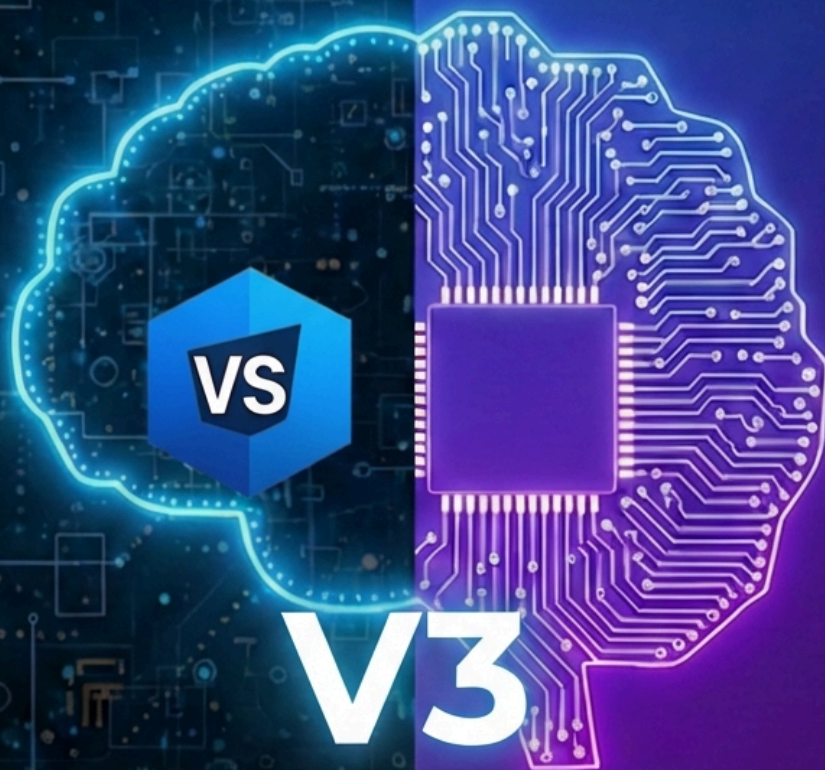


Near-Zero Cost AI Coding Agents [VS Code]



Fast field guide to VS Code for
near-zero-cost Agentic AI Coding

Near-Zero cost AI Coding Agents

[VS Code] V3

A fast field guide to KiloCode, OpenRouter, Gemini and Qwen for near-zero-cost coding

Reader promise

In under an hour, you'll set up KiloCode in VS Code, connect a free provider, and ship real code changes in a fast and fully controllable workflow. You'll also know how to keep spending and throttling under control.

Who this book is for

- Solo devs, freelancers, students, and small teams who want a powerful agentic coding setup without runaway costs.
- Readers comfortable with Git/CLI basics and VS Code.

What you need

- VS Code, Git, and a GitHub account.
- Internet access and the ability to create API keys with third-party providers.
- **No budget required.** You can perform effectively in this environment using only free tiers.
- *Optional:* A small top-up may be suggested for specific provider deals, but is not mandatory.

How to use this book

1. **Start with the Quickstart section** to perform a fast initial setup. Takes just **15 minutes!**
2. **Deep dive into specific Provider chapters** to learn how to rotate between free/cheap models as needed.

Important note on limits and promos

Model availability, free tiers, and promotions are subject to change. Treat all limits and pricing mentions as snapshots. Always check provider dashboards and documentation before relying on a specific model or rate.