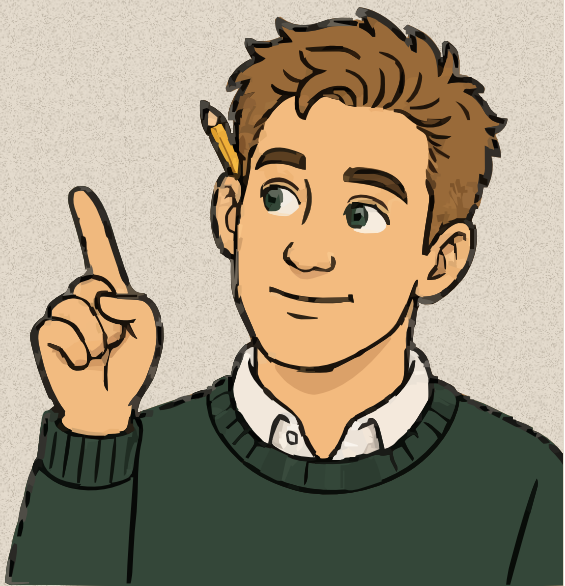


Five free video tools for Claude, and how to start each one

All five from the reel: what each one makes, what it needs to run, the exact words to type to start it, and a sixth we didn't show.



From the reel:
Five free video tools

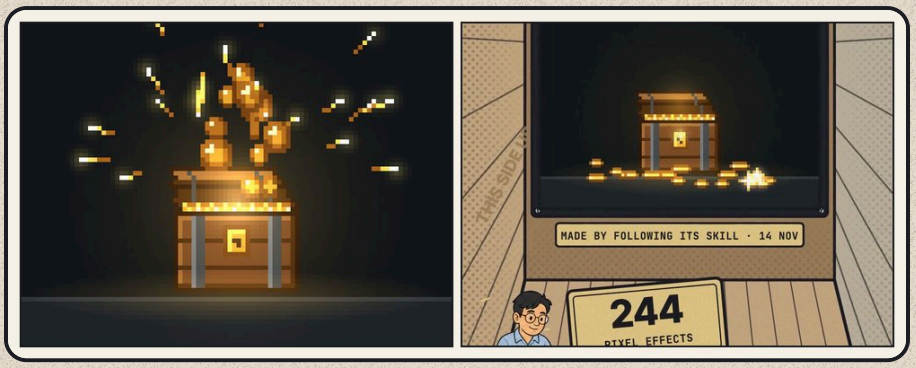
What's inside

All five are free under the MIT licence and were made between 30 October and 10 November 2026. Each is a skill: a folder of instructions Claude reads when the job comes up. They all start the same way: the Claude desktop app on a paid plan (Pro or above), its Code tab, where Claude works in a folder on your computer, and Node.js, the free program they run on. To get Node.js, go to nodejs.org, pick the LTS version and run its installer. Claude asks before it installs or runs anything. We tried two by following their instructions by hand; the other three are shown the way their own pages show them.

1. **Pixelfx: 244 pixel effects**
2. **Teardown: take a machine apart**
3. **Animated Shorts: a cartoon**
4. **Cinecode: ads as an MP4**
5. **Line-art animation: ink figures**

\+ **The sixth: Cinematic Skill**

Pixelfx: 244 pixel effects



Left: our coin chest, made 14 Nov by following its skill. Right: the same chest in the reel.

WHAT IT DOES

244 small pixel-art animations (fire, coins, confetti, weather) and a skill that makes new ones: draft, render, look, fix. 7,500 stars, MIT, made 30 Oct 2026. Making your own needs Node.js 18 or newer. We think it suits a playful brand: a prize-draw reel, a sale post with sparks.

SET IT UP

1. No setup: open `patch-gg.github.io/pixelfx` in a browser to play, recolour and save effects.
2. In the Code tab type: "Install the pixelfx skill from https://github.com/patch-gg/pixelfx."
3. Then: "Make five takes on a coin pickup sparkle and show me the best two."

Teardown: take a machine apart



Its README's demo, a robot bee, redrawn in our ink. We didn't run this one.

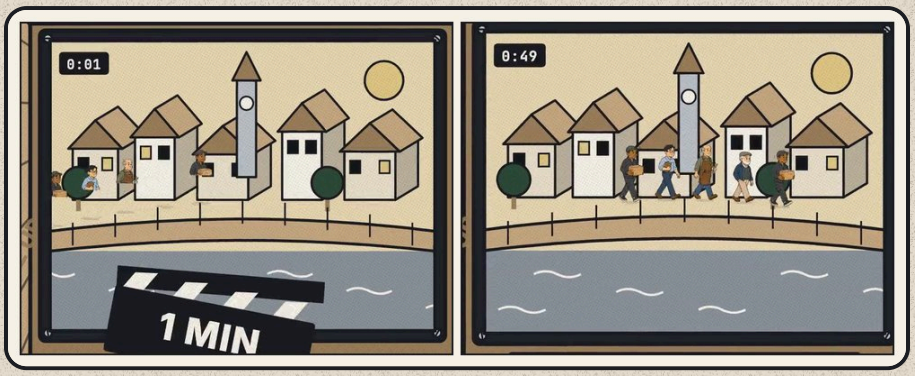
WHAT IT DOES

Ask how a machine works and Claude builds it as one offline web page you can take apart, with a video tour. 3,520 stars, MIT, made 30 Oct 2026. Developer setup: Node.js 20+, Playwright's test browser, ffmpeg for video and Python 3 for sound. We'd use it for anything you make or repair.

SET IT UP

1. Type in the Code tab: "Install the teardown skill from https://github.com/elvarofficial/teardown and run its one-time setup."
2. Then ask: "Build me a simulator of a 4-stroke motorcycle engine I can take apart, and record a 20-second video of it."

Animated Shorts: a cartoon



Its README's 3D-town cartoon, redrawn in our ink. Not run by us.

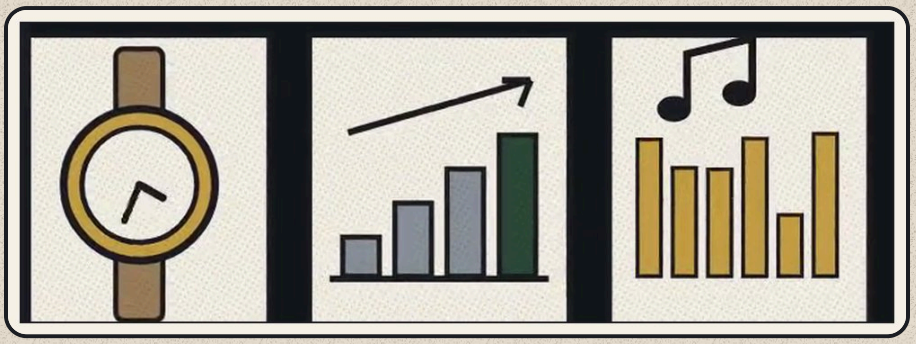
WHAT IT DOES

55 to 70 second vertical cartoons in a 3D town. 3,436 stars, MIT (reference frames for style study only), made 1 Nov 2026. Developer setup: Remotion and its 3D add-on (free for up to three staff), Node.js, Python 3, ffmpeg, 1.3 GB free per render.

SET IT UP

1. Type in the Code tab: "Install https://github.com/mromidev/claude-animated-shorts as my cartoon-3d-short skill."
2. Make a voice-over and a word-timings file (each word's start, like `cabin 1.20`). Claude can make it with Whisper, a free tool (untested by us).
3. Then: "Use the cartoon short skill on [our shop's story]."

Cinecode: ads as an MP4



Its README's ad, explainer and music video, redrawn in our ink.

WHAT IT DOES

Claude writes the script, builds every frame in code, adds sound and hands back an MP4: ads, product films, explainers. 2,518 stars, MIT, made 3 Nov 2026. Needs Node.js 22+, Python 3.9+, ffmpeg and Chrome. Narration uses your own Gemini or ElevenLabs key, or the computer's voice as a stand-in. Untried end to end on Windows.

SET IT UP

1. In the Code tab type: "Install the cinecode skill from https://github.com/sarpstar/cinecode". Open a new chat in an empty folder.
2. Type: "I want to make a short film." The MP4 lands in that folder.

> A film takes 100 to 250 steps (pieces of work), so Pro may run out.

Line-art animation: ink figures



Left: our baker, made 14 Nov by following its skill (an example). Right: the reel's host.

WHAT IT DOES

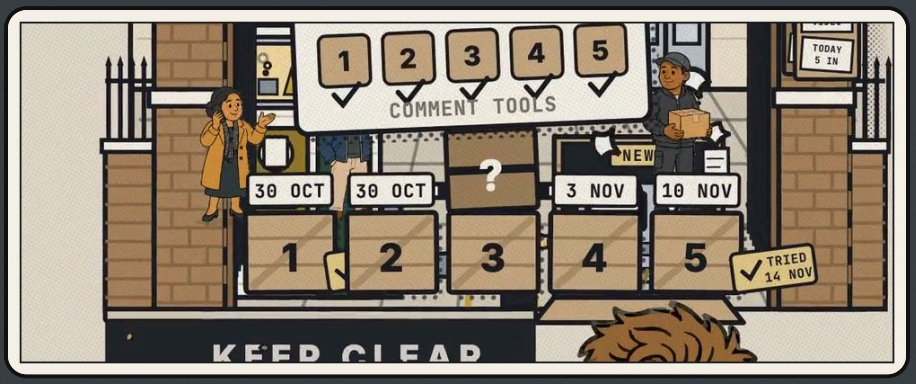
Ink-on-paper figures that walk and react, in scenes that turn from day to night, drawn as SVG (pictures that stay sharp at any size). 784 stars, MIT, made 10 Nov 2026, the newest of the five. Needs Node.js 22.18+, plus Chrome and ffmpeg for video. We'd use it for a calm, hand-drawn shop front.

SET IT UP

1. Type in the Code tab: "Install the skill from https://github.com/JDhruv14/line-art-animation into my Claude skills folder."
2. Ask: "Make a line art animation of a bakery at dawn: a baker carrying trays, steam from the oven, a cat in the window. Add a day-night cycle and render a 30-second 1080p video."

The sixth: Cinematic Skill

Narrated films built from code: one camera glides over photos, maps and cards in time with the narrator. Its README shows a cork wall of old photos for a history film and four clean cards for an explainer. 425 stars, MIT, made 9 Nov 2026.



The reel's works yard: five tools arrived as crates; the one marked ? is this sixth. Not run by us.

HOW

1. The quick install needs Node.js 22.20+ (its README also has a shell installer without Node), plus Python with three small libraries, and ffmpeg.
2. In the Code tab type: "Install the cinematic skill from https://github.com/Moh4696/cinematic-skill and what it needs."
3. Ask: "Make a 60-second founder story for [your business] from the photos in this folder."
4. A free computer voice sets the timing; the film needs a voice-over, your own or text-to-speech.

Where this comes from

– GitHub, each repo read with the GitHub API on 15 Nov 2026 (stars, licence, made date): patch-gg/pixelfx 7,500, MIT, 30 Oct; elvarofficial/teardown 3,520, MIT, 30 Oct; mromidev/claude-animated-shorts 3,436, MIT, 1 Nov; sarpstar/cinecode 2,518, MIT, 3 Nov; JDhruv14/line-art-animation 784, MIT, 10 Nov; Moh4696/cinematic-skill 425, MIT, 9 Nov.

– Each repo's README, read 15 Nov 2026: what it makes, what it needs, how to install it, and the example requests quoted here. Pixelfx's package file: Node 18 or newer. Cinecode's English README: its requirements, the Windows note and 100 to 250 steps per film. Cinematic Skill's README: the stand-in voice and the final voice. Animated Shorts' skill file: the voice and word timings step. Node.js download page, nodejs.org, read 15 Nov 2026: the LTS version is v26.

– Pixelfx gallery, patch-gg.github.io/pixelfx, read 15 Nov 2026: play, palette, mirror, sprite sheet.

– Our own run notes, 14 Nov 2026: the coin chest (pixelfx) and the baker (line-art-animation), followed by hand; nothing downloaded was run. The reel's star counts are from 14 Nov (17,299 in all); on 15 Nov the five had 17,758.

– Claude desktop app docs, code.claude.com/docs/en/desktop, and skills docs, code.claude.com/docs/en/skills, read 15 Nov 2026. Claude plans, claude.com/pricing, read 15 Nov 2026: coding in the desktop app comes with Pro and Max, not Free.

– Remotion licence, github.com/remotion-dev/remotion (LICENSE.md), read 15 Nov 2026: free for individuals and companies of up to 3 employees.

– The baker, Bell & Loaf, the chest and every bracketed request are examples.

Made by @automindly. Follow us for the next one.

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