

Claude Duet: Anthropic's new AI agent for your busywork, explained

Claude Duet is Anthropic's new agent that works in the background and asks before it sends, pays or signs. Here is what it does, who gets it, and how to join the waitlist.

WHAT THIS ADDS

The useful part is not that an AI can write an email. It is the approval card. Duet does the reading and the drafting while you are away, then stops and shows you the exact action before anything goes out. For an owner, that is the difference between an assistant you can trust with invoices and one you have to watch.

What Anthropic announced

On **October 21, 2026** Anthropic announced **Claude Duet**, a new app where Claude works as a proactive agent. It surfaces what needs your attention, does tasks you give it, keeps working when you are away, and asks before it acts on your behalf. Anthropic says it is aimed at professionals and small business owners, and it is built around Claude Opus 5.5.

It is a **research preview**, so access is by waitlist.

Who can get it

- **Plans:** Claude Pro and Max subscribers. Team and Enterprise plans are not included yet.
- **Where:** the US only, for now.
- **Apps:** a standalone app on iOS and Android, and on your computer at claude.ai.
- **Price:** included in Pro and Max at no separate charge. It shares your plan's usage limits with the rest of Claude, and its background checks count toward them. Bigger jobs, like a financial model or a deck, use more.

How to join the waitlist

1. Open the [Claude Duet page](#).
2. Press **Join the waitlist**.
3. Wait for the email. Anthropic says it will email you when access is ready.

Your Claude memory, skills and connected apps carry over once you are in.

Connect your apps

Duet works with more than 6,000 connectors and plugins from the Claude Marketplace. Anthropic's page lists Gmail, Google Calendar, Slack, Notion, Shopify, Stripe, QuickBooks, HubSpot and Microsoft 365 among them. You can disconnect any app it can reach.

Once connected, it checks your accounts every few hours. You choose what you want to hear about and how often. It sends a short **morning brief** of what needs you, and messages you only when something needs attention.

Give it a real job

You talk to it in one ongoing thread, by text or voice. Anthropic's small-business examples include:

- **Invoices:** check QuickBooks or Stripe for unpaid invoices and draft reminders.
- **Inbox:** find missed Gmail and Slack messages and help you reply.
- **Payroll:** prepare payroll in Gusto for your review.
- **Contracts:** prepare agreements and send them for signature through DocuSign.
- **Sales:** draft follow-up emails from HubSpot contact and deal history.

A starter prompt, in plain words: *Find my unpaid invoices from the last 30 days and draft a polite reminder for each one.*

It asks before it acts

Duet reads, drafts and prepares work on its own. Before it **sends a message, makes a payment, signs a document or deletes anything**, it shows you the exact action and waits for your approval. Anthropic also says some actions are off-limits even with approval, including trading securities and moving money between accounts.

Why it is different: its own computer

Duet runs on its own virtual machine with its own browser. That is why your laptop or phone does not need to stay on while it works.

Limits to know about

- It is an early version. Anthropic says it may misread a thread or misjudge urgency, and it can miss something that arrives between check-ins.
- It is weaker at personal errands, like booking tickets.
- It cannot show you its browser yet.
- It lives in its own app, separate from the main Claude app.

Treat the first weeks as a trial: start with drafting jobs, and read every approval card before you press Approve.

DO THIS

Join the Claude Duet waitlist if you are on Claude Pro or Max in the US. When you get in, connect Gmail and your invoicing tool first, start with drafting jobs, and read every approval card.

What Fynl.io is

One portal a small business runs itself on, instead of five subscriptions that do not talk to each other.

- A CRM and pipeline that shows every lead and where it stopped
- A calendar clients can book straight into
- Quotes, contracts and invoices, with deposits taken up front
- A website and form builder, so the enquiry lands in the same place
- Your Gmail connected, so the whole thread sits on the contact
- Automations for the follow-up you keep forgetting to send

The AI runs on **your own Claude or ChatGPT API key** — no markup on it. No SMS or phone calls yet. \$49/month per business, \$149 Agency, and we move your contacts over for you.

Fynl.io works the same way for the rest of your business: one portal for CRM, invoices, calendar and email, with AI that runs on your own Claude or ChatGPT API key, with no markup.

Sources

- Anthropic: Claude Duet announcement (October 21, 2026) — <https://claude.com/resources/articles/claude-duet>
- Claude Duet product page and waitlist — <https://claude.com/product/claude-duet>
- Claude Duet overview — <https://claude.com/duet>