■■ DEV TOOLKIT

20 Essential Tools Every Developer Needs

Work Smarter. Ship Faster. Build Better.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	20 TOOLS	INSTANT DOWNLOAD

Only $17 — Available on Gumroad

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Introduction

Being a great developer is not just about writing good code.

It is about working smart — using the right tools to save time, reduce errors, collaborate better, and ship faster.

This guide gives you the **20 most powerful tools** every intermediate developer should have in their toolkit — organized by category, with clear explanations of what each tool does and why it matters.

No fluff. No filler. Just tools that work.

20 Tools	10 Categories	100% Tested	$17 Only
Curated	Organized	Practical	Instant Access

■ CATEGORY 1 — CODE EDITORS & IDES

#1 VS Code

FREE

The most popular code editor in the world — and for good reason.

- Free, fast, and endlessly customizable
- Thousands of extensions available
- Built-in Git integration and terminal

■ *code.visualstudio.com*

#2 JetBrains IDEs

PAID

The professional choice for serious developers.

- Deep language-specific intelligence (WebStorm, PyCharm, IntelliJ)
- Powerful refactoring and debugging tools
- Best for large, complex codebases

■ *jetbrains.com*

■ CATEGORY 2 — VERSION CONTROL

#3 Git

FREE

The foundation of modern software development.

- Track every change in your codebase
- Collaborate without overwriting each other's work
- Essential skill every developer must master

■ *git-scm.com*

#4 GitHub

FREE

Where your Git repositories live online.

- Store, share, and collaborate on code
- Pull requests, code reviews, and issue tracking
- Free for public and private repos

■ *github.com*

■ CATEGORY 3 — TERMINAL & COMMAND LINE

#5 iTerm2 / Windows Terminal

FREE

A powerful upgrade to your default terminal.

- Split panes, tabs, and customizable themes
- Much faster and more flexible than default terminals
- Available for Mac (iTerm2) and Windows (Windows Terminal)

■ *iterm2.com / microsoft terminal*

#6 Oh My Zsh

FREE

Makes your terminal smarter and faster.

- Auto-suggestions and syntax highlighting
- Hundreds of plugins and themes
- Saves hours of typing with smart shortcuts


ohmyz.sh

■ CATEGORY 4 — API DEVELOPMENT & TESTING

#7 Postman — FREE

The industry standard for API testing.

- Send HTTP requests and inspect responses
- Save and organize API collections
- Automate API testing with scripts

■ *postman.com*

#8 Insomnia — FREE

A lightweight alternative to Postman.

- Clean, minimal interface
- Great for REST and GraphQL APIs
- Fast and easy to set up

■ *insomnia.rest*

■■ CATEGORY 5 — DATABASES & DATA MANAGEMENT

#9 TablePlus — PAID

The most beautiful database GUI available.

- Supports MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, and more
- Fast, native app — no lag, no bloat
- Clean UI that developers actually enjoy using

■ *tableplus.com*

#10 DBeaver — FREE

A free, powerful alternative for database management.

- Supports 80+ databases
- Advanced SQL editor with auto-complete
- Completely free and open source

■ CATEGORY 6 — CONTAINERIZATION & DEVOPS

#11 Docker — FREE

The tool that changed how developers ship software.

- Package your app and its dependencies into a container
- Run the same environment everywhere — local, staging, production
- Essential for modern development workflows

■ *docker.com*

#12 GitHub Actions — FREE

Automate your workflow directly from GitHub.

- CI/CD pipelines without leaving GitHub
- Auto-run tests, builds, and deployments
- Free for public repositories

■ *github.com/features/actions*

■ CATEGORY 7 — PRODUCTIVITY & COLLABORATION

#13 Notion — FREE

Your second brain as a developer.

- Document your projects, notes, and ideas
- Build wikis, roadmaps, and task boards
- Free for personal use

■ *notion.so*

#14 Linear — PAID

The best project management tool for dev teams.

- Clean, fast, and keyboard-first design
- Built for engineering workflows
- Integrates with GitHub and Slack

■ *linear.app*

#15 Slack

FREE

The communication hub for developer teams.

- Organized channels for every project and topic
- Integrates with GitHub, Jira, and dozens of dev tools
- Used by teams of all sizes

■ *slack.com*

■ CATEGORY 8 — AI & DEVELOPER ASSISTANCE

#16 GitHub Copilot — PAID

Your AI pair programmer.

- Autocomplete entire functions and files
- Trained on millions of public code repositories
- Saves hours of boilerplate writing every week

■ *github.com/features/copilot*

#17 Claude / ChatGPT — FREE

AI assistants for developers.

- Debug code, explain errors, write documentation
- Generate tests, review logic, brainstorm architecture
- Use daily to accelerate your workflow

■ *claude.ai / chat.openai.com*

■ CATEGORY 9 — PERFORMANCE & DEBUGGING

#18 Chrome DevTools — FREE

Built into every Chrome browser — endlessly powerful.

- Inspect HTML, CSS, and JavaScript in real time
- Debug network requests and performance issues
- Every frontend developer uses this daily

■ *Built into Chrome (press F12)*

#19 Sentry — FREE

Catch and fix errors before your users do.

- Real-time error tracking and alerting
- Detailed stack traces and user context
- Free tier available for small projects

■ *sentry.io*

■ CATEGORY 10 — SECURITY & ENVIRONMENT

#20 1Password / Bitwarden

PAID

Never lose a password or API key again.

- Securely store passwords, tokens, and secrets
- Share credentials safely with your team
- Essential for professional developers

■ *1password.com / bitwarden.com*

■ Your Developer Toolkit Checklist

#	Tool	Category	Free?	Done?
1	VS Code	Editor	■ Free	■
2	JetBrains IDEs	IDE	■ Paid	■
3	Git	Version Control	■ Free	■
4	GitHub	Version Control	■ Free	■
5	iTerm2 / Win Terminal	Terminal	■ Free	■
6	Oh My Zsh	Terminal	■ Free	■
7	Postman	API Testing	■ Free	■
8	Insomnia	API Testing	■ Free	■
9	TablePlus	Database	■ Freemium	■
10	DBeaver	Database	■ Free	■
11	Docker	DevOps	■ Free	■
12	GitHub Actions	DevOps	■ Free	■
13	Notion	Productivity	■ Free	■
14	Linear	Project Mgmt	■ Freemium	■
15	Slack	Collaboration	■ Free	■
16	GitHub Copilot	AI	■ Paid	■
17	Claude / ChatGPT	AI	■ Free	■
18	Chrome DevTools	Debugging	■ Free	■
19	Sentry	Monitoring	■ Free	■
20	1Password / Bitwarden	Security	■ Freemium	■

■ Conclusion

The best developers are not the ones who know the most — they are the ones who use the right tools to work smarter every single day.

You now have a complete map of the 20 tools that will transform your workflow — from the way you write code, to the way you collaborate, debug, and ship.

Do not try to install everything at once. Pick your weakest category. Install one new tool this week. Build the habit. In 30 days, your workflow will be unrecognizable.

Your Action Plan

Timeline	Action
Today	Install VS Code, Git, and GitHub — the core foundation
This Week	Set up your terminal (iTerm2 or Windows Terminal + Oh My Zsh)
Week 2	Try Postman for your next API — test one endpoint
Week 3	Run your first Docker container — follow the official tutorial
Week 4	Install Sentry on a project and catch your first real error
Month 2	Try GitHub Copilot for one week — measure your speed increase
Month 3	Look back — notice how much faster and more confident you are

Now go build something great. ■