# Set up YallaDM with Claude

Comment to DM automation on your own Instagram, guided step by step. Tester guide, September 2026.

**You do not need to sign up anywhere first.** Claude does the setup with you: it asks what you want, walks you through each screen, and checks that each step worked before moving on.

## 0 Before you start

- A **professional** Instagram account (Business or Creator). A personal profile cannot connect.
- The tester invite from Aly, sent to that Instagram account. You accept it in step 1.
- A **Claude** account at claude.ai. The free plan works.
- A second Instagram account, or a friend, to test with in step 5. The bot never answers your own comments.
- Optional: a Facebook Page you manage.

## 1 Accept the invite

1. Log in to Instagram as the account you want to automate.
2. Open `instagram.com/accounts/manage_access/`, which is **Apps and websites**, then the **Tester invites** tab.
3. Accept the invite.

**Why this step exists.** YallaDM is in beta. Meta only lets accounts that were invited by hand connect to a beta app. The invite gives YallaDM no access on its own; that happens in step 3, when you say yes on Instagram's own screen.

## 2 Add YallaDM to Claude

1. In claude.ai or the desktop app open **Customize**, then **Connectors**. Press **+**, then **Add custom connector**.
2. Paste `https://mcp.yalladm.com/mcp` and press **Add**.
3. Sign in with Google, or type your email and enter the one-time code that is emailed to you. Press **Allow**.

**Use the same email everywhere.** There is no account to create: this first sign in makes one, and the email you use is the one YallaDM knows you by. Use it again on the dashboard in step 3, or Claude will not see your account.

## 3 Let Claude set you up

1. Start a new chat. Make sure the YallaDM connector is switched on for it.
2. Type: **Set me up.**
3. Claude asks two questions: Instagram only, or Instagram and a Facebook Page? And are you moving from ManyChat, InstantDM, or starting fresh?
4. Then it walks you through the rest, one screen at a time: sign in at `dashboard.yalladm.com` with the same email, press **Connect Instagram**, and allow the three permissions Instagram shows you (read comments, send messages, see your posts).
5. After each step, tell Claude what you see. It checks that the step actually worked before going on.

## 4 Your first automation

Tell Claude the post, the word people should comment, and the link you want them to get. It writes the automation as a **draft** and gives you the link to it. Open it, read the messages in the preview, and press **Go live**. Claude cannot press Go live for you, and that is on purpose. Once it is live, Claude can still change its wording, but only after showing you the new wording and hearing your yes. It never switches an automation on or off.

## 5 See it work

1. From your second account, comment the word on the post.
2. A public reply appears under the comment within seconds.
3. On the second account, open your DMs and look in **message requests**. The DM is there, not in the main inbox, because Instagram puts messages from accounts you never wrote to in that folder.
4. Ask Claude **Did my test comment work?** and it reads the numbers back to you.

## 6 Moving from ManyChat or InstantDM

Say **Bring my ManyChat automations over.** Neither tool lets you export automations, so Claude rebuilds them in two halves:

1. **It scans your Instagram** for the posts your old tool already answers, and finds the trigger words and the public replies you have been using. It only reads your own posts and your own replies, never who commented.
2. **You supply the DM copy.** On a laptop with the Claude in Chrome extension, Claude reads your ManyChat automations itself, read-only, with your permission. On a phone it has no browser: screenshot each automation (trigger, public reply, first DM, link message) and drop them in the chat.
3. Claude saves every automation as a draft. You review them on the dashboard and press **Go live** on each.
4. ManyChat can stay on for a short while. Meta allows one DM per comment, so the second tool's should be refused, but the post can show two public replies. Switch each post off in ManyChat once YallaDM is live on it.

What does not come across: your contact list (Meta does not allow messaging people unprompted, from any tool), and past statistics. Screenshot those before you cancel.

## 7 Things you can ask Claude

### Setting up

"Set me up."
"Is everything connected?"
"Connect my Facebook Page too."
"What permissions does this need, and why?"

### Automations

"Make an automation for my latest reel: word GUIDE, link alyelazab.com/guide.pdf"
"Show me my automations."
"Rewrite the DMs on my AEO reel in Arabic."
"Which draft has errors, and what is wrong?"

### Moving over

"Bring my ManyChat automations over."
"Which of my posts are automated right now?"
"Here is a screenshot of one ManyChat flow, add it."

### When something is off

"Nobody got a DM. Why?"
"Did my test comment work?"
"Where did the DM go?"
"Walk me through it again from step 3."

## 8 What Claude can and cannot do

| Claude can | Claude cannot |
|---|---|
| Guide you through every screen and check each step worked | Press **Go live** or switch anything off, disconnect, or delete anything |
| Read your own posts, your own replies, and your automations | Send a message to anyone |
| Write automations as **drafts**, and change a live one's wording after your yes | See who commented or what they wrote |
| Tell you what happened: comments matched, DMs sent | Invite you to the beta (Aly does that by hand) |

Everything Claude reads comes from your own account through Instagram's official permissions. Your access key is stored sealed and only the bot can open it. Remove YallaDM from Claude at any time under **Customize**, **Connectors**; disconnect Instagram itself under **Settings** on the dashboard.

## 9 If no DM arrives

- Look in **message requests** on the commenting account, not the main inbox.
- The comment must come from a different account than the one you connected.
- The word must be in the comment; capital letters and punctuation do not matter.
- The automation must be **Live**, not Draft. Ask Claude **Is everything connected?**
- Still stuck? Tell Claude the step number, or email **azab@yalladm.com** with it.