

CLAUDE CODE · QUICK GUIDE

# Claude Code Explained.

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What every non-technical professional needs to know — before their dev team starts using it without you.

# What is Claude Code?

It's an AI assistant that lives inside your developers' terminal — the command-line tool they use every day to build software.

## Think of it like this:

### FOR YOUR DEVELOPERS

A tireless coding partner that writes, reviews, and debugs code — directly in their workflow, no copy-paste required.

### FOR THE BUSINESS

A speed multiplier. Tasks that took a day can happen in hours. The catch: speed needs governance.

### WHY IT'S DIFFERENT

Claude Code reads your actual codebase — not a pasted snippet. It understands context. That's powerful and requires clear rules.

# What You Should Be Overseeing



## Data & IP Boundaries

Decide what code and data Claude Code can see. Not a dev decision — a business one.



## Human Review Gates

Every AI-generated output going to production must pass a human checkpoint. Non-negotiable.



## Usage Policy

Define what's in-scope vs. off-limits before your team improvises their own answers.



## ROI Measurement

Track velocity, defect rates, and dev satisfaction — not just "are we using it."

# 5 Guidelines That Protect You.

- 1 Establish a written AI use policy before deployment**

Without it, every developer makes their own rules. That's not a tech problem — it's a risk problem.

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- 2 Never let AI-generated code ship unreviewed**

Speed is the point — but velocity without review is how technical debt (and lawsuits) happen.

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- 3 Keep sensitive data and credentials out of prompts**

Passwords, PII, API keys — these should never appear in a Claude Code context window.

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- 4 Treat AI output as a first draft, not a final answer**

Your team's expertise validates the machine. The machine augments your team.

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- 5 Assign an internal AI steward**

Someone owns adoption, policy updates, and escalation. AI without ownership drifts.

# Your dev team is already using AI.

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The question isn't whether to allow it — it's whether you'll lead it. Now you know where to start.