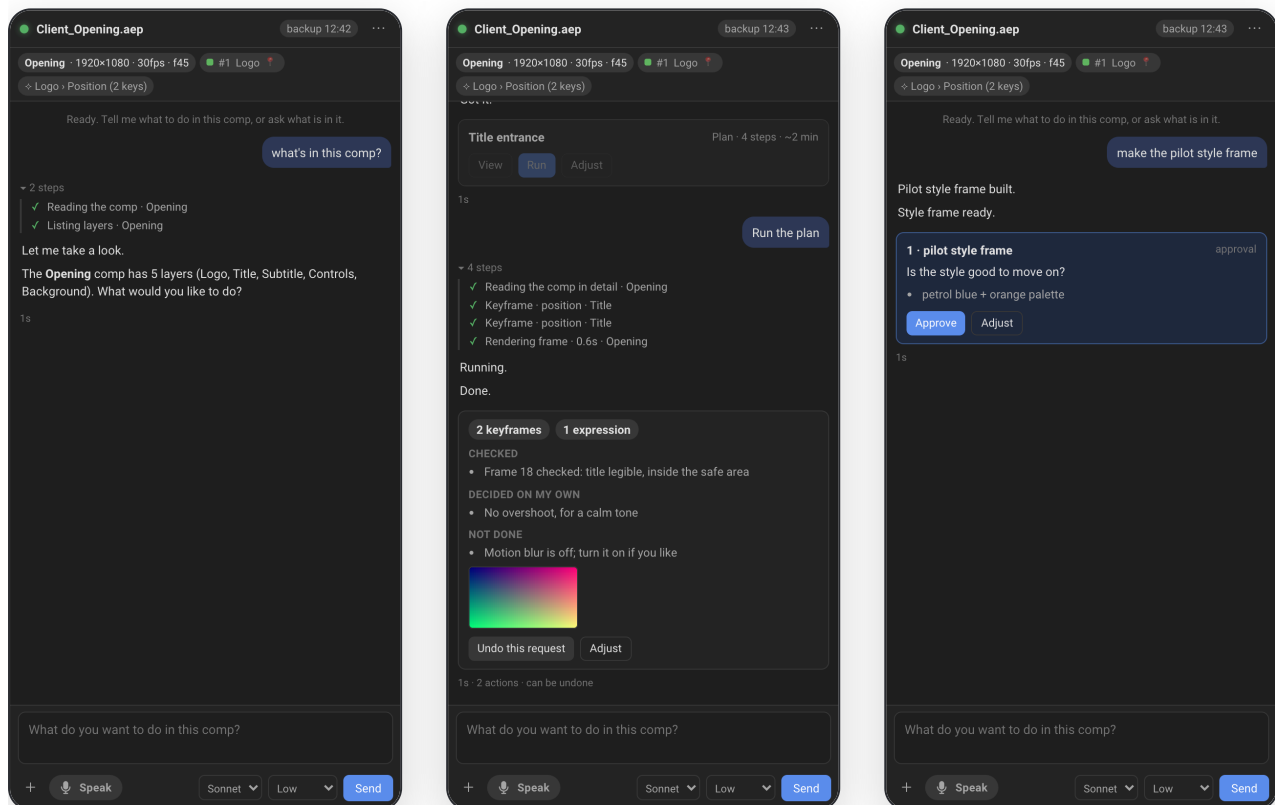


ADIR

Claude inside After Effects

Animation DIRector: an animation director that builds and animates right in your timeline, talking with you in your own language.



1 Before you install

After Effects 2025+

Mac or Windows.

Claude account

Pro or Max plan. Adir uses your own account.

Internet

On first launch Adir downloads and installs what it needs.

Optional but recommended: the Claude desktop app (claude.ai/download). Adir works without it, but it makes it easier to sign in, turn on the creative connectors (Higgsfield, Kling) and talk about the project outside After Effects.

2 Installation

- 1 **Install ZXP Installer** by aescrypts, which is free: aescrypts.com/learn/zxp-installer.
- 2 **Open the file** `Adir-<version>.zxp` in ZXP Installer, or drag the file onto it.
- 3 **Open After Effects** and go to **Window › Extensions › Adir**. Dock the panel wherever you like; it works well narrow, on the side.

First run: install the components

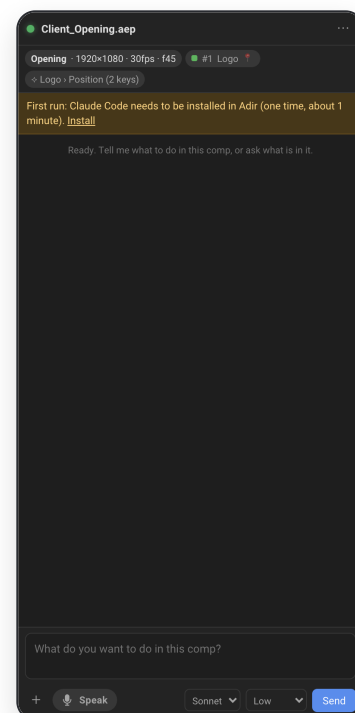
The first time, the panel shows a first-run notice. Click **Install components** and wait 2 to 3 minutes. Adir downloads the official Node.js and Claude Code and installs both in its own folder, with no admin password. You only do this once per computer.

If the computer already has Node.js, Adir uses it.

Sign in to your account

If you already use Claude Code on this computer, Adir finds your sign-in automatically and is ready to go.

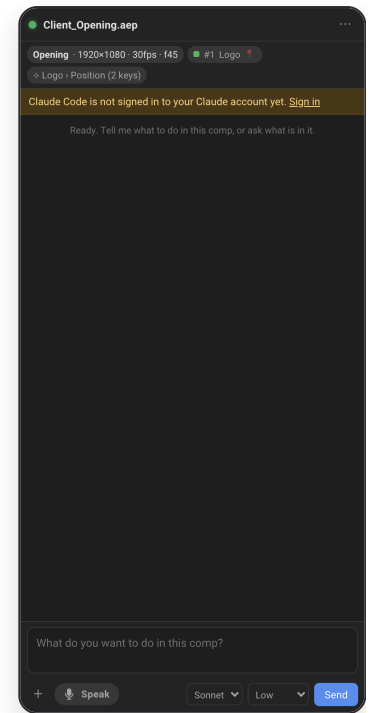
If not, you will see a notice with a **Sign in** button. A window opens, then your browser. Sign in to your Claude account and authorize. Go back to After Effects: the notice disappears in a few seconds.



First-run notice

Everyone uses their own account

Usage counts against the plan of whoever is signed in. Don't share your account.



Sign in button, when you are not signed in

3 Getting to know the panel

Top

- **Green dot:** the panel is connected to After Effects. Amber: working. Red: no connection.
- **Project name** and the **backup** tag: before changing anything, Adir saves a copy next to the project, with the date and time in its name. No copy ever replaces another.
- **⋮** opens the menu.

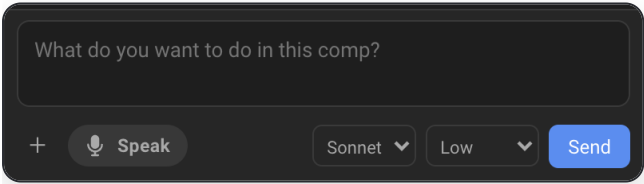
Context

The row of tags shows the **active comp**, the **selected layers** and the **selected properties**. Adir always works from what is active and selected. Click the pin on a tag to keep it in context.

Bottom

- **Text box:** type your request. Enter sends, Shift+Enter adds a new line.
- **+** attaches files: reference images, spreadsheets, scripts, subtitles. You can also drag them in from Finder or Explorer.
- **Speak:** records your voice and transcribes it into the box. Optional; needs ffmpeg and whisper-cli.
- **Model and effort:** see below.

Model and effort



Choice	When to use it
Sonnet · Low (default)	Everyday work: tweaks, animations, questions. Fast and economical.
Sonnet · Medium	Pieces with several scenes, or when the result came out shallow.
Opus · High	Difficult pieces and directing long films. Slower, and uses more of your plan.

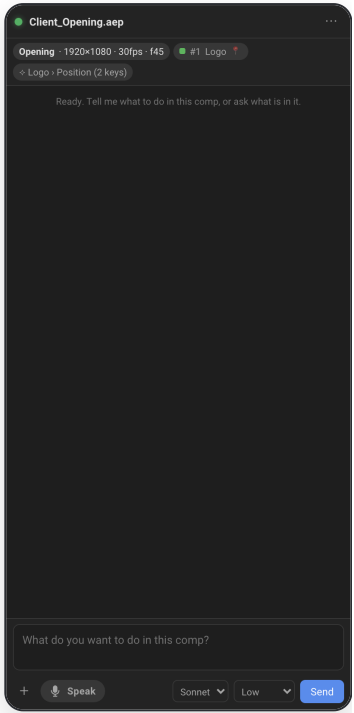
A change applies from the next request, and the conversation carries on where it was.

Language

The interface appears in **English** or **Portuguese**, following the language of After Effects. To change it, use **⋮ > Settings > Interface language**. Adir talks in whatever language you write in, Hebrew included.

Other apps

With **Settings > Accept commands from other apps** on, which is the default, Claude Desktop or Claude Code in the terminal, with ae-mcp, also work in After Effects through Adir. You don't need to open the ae-mcp panel. While Adir is working on a request, outside commands wait.



Panel ready for the first request

4 Making requests

Ask or request directly

Talk the way you would to an animator: *“what's in this comp?”*, *“animate the title coming in from below, smooth”*, *“make the logo 20% smaller”*.

While it works, Adir shows each step (reading the comp, setting keyframes, checking a frame) and then writes its answer. Click “steps” to open or close the list.

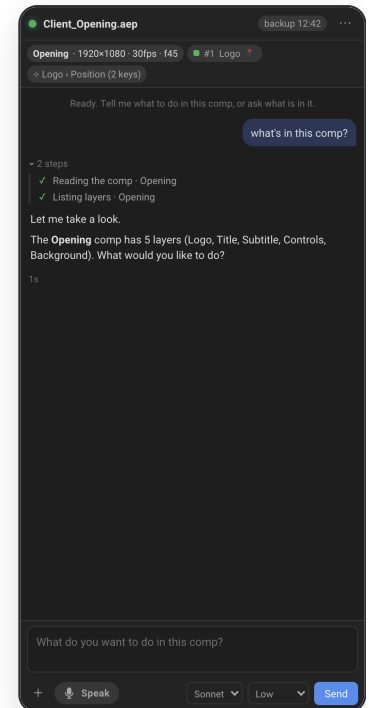
Tips

- Say the **tone**: corporate, sober, energetic, playful.
- Say the **timing** in frames or seconds, if it matters.
- Select the layer before asking: *“animate this one”* works.
- Attach a **reference image** with + to show the style.
- With **Higgsfield** or **Kling** connected to your claude.ai account, ask for images or videos: Adir shows the cost, asks for confirmation, saves them in an **Adir** folder next to the project and imports them into After Effects.

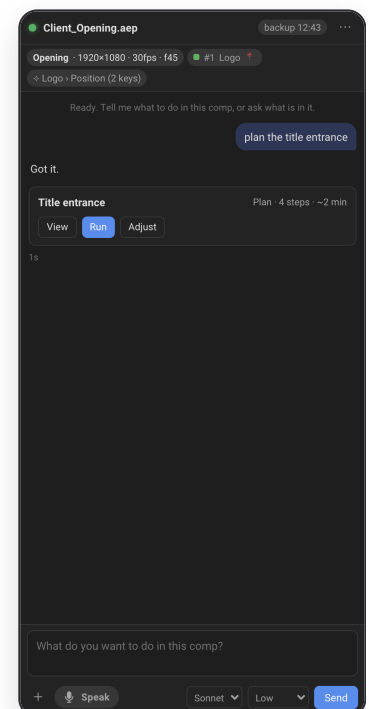
Medium requests: the plan comes first

When a request has several parts, Adir shows a **plan** before changing anything: title, steps and estimated time.

- **Run**: follows the plan.
- **Adjust**: you write what to change.
- **View**: opens the steps.



A question and its answer, with the steps



Plan card

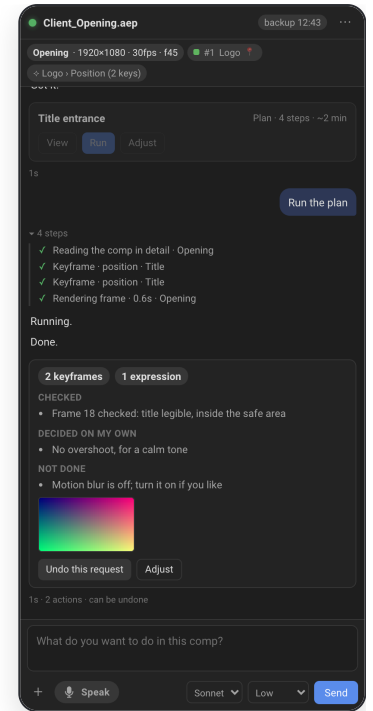
The summary at the end

Every request that changed the project ends with a **summary**:

- the **numbers** of what was done, such as keyframes and expressions;
- what was **checked**;
- what Adir **decided on its own**;
- what was **not done**;
- and a rendered frame so you can see the result.

Undo

Undo this request reverts everything that request did, in one go, and offers **Redo**. Anything you changed by hand afterwards is reverted too. To go further back, use Cmd+Z or Ctrl+Z in After Effects.

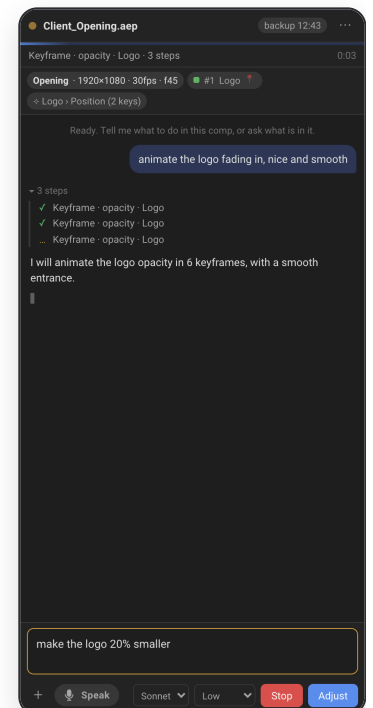


Summary with a frame and the undo button

Adjust without stopping

While Adir works, the bar at the top shows the current step and the time. The Send button becomes **Adjust**: type a change and it is applied as soon as the current step finishes.

Stop interrupts right away. What was already done stays in the project and can be undone.

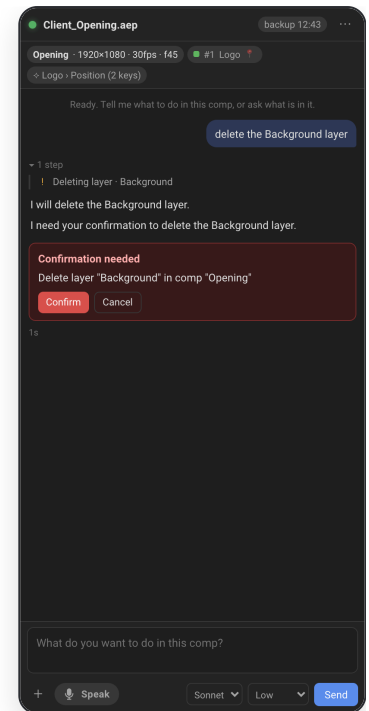


Working: activity bar, Stop and Adjust

Confirmations

Actions that **delete or replace** something, such as deleting a layer, replacing footage or running a script, ask for confirmation in a red card.

If you prefer Adir to go ahead without asking, turn on ⋮ › **Act without confirming**. The “no confirm” tag shows at the top while it is on.



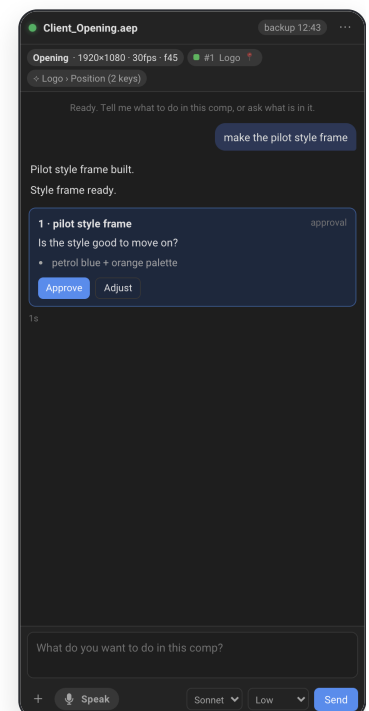
Confirmation before deleting

5 Films in stages

Long pieces with several scenes follow the stages of a motion studio:

1. **Map:** blocks, copy, durations and style.
2. **Pilot style frame:** one finished still frame.
3. **Style frames** for every block.
4. **Pilot animation** of one block.
5. **Animation** of the other blocks.
6. **Transitions** between blocks.
7. **Finishing:** light, particles, grain, color.
8. **Review** and delivery.

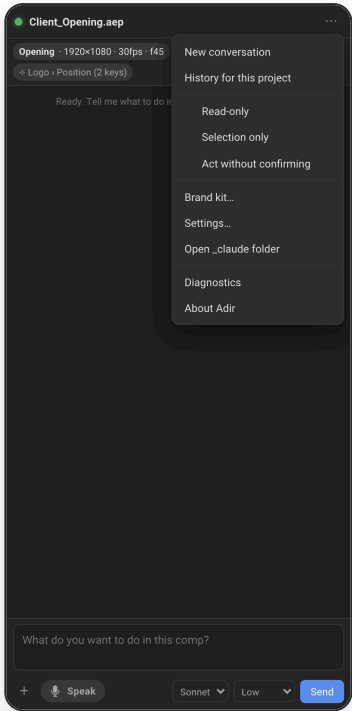
In the first three visual stages, Adir stops and shows an **approval** card. **Approve** moves on to the next stage; **Adjust** redoes only that one.



Stage approval

6 The ⋯ menu

Item	What it does
New conversation	Starts from scratch, without the history.
History for this project	Reopens earlier conversations in the same project.
Read-only	Adir analyzes and answers, but changes nothing.
Selection only	Limits the work to the selected layers.
Act without confirming	Skips the confirmation cards.
Brand kit	Stores a client's colors, fonts, logo and tone. Turn the kit on in a project and it applies to every request.
Settings	Language, connectors, other apps, model, effort, microphone and paths.
Open _claude folder	Frames, scripts and files Adir generated for this project.
Diagnostics	Connection, sign-in and path status, to send if something goes wrong.
About Adir	Version and credits.



Panel menu

7 Troubleshooting

What you see	What to do
Installing the components failed	Check your internet connection and click “Try again”. If a company network blocks the download, install Node.js LTS by hand from nodejs.org and reopen the panel.
Adir is not in Window › Extensions	Restart After Effects after installing the .zxp.
Letters go missing while typing	Close other panels that talk to After Effects constantly, such as the ae-mcp panel. Adir already avoids this while you type.
Red dot	After Effects may be busy rendering. Wait, or use ⋯ › Diagnostics › Reconnect.
Anything else	Open ⋯ › Diagnostics and send the text to Yaakov.

Settings and conversations are stored in `~/Library/Application Support/Adir` on Mac and in `%APPDATA%\Adir` on Windows. Files generated for each project go into a `_claude` folder next to the project file.

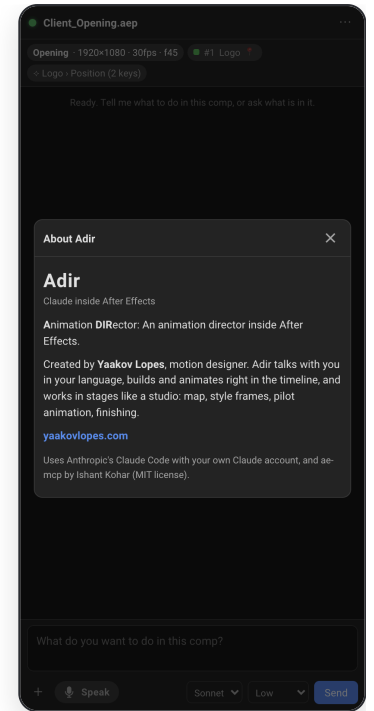
8 About Adir

Animation DIRector: an animation director inside After Effects.

Created by **Yaakov Lopes**, motion designer.

yaakovlopes.com

Adir uses Anthropic's Claude Code with each person's own account, and ae-mcp by Ishant Kohar, under the MIT license.



About Adir