



PROMPT MAMA

THE BUILD-IT ISSUE



VOLUME 1

The Build-It Guide

From idea to live app, without being a developer.
Read it once, then keep it open on build day.

you can actually do this



● PICK YOUR PATH

Are you testing or are you building?

There are two ways to do this, and picking the wrong one is the main reason people stall out. Answer this first and the rest gets easy.

● TESTING AN IDEA

Lovable

One tool does everything. You describe your idea in a box, it builds the app in front of you, you press publish. You never touch a second website.

Pick this if you want something live today.

● BUILDING FOR REAL

The stack

Claude Code plus three free services. More steps up front, but you own the code and the data, and nothing gets rebuilt later.

Pick this if real people will store real info.

**The rule of thumb: a page people look at can be Lovable.
A place people keep things needs the stack.**

You can start on Lovable and move later. It exports to GitHub, so the move is a real path, not a fantasy. But if you already know people will be storing information with you, skip the detour.



● REAL EXAMPLES

What fits where.

Lovable handles these well

Class party RSVP tracker

One list, low stakes, short life

Chore chart for the kids

Simple checkboxes, family only

Landing page with email signup

Mostly a page, not a product

A quiz or a calculator

Answers in, result out

Event or wedding info site

Read only for almost everyone

These need the stack

A log families share

Private data, multiple logins

A paid membership or course

Payments plus accounts

A client booking app

Real records, real consequences

Anything with a paid tier

Accounts, permissions, billing

THE TRIGGER LIST

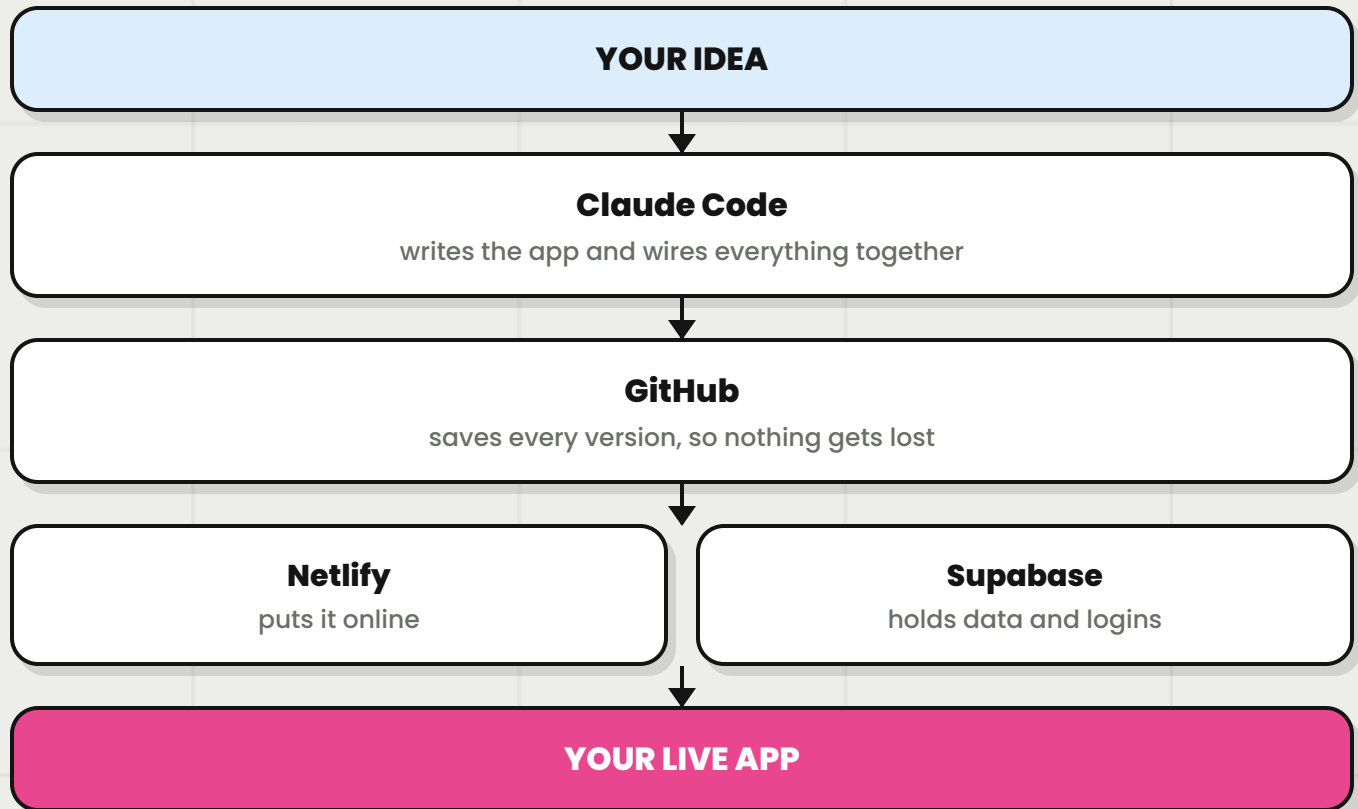
If people log back in, if you hold their information, if money moves, or if it has to keep working while you sleep, build on the stack.



● THE MAP

Who does what.

Ignore the technical names. Here is the job each tool holds.



Claude Code is the builder. You talk, it types. It also does the connecting between the other three, which is the part that usually scares people off.

Netlify connects to GitHub once, then every change goes live on its own. Buy your domain here too and save an account.

You will not need a server. Most simple apps skip that entirely. If yours ever needs one, Railway is the friendliest place to start.



● SET UP, ONCE

Give yourself one hour.

You only do this part one time, ever. It is the boring hour that makes every build after it fast.

1 Write your idea in three sentences

Who uses it. What they do in it. What they see when it works. If you cannot write those three sentences, no tool will save you.

2 Make the free accounts

GitHub, Netlify, Supabase. Same email for all three. Keep the GitHub password somewhere you can find it, because the other two connect through it.

3 Install Claude Code

Then make one new empty folder for this app and only this app, and open Claude Code inside it.

4 Set the ground rules before you ask for anything

Paste the prompt below. It changes the entire experience.

COPY THIS EXACTLY

I am not a developer. I want you to build this app for me and explain anything I need to do in plain English, one step at a time. Never assume I know a technical term. When you need me to click something on a website, tell me exactly what to click. Ask me questions if my idea is unclear.

example: "Parents of Room 12 use it. They add their name and yes or no. Everyone sees who is coming."



● BUILD DAY

Then you just keep talking.

5

Describe version one, small

The temptation is to describe the whole dream. Do not. Ask for the smallest version that does one useful thing. One screen is a perfectly good version one.

6

Look at it, then ask for changes

In normal words. Make the button bigger. Add a field for guests. It looks squished on my phone, fix that. Change one thing at a time so you can tell what broke.

7

Save it and put it online

Ask for a new private GitHub repository, then a Netlify connection. A minute later you have a real link. It will be ugly and random, and that is fine.

8

Send it to one real person

Not five. One. Their first confused question is your next task, and it is almost never the thing you were worried about.

SOUNDS LIKE

Build a simple web app where someone types their name, picks yes or no, and presses submit. Everyone who visits sees the list. Keep it clean and easy to read on a phone. Use Supabase for the data and walk me through connecting it.



● WHEN IT BREAKS

It will break. That is normal.

You do not need to understand the error. Copy the red text, paste it back, and say what you were doing.

SAY THIS

The page went blank right after I clicked save. Here is the error I saw. Fix it, and tell me in plain English what went wrong so I know for next time.

Three habits that prevent most disasters

- 1 Save to GitHub often**
After anything works, say save this to GitHub. That is your undo button.
- 2 Never paste your keys anywhere public**
Supabase gives you secret keys. Claude Code knows where they go. They do not belong in a screenshot or a story.
- 3 When it works, stop and save before adding more**
Working is a milestone worth keeping.

nobody is watching you fail



● WHAT IT COSTS

About the price of a domain.

GitHub

Free

Netlify

Free to host, you pay only for a domain

Supabase

Free tier, sleeps if unused, one click wakes it

Claude

A paid plan, and the only real cost here

If you want it in the App Store

Your web app can grow into a real iPhone and Android app. A few more steps, not a rebuild.

1 Package the web app into a phone app**2 Open a developer account**

Apple and Google both charge a yearly fee.

3 Submit it for the store review**Volume 2 walks through every step of that. Coming soon.**



● IF YOU REMEMBER NOTHING ELSE

Start smaller than feels satisfying.

Ship something ugly to one real person. Save often. Ask in plain English, and ask again when the answer is confusing.

You do not need permission or a computer science degree.

You need an idea you can say in three sentences and an afternoon.

● KEEP GOING

Follow @prompt_mama for AI you can actually use.

No gatekeeping. No perfection pressure.

now go build the thing