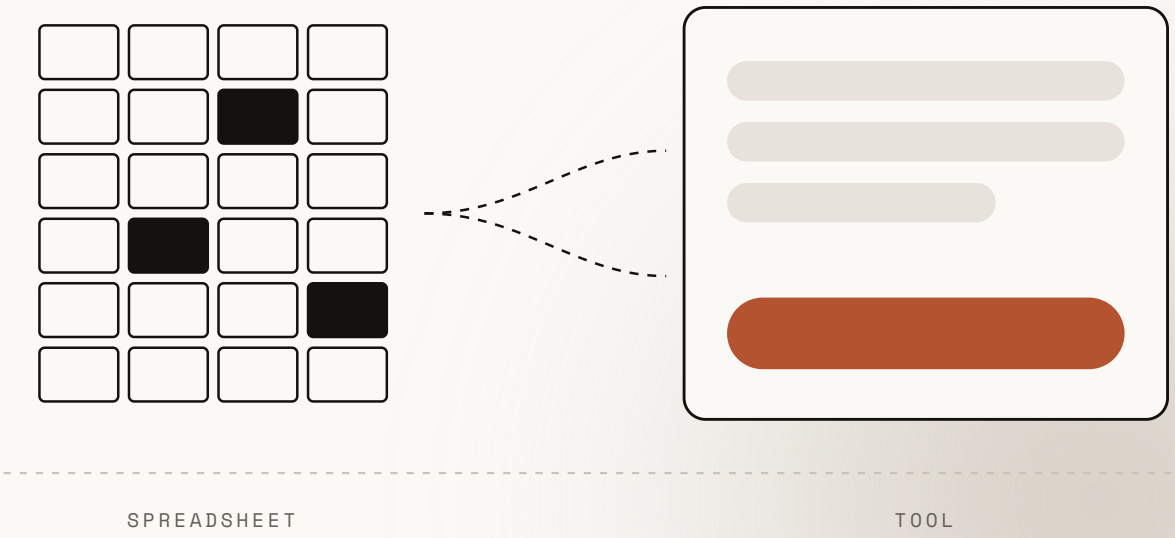


Claude Code for Non-Developers: turn your spreadsheet into an internal tool

Turn the spreadsheet your business runs on into a proper tool your team opens from a private link, with the same logic, proven against your past results, and no coding by you.

INTERNAL TOOL FROM A SPREADSHEET EDITION · FREE SAMPLE

NEUROVA AI
SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

About this guide

GUIDE	Claude Code for Non-Developers: turn your spreadsheet into an internal tool
EDITION	Internal tool from a spreadsheet
VERSION	1.1 · last tested November 2026
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in the full guide

This free sample contains chapter 01. The full guide has all 7 chapters, plus the prompt library and the checklist.

The promise. Over a weekend, turn the spreadsheet only one person understands into a **proper internal tool** your team opens from a **private link**. It uses the same rules as your sheet, it's **proven against your past quotes**, and then its mistakes are fixed. You give clear instructions and check the results; Claude Code writes the code.

Licence. This is a free sample. You are welcome to share it as it is.

Examples. Brink Kitchens and its workbook are fictional, mistakes included. The build is real. On 9 November 2026, a separate Claude Code session (v2.1.296, Opus 5.5), not told where the mistakes were, built the tool from this guide's prompts. The private link was tested live. Prices are left out of the examples on purpose. Real studies are cited with their source.

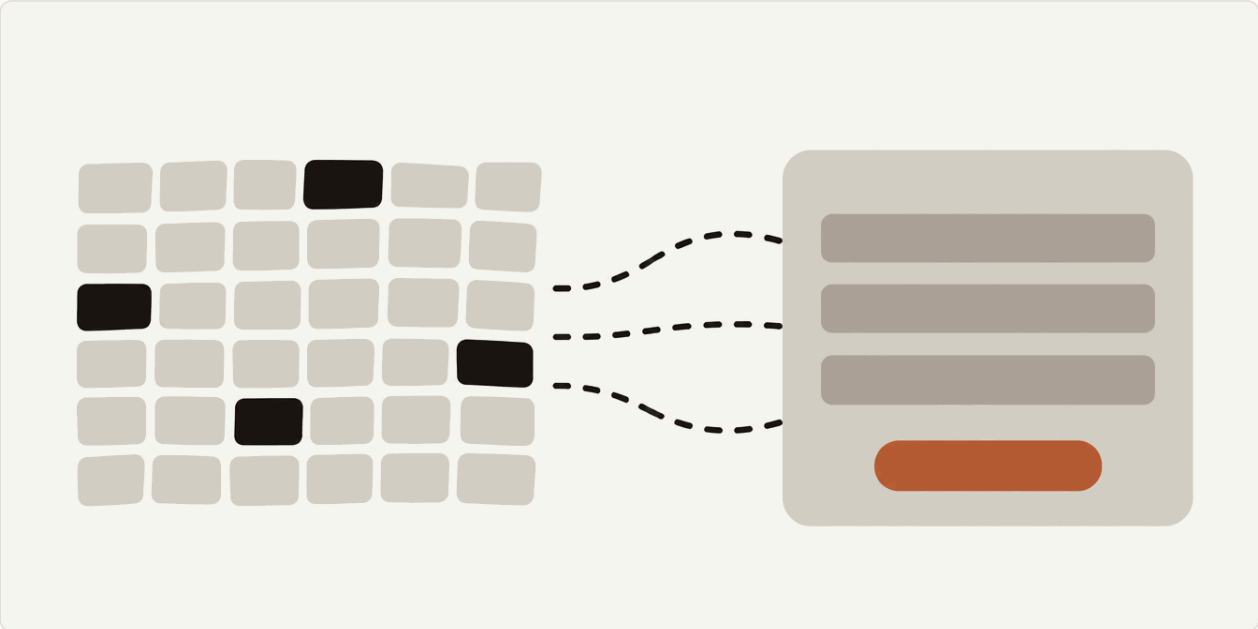
Tools change. AI products update often. If a screen looks different from the one described, the method still applies; owners get free updated versions in their library.

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CHAPTER 01

From spreadsheet to tool

Most businesses run on at least one spreadsheet that only one person really understands. It works until that person is on holiday, someone types over a formula, or a price changes in one tab and not in another. This guide turns that file into a proper tool, and you won't write the code yourself.



YOU'LL HAVE	A go or no-go for your own spreadsheet, and the six-step route the rest of the guide follows
TIME	15 minutes

Spreadsheets fail quietly

A spreadsheet never tells you it's wrong. It just gives a number. Research on real business spreadsheets keeps finding the same thing. In Ray Panko's review of field audits, presented at the European Spreadsheet Risks Interest Group in 2000, the audits from 1997 onwards found errors in **91% of the 54 spreadsheets** they checked. Most of those were serious enough to change a result.

The best-known case is public. In autumn 2020, England left **15,841 positive Covid tests** out of its daily figures (Public Health England). The BBC traced the cause to an old Excel file format that had run out of rows. Nobody saw an error message.

What Claude Code is, in plain words

Claude Code is Anthropic's AI assistant for building software. It works **inside one folder on your computer**. It reads the files there, writes new ones, and runs commands, such as a check that tests your calculator. You talk to it in plain language in the **Code** tab of the Claude desktop app. You decide how much it may do without asking, and every change can be undone.

You don't need to read or write code. Your job is the part only you can do: say clearly what the tool must do, answer Claude's questions about your business, and check the results against what you know is right.

ANTHROPIC'S OWN NON-DEVELOPERS

Anthropic's report on its own teams (2025) includes legal staff who built tools to route colleagues to the right lawyer, and a growth marketer who automated ad copy. It also describes finance staff "with no coding experience" who ran complete data workflows from a plain text file. Their advice runs through this guide: plan first, one step at a time, use screenshots.

15 min
ad-copy work in growth marketing, down from 2 hours

10×
more ad variations tested, as the team reports it

Source: How Anthropic teams use Claude Code, full report (PDF), 2025

Is Claude Code the right tool for this one?

IF WHAT YOU NEED IS…	USE…	WHY
A one-off sum or a quick formula fix	Claude chat, or Excel itself	No tool to maintain
Sorting files, writing reports from documents	Claude Cowork	Built for document work, no code involved
A shared list that many people edit all day (clients, stock, jobs)	A no-code database, such as Airtable or SharePoint Lists	Logins, permissions and history come built in
A calculator or checker your team uses daily, with your own rules	**Claude Code: this guide**	You own it, it does exactly your rules, and it can be tested
A form the public fills in, or anything that stores customer or patient data	The booking and intake edition of this guide	It needs a stricter "ship it safely" build

The best first tool **calculates from your rules but stores nothing**: quotes, estimates, planning, checks. That's this guide's build.

The route

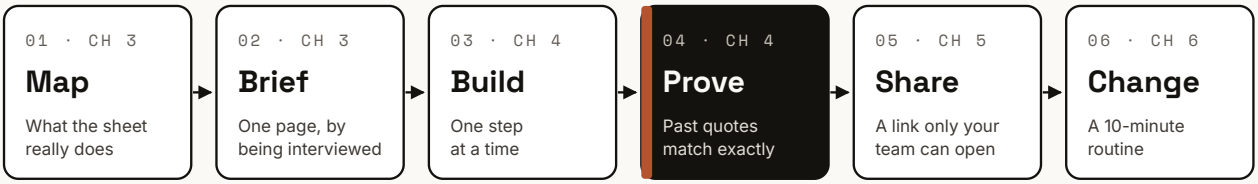


Fig 1.1 The six steps of this guide. Each one ends with something you can check

Our test run. A separate Claude Code session found all five mistakes we planted in the fictional Brink Kitchens workbook. It matched all eleven past quotes to the cent and published a link that blocked strangers, in 34 minutes of Claude's time. Budget a weekend for yours.

WHAT NEXT

Get the full guide

You've read the first chapter. The full guide takes you through all 7 chapters of the build, step by step, with every prompt ready to copy and a checklist to work from.

02 **Set up safely**
Privacy setting, app, a folder with a safe copy of your data, and house rules.

03 **Map what your spreadsheet does**
Every rule in plain English, your past results as tests, and a one-page brief.

04 **Build it, then prove it matches the sheet**
A plan you approve, one step at a time, with checks that replay your past quotes.

05 **Ship it safely: a link only your team can open**
A security check first, then two safe ways to share, both tested.

06 **Change prices and rules without breaking it**
A ten-minute routine for every change, and retiring the spreadsheet.

07 **Troubleshooting**
The snags we hit, and the ones you're most likely to hit.

SEE THE FULL GUIDE

neurova-ai.com/guides/claude-code-for-non-developers/spreadsheet-tool/