

HTML to PSD: install and use

What it does: turns a design Claude made (a flyer, poster, slide, social graphic, bracket or handout) into a layered Photoshop file a designer can edit: every element on its own layer, all text editable, clean layer names, print resolution. It also installs any free fonts the design needs and opens the file in Photoshop. Everything runs on your own computer. Nothing is uploaded.

What you need

	Mac	Windows
Claude desktop app with the Code tab (Claude Code)	✓	✓
Photoshop	✓	✓
Node.js (free; it runs the skill's tools)	Install once, see below	Install once, see below
A browser the skill can use	Google Chrome (or it downloads its own, once)	Microsoft Edge, already on every Windows PC
Internet	First use only	First use only

The skill only works in the **Code** tab of the Claude desktop app (or Claude Code in a terminal). It does **not** work in a regular Chat or in Cowork.

Windows: support is new and hasn't been fully tested yet. If something goes wrong, Claude will still give you the PSD and simple manual steps. Please report the problem.

Step 1: Install Node.js (one time)

1. Go to <https://nodejs.org> and download the **LTS** version for your computer.
2. Open the downloaded installer and click through it with the default options. It will ask for your computer password (Mac) or admin approval (Windows). If you don't have admin rights, ask your IT person.
3. Quit and reopen the Claude desktop app.

Already have it? You can skip this step. Claude will tell you if your version is too old.

Step 2: Install the skill (one time)

You'll receive a file called `html-to-psd.skill`.

1. Save it somewhere easy, like your Downloads folder.
2. Open the Claude desktop app, go to the **Code** tab, and start a new session (any folder is fine).
3. Type:

Please install the skill file in my Downloads folder called html-to-psd.skill as a personal Claude Code skill.

4. Approve what Claude asks to do. It unpacks the file into your personal skills folder:
 - Mac: `~/ .claude/skills/html-to-psd`
 - Windows: `C:\Users\<you>\.claude\sills\html-to-psd`
5. Start a **new** Code session so Claude picks up the skill.

Step 3: Use it

1. Get the **HTML file** of the design. A PDF or image won't work: those are flat "printouts". If the design was made in a Claude chat, open that chat and ask: *"Give me the HTML file for this design."*
2. In the Claude desktop app, start a **Code** session in the folder that contains the HTML file.
3. Ask in plain words, for example:

Turn flyer.html into a layered Photoshop file for our designer.

4. The first time, it spends about 10 seconds setting itself up.
5. Claude will:
 - make the PSD and check it against the original automatically,
 - tell you which fonts the design uses, and **ask before downloading anything**. Free Google Fonts are downloaded, security-checked, and installed for you. For **Adobe Fonts**, it opens the font's page, and you click **Activate** while signed in to Adobe.
 - open the file in Photoshop. If Photoshop is already open, it asks you to save your work and quit Photoshop first, so the new fonts show up.

You'll get a folder named `<design name>-psd` next to your HTML, containing:

- `<design name>.psd` : the Photoshop file
- `fonts-needed.txt` : the fonts the file uses and where to get them (send this along with the PSD)
- `report.md` : the automatic quality check
- `preview.png` : a picture of the design

Good to know

- **Small ⚠ icons on text layers when the file opens are normal.** In Photoshop, choose **Type › Update All Text Layers** once and they go away. (If Photoshop asks to *replace* a font instead, a font is missing; see `fonts-needed.txt`.)

- **Sending the PSD to a designer?** Send `fonts-needed.txt` with it. They need the same fonts installed, or text will shift when they edit it.
- **Shapes, gradients, shadows and images are picture layers**, not vector shapes. Text stays fully editable.
- **Color is RGB.** For print, the designer converts to the printer's CMYK profile in Photoshop.
- **Multi-page designs** (like a front and a back) become one PSD with an **artboard** for each page.
- **Best results:** when you ask Claude to *make* a new design, say "**make it PSD-ready**". Claude then names every element and page properly, and the layers come out perfectly named.

If something goes wrong

Claude says...	What to do
"This needs the Code tab..."	You're in Chat or Cowork. Open a Code session and ask again.
Node.js is missing or too old	Do Step 1.
It couldn't install the libraries	Check your internet connection and ask again.
A font was rejected by the security check	Don't install it another way. Tell whoever looks after the skill.
Fonts "failed to load"	Check your internet connection. For Adobe Fonts, make sure you're signed in to Creative Cloud.

Removing it

- **The skill:** delete the folder `~/ .claude/skills/html-to-psd` (Mac) or `C:\Users\<you>\ .claude\skills\html-to-psd` (Windows).
- **Its tools:** delete `~/ .cache/html-to-psd` (Mac) or `C:\Users\<you>\AppData\Local\html-to-psd` (Windows).
- **Fonts it installed:** remove them in **Font Book** (Mac) or **Settings** › **Personalization** › **Fonts** (Windows).