

Platform Decision Guide

Choose the simplest setup that gets you building

A Free Frankly AI Resource • Version 1.0

Decision rule

Use what you already own unless a dedicated machine solves a real availability or separation problem.

Part 1 — Your current situation

- ☐ I already have a computer I can use for the course.
- ☐ That computer can run VS Code and connect reliably to the internet.
- ☐ I am allowed to install software and extensions on it.
- ☐ I can keep the Business Brain folder separate from personal files.
- ☐ I need the Business Brain available even when my main computer is elsewhere.

Part 2 — Choose the machine

Question	Yes	No
Do you want to avoid all new hardware costs?	Existing computer	Continue to next question
Do you need the system available separately from daily work?	Dedicated mini PC	Existing computer
Do you want to learn first before committing to hardware?	Existing computer	Either
Will the machine remain in one office and be used regularly?	Dedicated mini PC suits	Existing computer may suit

Part 3 — Choose the operating system

Operating system	When it is the sensible path	My choice
Windows	You already use Windows 10/11 and want the most familiar office path.	☐
macOS	You already own a Mac and want to stay in the Apple environment.	☐
Linux	You want Frank's dedicated mini-PC approach or already use Linux confidently.	☐

My final decision

Machine: _____

Operating system: _____

Why this is the simplest choice for me: _____

Remember

You can move the framework later. The best first setup is the one you will actually complete.

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