

# Proficient in OpenClaw

This series will guide you through the entire OpenClaw setup process, from initial installation to multi-vendor configuration ready for a production environment.

Anthropic has abruptly stopped providing Claude access to OpenClaw. Hundreds of thousands of developers have been left with error messages. But what most people are overlooking is that this is actually the necessary push for OpenClaw to become a truly multi-vendor tool – and developers who set it up correctly will save money and have more flexibility than before.

This series will guide you through the entire OpenClaw setup process, from initial installation to multi-vendor configuration ready for a production environment. Each lesson provides you with commands to copy, prompts to paste, and real-time cost calculations so you know exactly what you're spending. By the end of the series, you'll have OpenClaw working with Claude , ChatGPT , Gemini , AND a free local model—with the ability to switch between them in seconds.

No abstract theories, no lectures. Open your terminal, follow the instructions to build a real product.

## What you will learn

1. Deploy a complete OpenClaw setup on macOS, Linux, or Windows.
2. Apply API key authentication to connect OpenClaw to Claude, ChatGPT, Gemini, and local models.
3. Calculate monthly AI costs and apply budget controls to each vendor.
4. Design the SOUL.md and AGENTS.md configuration files for a custom programming workflow.
5. Perform a vendor migration without losing workspace settings or memory.

After this course, you will be able to

1. Use OpenClaw as a model-independent programming assistant that works with any AI vendor.
2. Implementing cost optimization strategies can reduce AI API costs by 50-80% in real-world projects.
3. Design custom SOUL.md and AGENTS.md configurations to suit your development workflow.
4. Implement seamless supplier migration even when prices or policies change.
5. Building an AI-powered development setup is worth showcasing in your portfolio or team documentation.

## What you will build

### Setting up multi-vendor OpenClaw

A fully configured OpenClaw workspace with Claude, ChatGPT, Gemini, and a local model – ready for day-to-day development work with well-documented cost controls.

## **Custom agent configuration**

A pair of SOUL.md and AGENTS.md files are fine-tuned to your programming style, with routing rules that model and select the cheapest provider for each task type.

## **Proficiency in OpenClaw**

Demonstrate that you can install, configure, and optimize OpenClaw across multiple AI vendors while managing costs.

## **Prerequisites**

1. Basic terminal/command line experience
2. An account with at least one AI provider (Claude, ChatGPT, or Gemini)

## **Suitable candidates**

1. Developers using OpenClaw need to reconfigure their systems after Anthropic changed the Claude subscription package.
2. Software engineers are evaluating OpenClaw as an AI programming assistant.
3. The teams are standardizing OpenClaw and need cross-vendor compatibility.
4. Developers want to reduce the cost of AI APIs without compromising programming quality.

## **Why is multi-vendor OpenClaw important now?**

Understand why OpenClaw's multi-vendor architecture is your biggest advantage - and set up your first provider in under 5 minutes.

### **A surprise \$200 changed everything.**

On April 4, 2026, hundreds of thousands of developers opened OpenClaw and encountered a bug. Their \$200/month Claude Max subscription – which was running OpenClaw through an OAuth vulnerability – stopped working overnight.

Some people panicked. Some people angrily abandoned Claude. But the developers who weathered the storm set OpenClaw up to work with multiple vendors. When Claude failed, they switched to GPT or Gemini with a single command. No interruptions, no data loss, no panic.

That's what this series will teach you how to build.

## **Things you will learn**

Upon completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Install and configure OpenClaw on macOS, Linux, or Windows.
2. Connects four types of providers - Claude (API), ChatGPT, Gemini, and local models ( Gemma 4 ).
3. Calculate and control costs - know exactly how much you are spending on each task, each day, each month.
4. Customize your agent - SOUL.md, AGENTS.md - and route the model to suit your specific workflow.
5. Move between vendors without losing your workspace, memory, or configuration.

## 4 types of AI providers

Before diving into the setup, here's an overview. OpenClaw supports four types of AI providers:

Classify	For example	Price range	Best for
<b>Premium cloud</b>	Claude Opus, GPT-5	\$100-360/month	Complex reasoning, architectural decision-making
<b>Mid-range cloud</b>	Claude Sonnet, GPT-5.4, Gemini Pro	\$8-30/month	Daily programming tasks include code review and debugging.
<b>Cheap cloud</b>	Gemini Flash, DeepSeek	\$0.30-\$5/month	Simple tasks, sentence patterns, explanations
<b>Local (Free)</b>	Gemma 4, Llama 4 via Ollama	\$0	Secure, works offline, unlimited usage.

A smart setup utilizes all four types: local servers for fast tasks, inexpensive servers for everyday work, mid-range servers for serious programming, and high-end servers only when necessary. That's how you achieve 80% quality with 20% of the cost.

? **Quick check** : What are the 4 types of providers? Which one is free?

**Answer** : Premium cloud servers, mid-range cloud servers, budget cloud servers, and local servers. Local server models through Ollama are free.

## Why does this course exist now?

The discontinuation of support for the Claude subscription plan is not just an OpenClaw issue – it's a wake-up call. Any developer relying on a single AI provider could face disrupted workflows with just one policy change.

OpenClaw's strength lies in its model independence. It works with any AI you specify. However, most developers never set up more than one provider. This course addresses that.

By lesson 8, you will have a robust, cost-effective setup that will function even if any provider changes prices, ceases operations, or cancels subscriptions.

## Key points to remember

1. The cancellation of Claude's registration deadline exposed the risks of relying on a single supplier.
2. OpenClaw supports four types of providers: Premium, mid-range, low-cost, and local.

3. Setting up multiple vendors allows you to choose the cheapest model for each task and overcome policy changes.
4. This course provides you with copy-paste commands to build a complete multi-vendor setup.

1. Question 1:

What are the main advantages of a multi-vendor OpenClaw setup?

1. A. It helps your code run faster.
2. B. You can use the cheapest model for each task and switch providers if one provider changes their pricing.
3. C. It automatically backs up your code to multiple clouds.
4. D. Setting up multiple vendors is mandatory under the OpenClaw license.

EXPLAIN:

A multi-vendor setup allows you to choose the best model for each task (cheap for simple jobs, powerful for complex ones) and protects you from being constrained by the pricing decisions of any single vendor.

2. Question 2:

Why did Anthropic remove OpenClaw from its Claude subscription plan?

1. A. OpenClaw violated Claude's terms of service by accessing private data.
2. B. Third-party tools consumed significantly more computing resources than the subscription package was designed to cover.
3. C. Claude's API has been removed and replaced with a new payment system.
4. D. OpenClaw's source code was found to contain security vulnerabilities.

EXPLAIN:

Professional users consumed over \$1,000 worth of computing resources equivalent to APIs with a \$200/month subscription. Anthropic could not bear this cost difference, so they limited OAuth tokens to only official customers.

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## Training results

You have completed **0** questions.

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