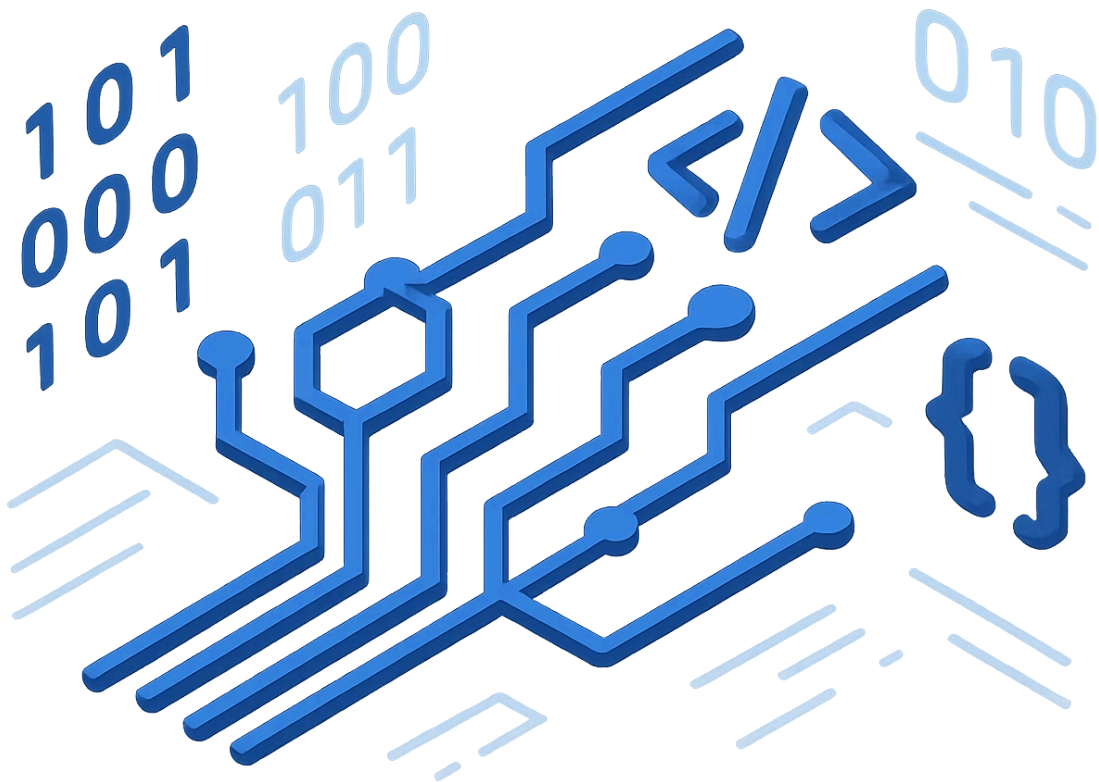


GenAI Developer Tool Comparison Matrix

A quick-reference guide to choosing the right AI coding tool for your workflow.

Inline Real-time completions inside your editor	Chat Contextual Q&A and code generation
CLI Scriptable, terminal-native workflows	Web Zero-setup browser experimentation



Tool Profiles

VS Code Inline Agents

Providers: OpenAI, Anthropic, Google, Open-Source

Best For: Real-time completions without leaving your editor

Setup: Extension install

VS Code Chat Agents

CHAT

Providers: OpenAI, Anthropic, Google, Open-Source

Best For: Contextual Q&A and code generation within VS Code

Setup: Extension install

OpenCode

CLI

Providers: OpenAI, Anthropic, Google, Open-Source

Best For: Multi-provider, scriptable, CI/CD-friendly workflows

Setup: CLI install

Claude Code

CLI

Providers: Anthropic only

Best For: Multi-file refactoring and deep Anthropic integration

Setup: CLI install

Codex CLI

CLI

Providers: OpenAI only

Best For: OpenAI-native terminal workflows and automation

Setup: CLI install

Web Chat

WEB

Providers: OpenAI, Anthropic, Google

Best For: Exploration, learning, and zero-setup experimentation

Setup: Browser

Decision Framework — Task → Tool

Match your immediate task to the tool best suited for it. Use this matrix as a daily reference to minimize context-switching and maximize output quality.

Task	Recommended Tool	Why
Quick completions	Inline (VS Code)	Fastest, least disruptive
New feature from scratch	Chat CLI (OpenCode / Claude Code)	Full context, iterative
Understanding complex code	Chat (any)	Needs explanation + Q&A
Multi-file refactoring	Claude Code / OpenCode	Multi-file awareness
Documentation generation	Chat CLI	Needs code context
Learning a new concept	Web Chat	No setup, explorative
CI/CD integration	OpenCode	Scriptable, provider-flexible

Selection Guide — Which Tool Is Right for You?

Use this decision tree to identify your primary tool based on your environment and provider constraints.

→ Multiple LLM providers?

→ **OpenCode** — the only CLI tool with full multi-provider flexibility, ideal for teams that want to switch between OpenAI, Anthropic, and Google without re-tooling.

→ Anthropic-only stack?

→ **Claude Code** — purpose-built for deep Anthropic integration with superior multi-file refactoring capabilities.

→ OpenAI-only stack?

→ **Codex CLI** — native OpenAI terminal experience optimized for automation and scripted workflows.

→ Want to stay in flow?

→ **VS Code Agents** — inline or chat, both keep you inside your editor with zero context-switching overhead.

→ Want to explore freely?

→ **Web Chat** — ChatGPT, Claude.ai, or Gemini require no setup and are ideal for learning, prototyping, and open-ended experimentation.

"The best tool is the one that fits YOUR workflow. Try 2–3 before committing."