Quick Start Guide

From download to a first report in about ten minutes. CodeDelta runs entirely on your own machine: nothing you scan leaves it.

1 Download

Go to **codedelta.app/download.html** and choose your platform. Every download is the full product with every feature.

Platform	File	Notes
Windows	`CodeDelta-Setup.zip`	Windows 10 or 11, x64. A password-protected zip, password `code-delta`, so it passes the corporate gateways that block plain installers.
macOS	`CodeDelta.dmg`	Apple silicon. Signed and notarized by Apple, so it opens without security warnings.
Linux	`CodeDelta-x86_64.AppImage`	x86-64, one file. A `.tar.gz` bundle is also offered for terminal use.

2 Install

Windows	Open the zip with the password and run `CodeDelta-Setup.exe`. The installer is unsigned, so Windows may show an "unknown publisher" warning: choose **More info**, then **Run anyway**. CodeDelta appears in the Start menu.
macOS	Open the `.dmg` and drag **CodeDelta** to Applications. Launch it from there.
Linux	In a terminal: `chmod +x CodeDelta-x86_64.AppImage`, then run the file.

3 Add the licence file

The desktop app needs a licence file, `codedelta.lic`, before it will analyse anything. A free one is on the download page, ready to use and valid to **31 December 2026**. If you were sent your own licence, use that file instead.

The easy way: start CodeDelta. On first launch the **Activate CodeDelta** screen asks for the licence file. Choose `codedelta.lic`, accept the licence agreement and press **Activate**. The file is saved in the right place and verified on your machine.

By hand: put the file where the app looks for it.

Windows	The folder CodeDelta was installed to, by default `C:\Program Files\CodeDelta`
macOS	`~/Library/Application Support/CodeDelta/`
Linux	`~/.codedelta/`

> The licence is checked locally. No account, no sign-in and no internet connection are needed to run a scan.

4 Start CodeDelta

Launch the app. A few seconds later your browser shows CodeDelta at `http://localhost:7654`. The page is served by your own machine, not the internet. On Windows and Linux a small console window also opens; keep it open while you work. The version is shown in the page header and under **About**.

5 Run your first scan

Choose an analysis mode at the top of the page, then the folders, then press **Run**.

One version of a project

Choose **Project Metrics**, press **Select…** and pick the project folder. You get size, language and structure figures for that snapshot. **Metrics** + **Agent Scan** adds a search for code that calls or runs AI models.

Two versions of a project

Choose **Code Churn Analysis** and pick the **Old** and **New** folders. You get what changed between them: changed, deleted, added and moved code, by file and by line. **Churn** + **Agent Scan** adds the AI search and lists any build files that changed.

Progress appears in the Output box. A large project can take a minute or two; the box keeps reporting what it is doing. **Stop** cancels a run.

6 Read the results

- **Tiles** on the page give the headline numbers. Hover any tile to see how the figure is calculated.
- **Open Churn Report** shows the full per-file report. **Open Diff Viewer** / **Code Browser** shows every changed file side by side, with each counted line marked, plus the project's files, classes and a 3-D map.
- After an Agent Scan, **Open Agent Scan Report** lists each flagged file with the line that raised it, and the Code Browser gains an **Agents** tab.
- Reports are ordinary HTML files saved in your **Downloads** folder unless you choose another place under **Output**. A large scan also writes a folder named after the report ending in `_diff_data`; keep it beside the report.

Colours mean the same thing everywhere: **red** changed, **blue** deleted, **green** added, **orange** total churn.

7 Try the demos

Under **Try It — Demos**, each card downloads a small sample project from our public GitHub repository and runs it with one press. The Agent Scan and Churn + Agent Scan samples contain fake, non-working “agent” files written only so the scanner has something to find. They hold no real keys, make no network calls and are never executed. Security software may flag them; that is expected.

8 Stop CodeDelta

Press **Quit** in the page header and confirm. CodeDelta closes the report windows it opened and ends. Your reports stay on disk. Closing the browser tab alone does not stop it.

Where to go next

User guide	Press **Help** in the app, or read it at **codedelta.app/user-guide.html**. Every metric is defined there with a worked example.
Pull requests and CI	CodeDelta also runs on every pull request as a GitHub Action, and in GitLab, Jenkins or Docker: **codedelta.app/github-quickstart.html** and **codedelta.app/cli.html**.
Command line	`codedelta ./old ./new -o report.html` runs the same engine without the browser.
Questions and licences	Use the chat on **codedelta.app**, or the contact button on the download page. A person replies.