



A MENTOR TABLE RESOURCE

The Great Unsubscribe

The starter prompt for replacing a software subscription with your own build



This is the prompt to paste into Claude the first time you try this. It is built from the exact sequence Tyler walked through on the Mentor Table session: screenshots in, interview before scoping, one step at a time, and a two-week parallel run before you cancel anything.

You do not need to know how to code. You do need to be willing to say slow down, explain that again as many times as it takes.

CHECKLIST

Before You Paste Anything

- 1 **A Claude Max plan.** Scoping a full app runs thirty to sixty minutes of continuous work and moves through credits quickly.
- 2 **GitHub, Vercel, and a Neon database.** All free to start. If you do not have them, Claude will tell you to create them and walk you through it.
- 3 **Screenshots of every screen you actually use** in the tool you are replacing. These do most of the heavy lifting.
- 4 **One safety rule.** When Claude asks for an API key, put it where Claude tells you to put it. Never paste a key into a public repository or a shared document.

COPY AND PASTE

The Master Prompt

Fill in the brackets, attach your screenshots, and send it. Then answer the questions it asks you before it builds anything.

PASTE INTO CLAUDE

I want you to help me replace a software subscription I pay for by building my own version of it. I am not a developer. I have never written a line of code.

How I need you to work with me:

- Before you scope anything or write any code, interview me. Ask me every question you need answered to build this properly. A few questions at a time, not all at once, and wait for my answers.
- Assume I know nothing. Tell me exactly where to click.
- Give me one step at a time and wait for me to confirm I've done it before you move to the next one.
- If I say "slow down" or "explain that like I'm a fifth grader," stop and say it again in plain English.
- If I need an account or software I don't have, tell me that first and walk me through creating it.

Here's my situation:

The tool I want to replace: [TOOL NAME]

What it does for my business: [PLAIN ENGLISH, TWO SENTENCES]

What I use it for daily, most important first: [LIST]

What it does badly, or won't do for me at all: [THE THING THAT ACTUALLY ANNOYS YOU. BE SPECIFIC.]

What it costs me monthly: [AMOUNT]

Where my data lives: [SHOPIFY, AMAZON, META, GOOGLE ANALYTICS, EMAIL PLATFORM, ETC.]

Who else on my team uses it and what they do in it: [ROLES]

I'm giving you screenshots of the screens I actually use.

Start by interviewing me. Tell me when you have enough to work with, then scope the entire project before building anything. After you scope it, give me a plain-English summary of what you're building and everything I'll need to set up.

Two rules for this build:

1. Don't touch anything that moves money. No payment processing, no subscription billing, no checkout.
2. Before I cancel the real tool, I'm going to run yours beside it for two weeks and compare the numbers. Build it so that comparison is easy to do.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Four Prompts for When You Get Stuck

The build is rarely the hard part. The hard part is freezing when Claude starts talking like an engineer. These four cover the moments that come up every time.

1 When It Races Ahead

Stop. I'm not a developer and I'm overwhelmed. Tell me the single next thing I need to do, in plain English. Here's a screenshot of exactly what I'm looking at right now. What do I click?

2 Getting It Live

Walk me through getting this online. Tell me which accounts I need and set them up with me one at a time. Wait for me to confirm each one before moving on. I want the code in GitHub so I can roll back if I break something.

3 The Two-Week Proof

Build me a view that puts my numbers next to the numbers from [TOOL NAME] for the same date range, side by side. I'm checking it daily for two weeks. I'm not cancelling anything until they agree.

4 Second Tool Onward

I already have GitHub, Vercel, and Neon set up from the last app I built with you. Reuse that setup. Next tool I want to replace is [TOOL NAME]. Interview me first.

FIELD NOTES

Three Things Worth Knowing

Start with the easiest one, not the most expensive one.

Pull up your subscription list, sort it by cost, and then pick the simplest tool on it. The first build is where you learn the process. Once GitHub, Vercel, and Neon are connected, every tool after that goes faster.

Screenshots work better in the Claude desktop app.

You can paste images straight into the conversation while you scope. Once you are building, Claude Code is the better place to work.

Do not cancel anything on faith.

Run your version alongside the real tool for two full weeks and compare the numbers every day. When they agree, cancel. Not before.