4 Export it

When you are happy, export the finished design as a PDF or image to share or print.



WHAT YOU CAN MAKE

You imagine it. It draws it.

The same three tools make almost any flat design you need, all on your own machine, all in your brand.

Brand documents

Slide decks

One-pagers

Social posts

Lead magnets

Proposals

1 Install two extensions

→2 They connect automatically

→3 Design by conversation

KEEP GOING

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