

# cosmic-brain — Install Guide

Claude + Obsidian Knowledge Companion Version 1.2.0 · [github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain](https://github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain)

## What is cosmic-brain?

cosmic-brain is a Claude Code plugin + Obsidian vault that builds and maintains a persistent, compounding knowledge base. Every source you add gets processed into cross-referenced wiki pages. Every question you ask pulls from everything that has been read. Knowledge compounds like interest.

Built on Andrej Karpathy's LLM Wiki pattern.

## Prerequisites

Tool	How to get it	Notes
Claude Code	<code>npm install -g @anthropic-ai/claude-code</code>	Free tier available
Obsidian	<a href="https://obsidian.md">obsidian.md</a>	Free
Git	Pre-installed on most systems	For Option 1

## Installation

### Option 1 — Clone as vault (recommended)

Full setup in under 2 minutes.

```
git clone https://github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain
cd cosmic-brain
bash bin/setup-vault.sh
```

Then in Obsidian: **Manage Vaults** → **Open folder as vault** → select **cosmic-brain/**

Open Claude Code in the same folder and type `/wiki`.

### Option 2 — Install as Claude Code plugin

```
claude plugin install github:AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain
```

In any Claude Code session: type `/wiki` — Claude walks you through vault setup.

### Option 3 — Add to an existing vault

Copy `WIKI.md` from this repo into your vault root. Then paste into Claude:

```
Read WIKI.md in this project. Then:
1. Check if Obsidian is installed. If not, install it.
2. Check if the Local REST API plugin is running on port 27124.
3. Configure the MCP server.
```

4. Ask me ONE question: "What is this vault for?"  
Then scaffold the full wiki structure.

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## First Steps

### 1. Scaffold the vault

Type `/wiki` in Claude Code. Claude will:

- Detect your vault mode (website, GitHub, business, personal, research, or book/course)
- Create the folder structure and core wiki pages
- Set up `wiki/index.md`, `wiki/hot.md`, `wiki/log.md`, and `wiki/overview.md`

### 2. Drop your first source

Put any document into `.raw/` :

- PDFs, markdown files, transcripts, articles, URLs

Tell Claude: `ingest [filename]`

Claude reads the source and creates 8–15 cross-referenced wiki pages.

### 3. Ask questions

`what do you know about [topic]?`

Claude reads the hot cache, scans the index, drills into relevant pages, and gives a synthesized answer — citing specific wiki pages, not training data.

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## Commands Reference

Command	What Claude does
<code>/wiki</code>	Setup check, scaffold, or continue where you left off
<code>ingest [file]</code>	Read source, create 8–15 wiki pages, update index and log
<code>ingest all of these</code>	Batch process multiple sources, then cross-reference
<code>what do you know about X?</code>	Read index → relevant pages → synthesize answer
<code>/save</code>	File the current conversation as a wiki note
<code>/save [name]</code>	Save with a specific title
<code>/autoresearch [topic]</code>	Autonomous research loop: search, fetch, synthesize, file
<code>/canvas</code>	Open or create a visual canvas
<code>/canvas add image [path]</code>	Add an image to the canvas
<code>/canvas add text [content]</code>	Add a markdown text card
<code>/canvas add pdf [path]</code>	Add a PDF document

<code>/canvas add note [page]</code>	Pin a wiki page as a linked card
<code>lint the wiki</code>	Health check: orphans, dead links, gaps
<code>update hot cache</code>	Refresh <code>hot.md</code> with latest context summary

## Plugins (pre-installed)

Enable in **Settings** → **Community Plugins**:

Plugin	Purpose
<b>Calendar</b>	Right-sidebar calendar with word count and task dots
<b>Thino</b>	Quick memo capture panel
<b>Excalidraw</b>	Freehand drawing, image annotation
<b>Banners</b>	Header images via <code>banner:</code> frontmatter

Also install from Community Plugins:

Plugin	Purpose
<b>Dataview</b>	Powers the dashboard queries
<b>Templater</b>	Auto-fills frontmatter from templates
<b>Obsidian Git</b>	Auto-commits vault every 15 minutes

## CSS Snippets

Three snippets are auto-enabled by `setup-vault.sh` :

Snippet	Effect
<code>vault-colors</code>	Color-codes wiki folders in the file explorer
<code>ITS-Dataview-Cards</code>	Turns Dataview queries into visual card grids
<code>ITS-Image-Adjustments</code>	Fine-grained image sizing — append <code> 100</code> to embeds

## Six Wiki Modes

Mode	Use when
<b>A: Website</b>	Sitemap, content audit, SEO wiki
<b>B: GitHub</b>	Codebase map, architecture wiki
<b>C: Business</b>	Project wiki, competitive intelligence

<b>D: Personal</b>	Second brain, goals, journal synthesis
<b>E: Research</b>	Papers, concepts, thesis
<b>F: Book/Course</b>	Chapter tracker, course notes

Modes can be combined.

## MCP Setup (Optional)

MCP lets Claude read and write vault notes directly without copy-paste.

### Option A — REST API:

1. Install the **Local REST API** plugin in Obsidian
2. Copy your API key
3. Run:

```
claude mcp add-json obsidian-vault '{
  "type": "stdio",
  "command": "uvx",
  "args": ["mcp-obsidian"],
  "env": {
    "OBSIDIAN_API_KEY": "your-key",
    "OBSIDIAN_HOST": "127.0.0.1",
    "OBSIDIAN_PORT": "27124",
    "NODE_TLS_REJECT_UNAUTHORIZED": "0"
  }
}' --scope user
```

### Option B — Filesystem (no plugin needed):

```
claude mcp add-json obsidian-vault '{
  "type": "stdio",
  "command": "npx",
  "args": ["-y", "@bitbonsai/mcpvault@latest", "/path/to/your/vault"]
}' --scope user
```

## Troubleshooting

Problem	Fix
/wiki says "not found"	Make sure cosmic-brain plugin is enabled: <code>claude plugin list</code>
Graph colors reset after closing Obsidian	Open Graph view → gear → Color groups → re-add once. Permanent after that.
Excalidraw not loading	Run <code>bash bin/setup-vault.sh</code> to download <code>main.js</code> (8MB, not in git)
Dashboard shows no results	Install the <b>Dataview</b> plugin from Community Plugins

Hot cache not loading at session start	Check hooks: <code>claude hooks list</code> — SessionStart hook should be present
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## Cross-Project Power Move

Point any Claude Code project at this vault. Add to that project's `CLAUDE.md` :

### ## Wiki Knowledge Base

Path: `~/path/to/cosmic-brain`

When you need context not in this project:

1. Read `wiki/hot.md` first (recent context cache)
2. If not enough, read `wiki/index.md`
3. If you need domain details, read the relevant wiki page

Do NOT read the wiki for general coding questions.

Your executive assistant, coding projects, and content workflows all draw from the same knowledge base.

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## Support

- **GitHub:** [github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain](https://github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain)
- **Issues:** [github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain/issues](https://github.com/AgriciDaniel/cosmic-brain/issues)
- **Community:** [AI Marketing Hub on Skool](#)

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Built by [AgriciDaniel](#) / AI Marketing Hub Based on Andrej Karpathy's LLM Wiki pattern