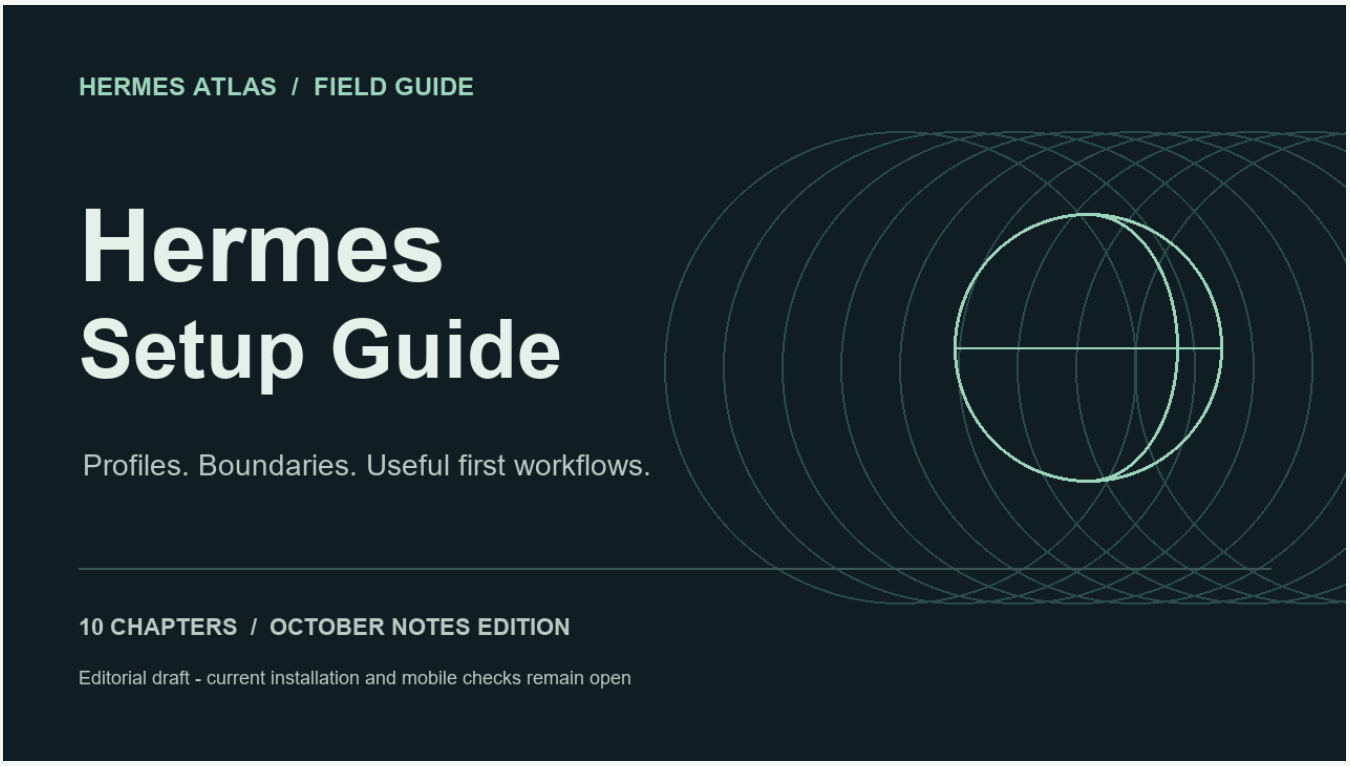


A practical setup workbook from saved October research.

Ten chapters explain profiles, task boundaries, provider checks, delegation and recoverable handoffs. Each ends with a concrete acceptance exercise and a screenshot slot.

Current installer and native mobile release evidence are missing. The guide records those gaps; it does not pretend an older source snapshot proves today's product. Draft price: $24.

CHAPTER 01

Choose one installation

Source: October 9 native foundation notes. Fresh-install sequence is missing current evidence.

Start by writing down the machine, operating system, installation folder and the job you want Hermes to do. Keep Desktop, a gateway and a hosted dashboard distinct. A browser tab is an interface; it is not proof that the worker beneath it is connected.

The saved research inspected source stamped 0.21.5+5832.g4e3fcd5, built October 2, 2026. That record does not identify today's release. Do not use it as an instruction to downgrade or to install a package with an invented version.

For an existing installation, inspect its About or version screen and help before changing anything. Record the version and the official distribution link. For a new installation, this draft deliberately leaves the current official installer sequence open until it is verified.

Worksheet: machine ___; OS ___; version ___; install source ___; first read-only task ___. Acceptance: the recorded version and visible program agree. Do not continue through an installer merely to match this guide.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Version / About screen, captured with no accounts, emails or keys visible.

CHAPTER 02

Separate identity from a task

Source: October 9 notes, SOUL identity and profile sections.

Put durable communication preferences in SOUL.md for the active profile. Put project paths, allowed writes, forbidden actions and acceptance criteria into project instructions. A personality file cannot enforce a budget or an operating-system permission.

A useful identity is short: explain uncertainty, finish bounded work, cite evidence, and ask before external actions outside the task. Avoid putting account values, access tokens or entire client transcripts in identity or shared memory.

Use this task contract: Goal: summarize one local document. Read: the named document. Write: one named output folder. External actions: none. Done: an accurate summary with the source path and unanswered questions.

After an identity edit, start a fresh session and inspect the effective context if the installed interface exposes it. The October notes mention /context; verify it through the installed help. Acceptance: one harmless task follows the project boundary.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Profile identity editor and a short, sanitized local task contract.

CHAPTER 03

Keep profiles and workspaces apart

Source: October 9 notes, profiles and Bot Mode.

A persistent profile has its own identity, configuration, memory and history. A temporary delegated worker is a different concept. Begin with one profile. Add a second only when a real workload needs a different responsibility or provider.

Give each profile its own writable home. Shared read-only reference material can live in a separate knowledge folder. A shared database or profile home makes ownership and recovery ambiguous, even when the displayed bot names differ.

Record profile name, work directory, allowed tools and output path in a small roster. Keep secrets in the application's supported secret mechanism. Store only the names of required variables in documentation.

Acceptance exercise: two profiles each create a different harmless text artifact inside their own approved folder. Verify paths and contents manually. Then stop the second profile. Do not schedule it or grant access to another profile's home by implication.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Two profiles with distinct work folders; redact user-specific paths as needed.

CHAPTER 04

Verify the provider before real work

Source: October 9 provider-routing notes. Current account entitlements are not checked.

A provider, a model and a tool gateway are separate choices. The October notes distinguish the ordinary Hermes loop from an optional alternate runtime. Do not assume a subscription to one service funds another provider or its tools.

Select only a model that appears in the authorized account. Record its exact identifier and how billing is measured. Do not copy an old model name from a screenshot and claim that it remains available.

Before a paid task, decide the spending cap, whether automatic fallback is disabled, and how a timeout will be reconciled. A balance display is not an enforced ceiling. Keep automatic top-up and unapproved fallback off.

Acceptance: use an explicitly approved minimal task, inspect the actual provider result and reconcile usage. That live check has not been performed by this guide build. Never place a key in a prompt, sample file, screen capture or generated PDF.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Provider selection screen with all credentials and account identifiers hidden.

CHAPTER 05

Build a useful first workflow

Source: October 9 plan and native-foundation acceptance pilot.

Pick a job with an inspectable output: summarize a local note, compare two supplied files, or draft one reply without sending it. Avoid asking for an entire autonomous business before one workflow succeeds.

Give the worker the source paths, output path, completion checks and an explicit list of actions it may take. Ask it to report missing information rather than fabricate evidence. Distinguish draft text from a sent message.

A good first acceptance check compares the output against the original source. Confirm numbers, dates, names and omissions. A successful tool exit is useful but does not prove the document says the right thing.

Save a small run record: task, start time, final artifact, checks passed, unresolved items and next action. Keep the source intact. Repeat with a deliberately incomplete source; success means the missing field stays visibly missing.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Source document, output artifact and a brief completed verification checklist.

CHAPTER 06

Use a board when tasks need handoffs

Source: October 9 Kanban notes; UI availability must be verified in the installed version.

The October source inspection found native task-board support, including dependencies and review. It also found that the plugin shipped off by default in that source snapshot. A database file does not prove the UI is enabled today.

Use one authoritative task board. A visual office should read task state, not invent a second scheduler. Begin with a small chain: research prepares evidence, engineering creates an artifact, and a reviewer accepts or rejects it.

Assign one owner to each output folder. Add the review criteria before the work starts. When a task is blocked, name the missing input and retain the last successful artifact. Done means the required output passed review, not that a worker stopped talking.

Acceptance: create one harmless task, observe the owning profile, request a revision and verify that the task returns to review with a new artifact. This guide does not enable any dispatcher, routine or recurring job.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Native task board with a completed test task and its artifact reference.

CHAPTER 07

Delegate with a complete brief

Source: October 9 delegation and model-routing notes.

Delegate bounded independent work, such as checking a document or writing a single module. Every child brief needs the objective, source material, allowed writes, constraints and expected proof. Do not assume the child receives the parent's full conversation.

The inspected delegate_task interface did not offer a per-task model parameter. If different providers are needed, use the installed product's supported profile routing. Do not invent an argument because another agent framework has it.

Keep concurrent work on separate output files. Review the actual artifact returned by a child. A confident final message does not prove the file exists, the browser loaded, or the requested test was run.

Acceptance: send two non-overlapping local tasks, inspect both outputs and reject a deliberately incomplete result. Test stop/steer in a harmless task before relying on it during external actions. Keep final integration owned by one worker.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Subagent activity view plus two separate local artifact paths.

CHAPTER 08

Observe actions and recover safely

Source: October 9 browser and visibility notes.

Use tool activity, timestamps, transcripts and artifact links to understand what a worker did. A moving avatar or spinner is not a heartbeat. A stale screenshot is not a live browser view.

The October notes described Bot Screen as requiring a Linux gateway host, with Windows Desktop acting as a client. Do not present that dated statement as a current platform guarantee. Verify support before promising independent bot desktops.

Use separate browser sessions for separate jobs. Begin with read-only tasks and one browser context. Before any meaningful external action, verify the intended account, target and authorization. Do not widen credentials to work around a blocked page.

Recovery exercise: stop a harmless task, reopen its saved evidence and verify that continuation does not duplicate an external action. Label unknown outcomes as unknown. A retry must follow evidence of what already happened.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
A timestamped tool result with an artifact and explicit stopped/review state.

CHAPTER 09

Preserve a recoverable setup

Source: October 9 operating-contract and acceptance notes.

Before changing a working profile, preserve a recoverable copy in an approved private location. Do not include secret files in a public product bundle. Document where secrets are supplied without copying their values into the guide.

Keep version, profile roster, required variable names, task contracts and a minimal acceptance task together. Distinguish a plan from applied configuration and an installed package from tested behavior.

Backups are useful only if a restore is inspected. Test with a disposable copy and a harmless local artifact. Record which files were restored, the version used and any missing integration. Never restore into an unrelated active installation.

Acceptance: another session can read the handoff, find the last artifact and run the same non-destructive check. No recurring backup job is installed by this guide. Scheduling, provider calls and remote service changes require their own scope.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
Sanitized backup inventory and restore-test result, without private configuration.

CHAPTER 10

Check mobile access without guessing

Missing current Android/iOS release evidence and original Atlas site source.

Mobile access can mean a native app, a browser interface or a messaging gateway. Label the route accurately. An old Telegram setup is not evidence that a native Android or iOS application has shipped.

Before adding a release to the tracker, record the official publisher, platform, version, source URL and the date checked. A store listing, release note and community screenshot are different evidence types. Do not mark availability confirmed from a rumor.

This chapter has no verified current mobile installation sequence. Its screenshot is intentionally blank. The included board shows Android and iOS as unverified. Fill the missing steps only after checking official sources and testing the selected route on a real device.

Final checklist: correct publisher; official link; supported OS; installation result; sign-in path; read-only test; observed permissions; recovery path. Add a dated changelog entry only after the result is confirmed. The guide remains an editorial draft until these gaps are resolved.

SCREENSHOT PLACEHOLDER
MISSING: verified mobile installation and first read-only task on a real device.

Sources and release checklist

Primary local evidence: C O D E X/hermes-powerhouse-plan/research/hermes-native.md (October 9, 2026); browsers-and-visibility.md (October 9, 2026); PLAN.md (October planning record). Full local paths are in FOUND-web.md.

Official destinations retained from the notes: https://github.com/NousResearch/hermes-agent and https://hermes-agent.nousresearch.com/docs/. Their current contents were not fetched for this local build.

The older LLM and Hermes VPS cheat sheet describes a separate installation. Its addresses, credentials, access details and old account assumptions are intentionally absent from this product.

Before publishing: verify installation sequence against the official distribution; verify supported platforms; replace all ten screenshot slots with owned screenshots; test a harmless workflow in the selected version; check the price and listing copy; remove any claim that the tested version does not support.

Before taking payment: make the gaps visible in the listing. This edition is a draft, not a finished current-version installation promise. No support subscription, official endorsement or guaranteed outcome is included.