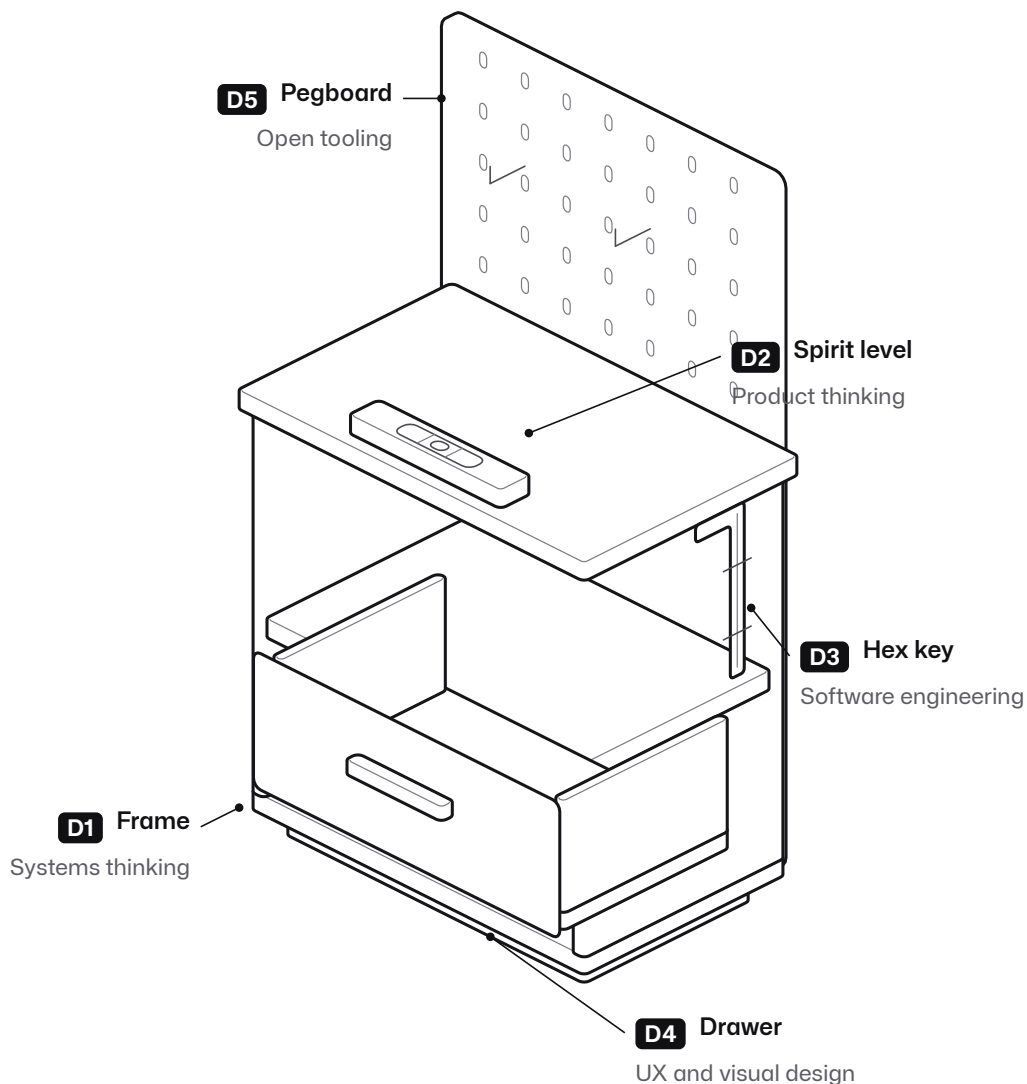


DAVID

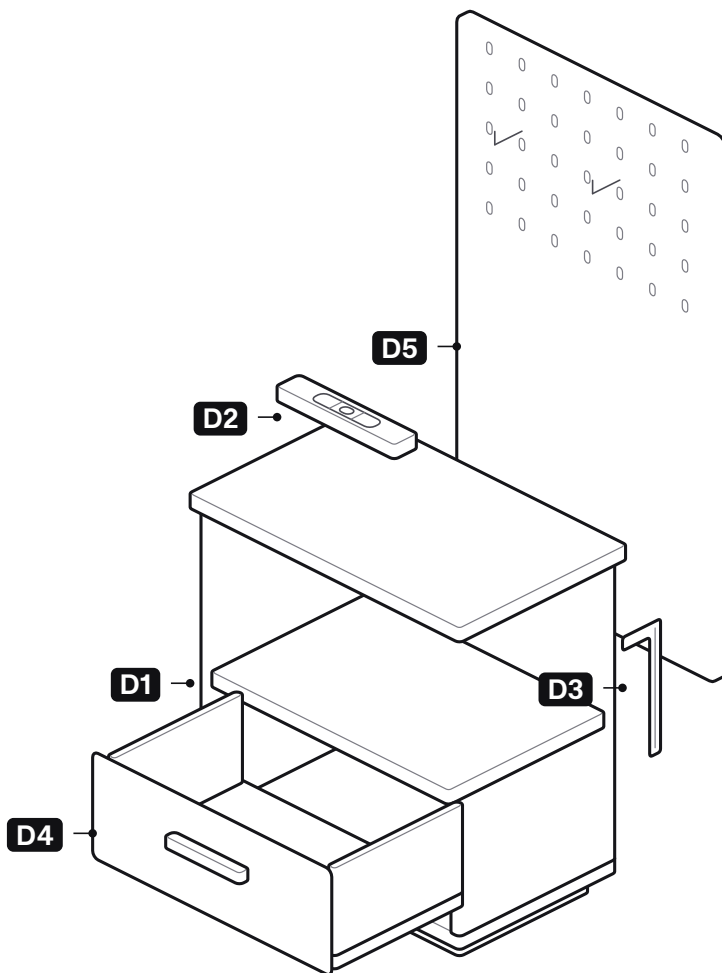
User Manual

A workstation for building software. Five modules, assembled.



What's in the box

Five modules. Each one comes back on the pages that follow, where a project uses it.

**D1**

1×

Frame

Systems thinking

Holds everything square. Find the source of truth and build the rest around it.

**D2**

1×

Spirit level

Product thinking

Shows what is off before anything changes, and what the product should not do.

**D3**

1×

Hex key

Software engineering

Fits the fastener in front of it: the stack that suits the platform.

**D4**

1×

Drawer

UX and visual design

Opens the way you expect and shows what is inside.

**D5**

1×

Pegboard

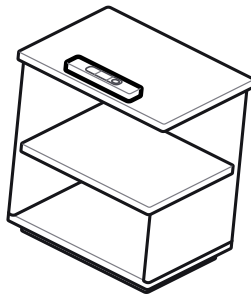
Open tooling

Hangs tools where a person or an AI agent can reach them, with guards.

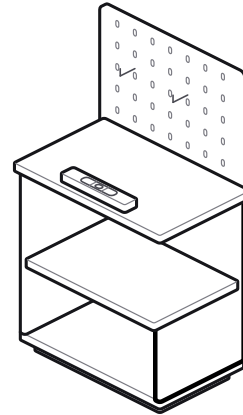
How I work

Four steps, in order. The same cabinet at each step.

1



2



Find the friction

Set the level down first. Measure what is off before you change anything.

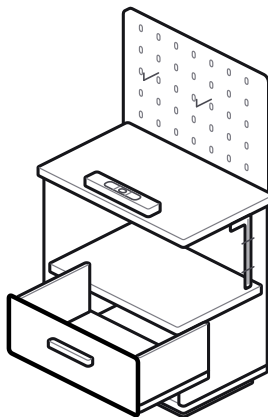
A shift schedule that lives only inside ADP.

Make the system clear

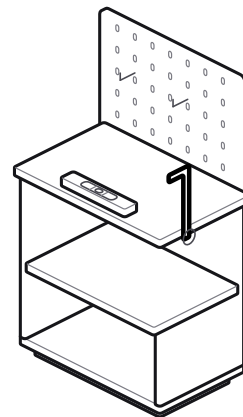
Square the frame. Name the parts and who owns each one before writing code.

Sukiru works out which installer owns each skill.

4



3



Test, learn, refine

Pull the drawer and push it back. Check the result and plan how to reverse a change.

A snapshot before every Sukiru batch. --confirm on tg-drive mutations.

Build the right thing

Use the key that fits the bolt: the tools that suit the platform and the person.

Swift and AppKit for a Mac app. Go for single binaries.

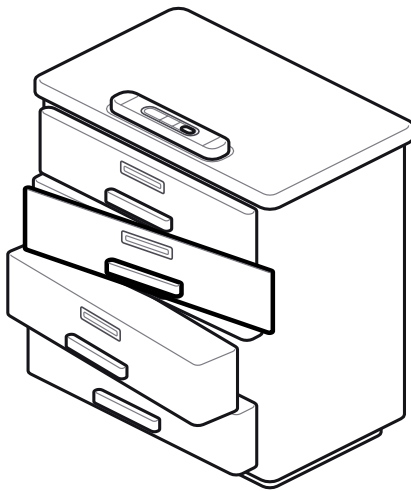
Make complexity manageable

Coding agents load skills from shared folders. Two official installers, `npx skills` and `gh skill`, write there and keep separate records. Neither reads the other's.

MODULES USED  **D1** Systems thinking  **D2** Product thinking  **D4** UX and visual design



Before



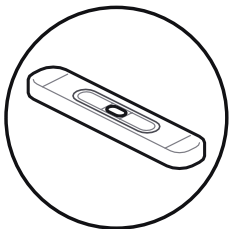
- ⊗ Lock records that point at nothing.
- ⊗ Links that break when a folder moves.
- ⊗ Copies of one skill that drift apart.
- ⊗ Skills that both installers claim.



After



- ✓ One health report, in plain language.
- ✓ Each fix goes to the installer that owns the skill.
- ✓ All fixes applied as one confirmed batch.
- ✓ No ledger of its own to drift.



✓ Final check

Sukiru takes a snapshot before every batch, so the batch can be rolled back. A CLI with `--dry-run` shows the same fixes before any are made.

A native macOS app in Swift, SwiftUI, and AppKit, using system controls only.

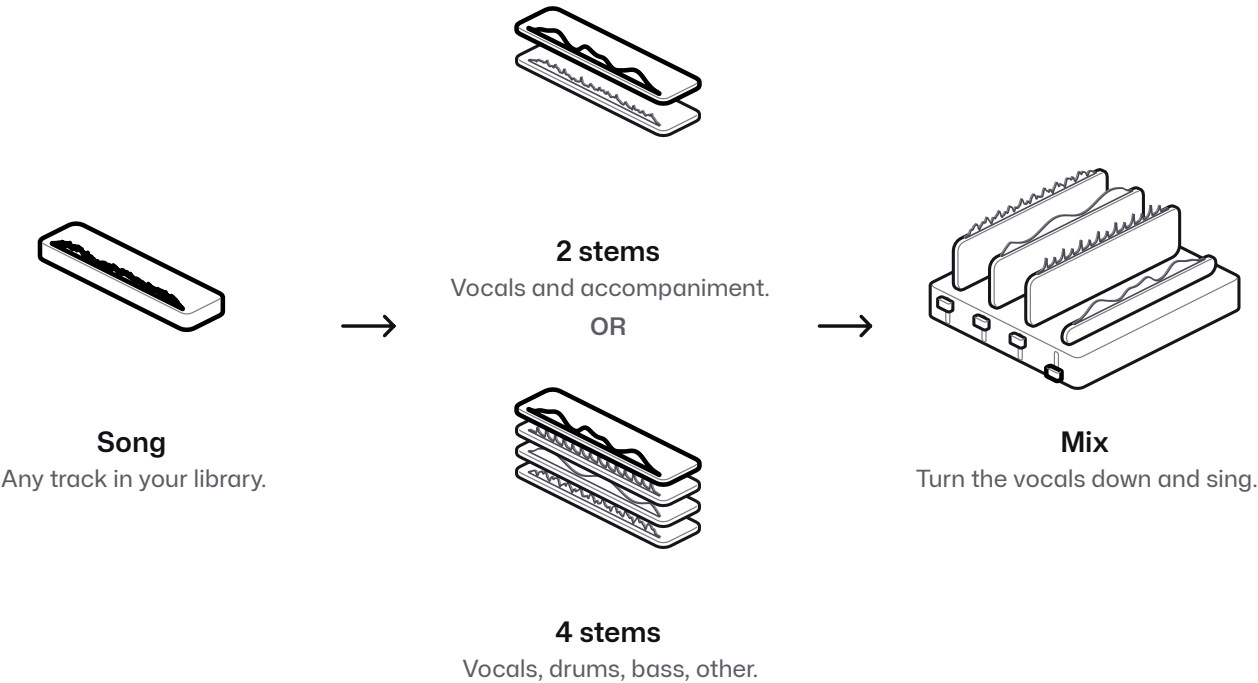
Website
Source

sukiru.blahaj.uk
github.com/thedavidweng/sukiru

Own your music. Build your stage.

OpenKara turns songs you already own into karaoke, on your own computer.

MODULES USED **1** **D3** Software engineering  **D4** UX and visual design



- ☒ Separation runs on the device with Demucs, an open-source AI model.
- ☐ No upload, no account, no subscription.

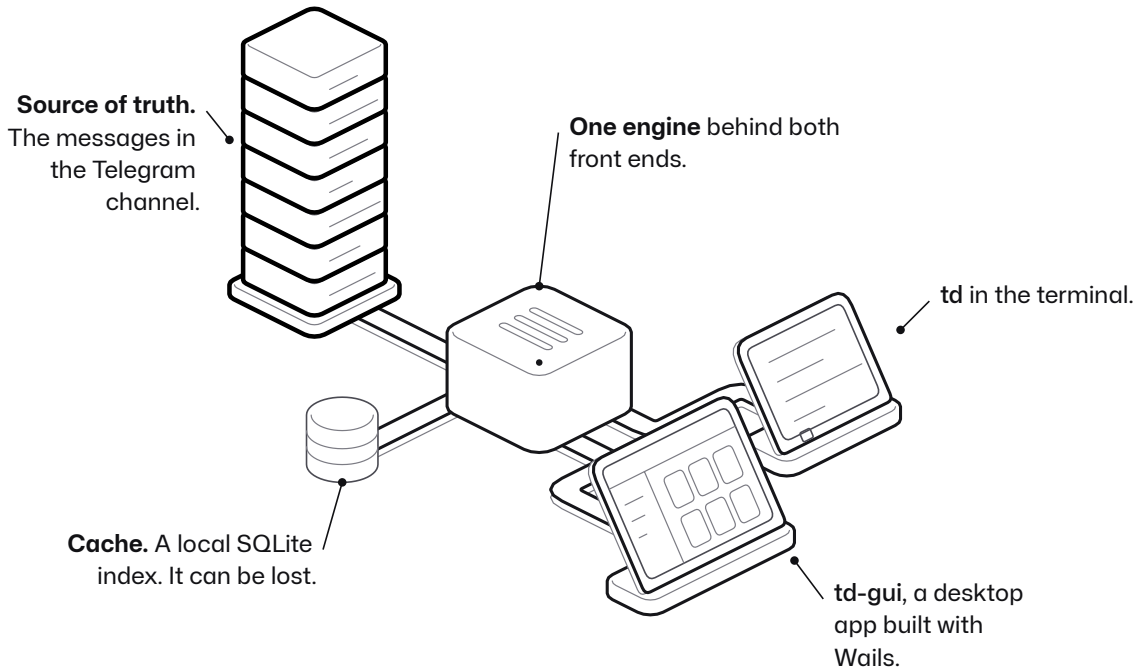
PLATFORMS	macOS, Windows, and Linux, built with Tauri and Rust.
LYRICS	Synced from online sources, embedded tags, .lrc files, or CD+G.
LIBRARY	Portable. It works from a NAS or a USB drive.

Website	openkara.blahaj.uk
Source	github.com/thedavidweng/OpenKara

One engine, two interfaces

A Telegram channel holds large files but reads as a timeline. tg-drive gives it a file tree you can browse from the desktop or the terminal.

MODULES USED  **D1** Systems thinking  **D5** Open tooling



If the cache is lost



Destructive commands need `--confirm`. Operation locks stop two runs from colliding. Every command can answer in stable JSON.

Website
Source

tg-drive.blahaj.uk
github.com/thedavidweng/tg-drive

Make a routine disappear

Where a workplace uses ADP Workforce Now, the schedule lives inside ADP. ADP Shifts copies it into your own calendar and keeps it current.

MODULES USED

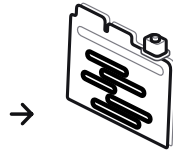
**D2** Product thinking**D5** Open tooling

1



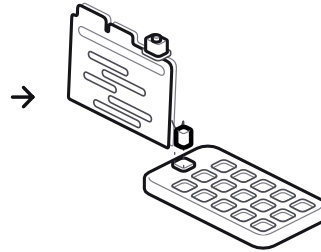
Add ADP Shifts from the Chrome Web Store.

2



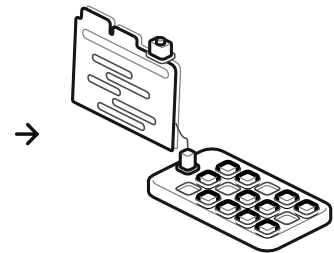
Open Calendar in ADP once.

3



Connect Google.

4



Your shifts appear in a calendar named ADP Shifts.

- ✓ Reuses the ADP session already in your browser.
- ✓ Writes only to the one calendar it creates, with Google's narrowest calendar scope.
- ✓ Checks for changes daily and whenever Workforce Now is open. Canceled shifts are removed on the next sync.

- ✗ Never asks for your ADP password.
- ✗ Cannot read or change any other calendar.
- ✗ No servers and no analytics.

No Google account? An .ics export and a userscript cover everyone else.

Website
Source

adp-shifts.blahaj.uk
github.com/thedavidweng/adp-calendar

Compatible products

Everything on my software hub as of October 2026. Fifteen products, all open source.

Command-line tools 6



CLI 01

canvas-cli

Courses, assignments, submissions, and grading for Canvas LMS.

[docs](#)


CLI 03

monarchmoney-cli

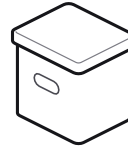
Accounts, transactions, budgets, and cash flow from Monarch Money.

[docs](#)


CLI 05

qualtrics-cli

Surveys, response exports, and an offline survey compiler for Qualtrics.

[docs](#)


CLI 02

zenodo-cli

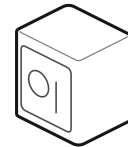
Research records and file uploads for Zenodo.

[docs](#)


CLI 04

flickr-cli

Photo backup, uploads, albums, and Piwigo import for Flickr.

[docs](#)


CLI 06

money

Local-first finance backend with encrypted SQLite and stable JSON.

[docs](#)

Plugin 1



PLG 01

DeckPad

A Steam Deck as a Bluetooth game controller for a PC, phone, or tablet.

deckpad.blahaj.uk


EXT 01

ADP Shifts

Keeps an ADP Workforce Now schedule in a Google Calendar of its own.

adp-shifts.blahaj.uk

Browser extension 1

Desktop apps

Seven apps, each built for its platform.



APP 01

OpenKara

Karaoke from your own music, with on-device stem separation.
openkara.blahaj.uk



APP 02

Sukiru

Checks and repairs coding agents' skill libraries on macOS.
sukiru.blahaj.uk



APP 03

Apple Say

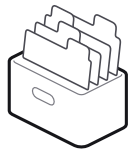
Native macOS speech synthesis with timed text. Fully local.
apple-say.blahaj.uk



APP 04

SDF Flash GUI

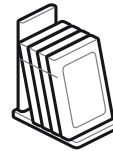
Dump, flash, and recover MT1959 Blu-ray drive firmware.
sdf-flash-gui.blahaj.uk



APP 05

tg-drive

A recoverable file tree on a Telegram channel, with the td CLI.
tg-drive.blahaj.uk



APP 06

Vapourfly

Organizes a Steam library into playlists, with recommendations and cleanup.
vapourfly.blahaj.uk



APP 07

OpenLoop

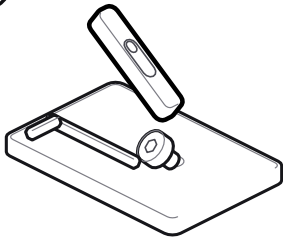
Generates music on a Mac with ACE-Step. Prompts, lyrics, and audio stay on the device. Alpha.
openloop.blahaj.uk

The full, current list: thedavidweng.github.io/site

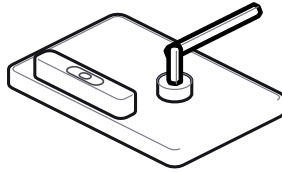
Do this, not that

Three habits that keep the cabinet square, each one checked against a shipped project.

Use the tool that owns the job



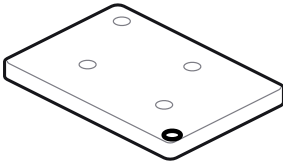
Forcing a fix from outside.



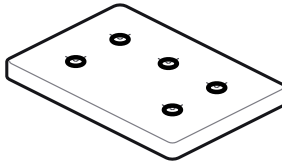
Fixing through the owner.

Sukiru repairs each skill through the installer that owns it, and uses the Mac's own controls.

Preview before you change



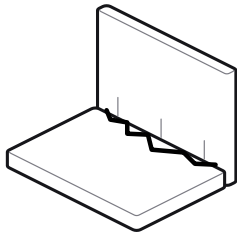
Drilling first, measuring after.



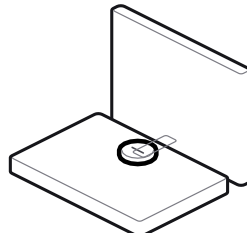
Marking first, then drilling on the marks.

canvas-cli and qualtrics-cli take `--dry-run` and `--confirm`. SDF Flash GUI asks for a typed confirmation before it writes firmware.

Design the way back



A glued joint. Nothing comes apart.



A bolted joint. It comes apart cleanly.

Sukiru snapshots each batch. tg-drive rebuilds its index from the channel. Vapourfly backs up before it writes Steam files.

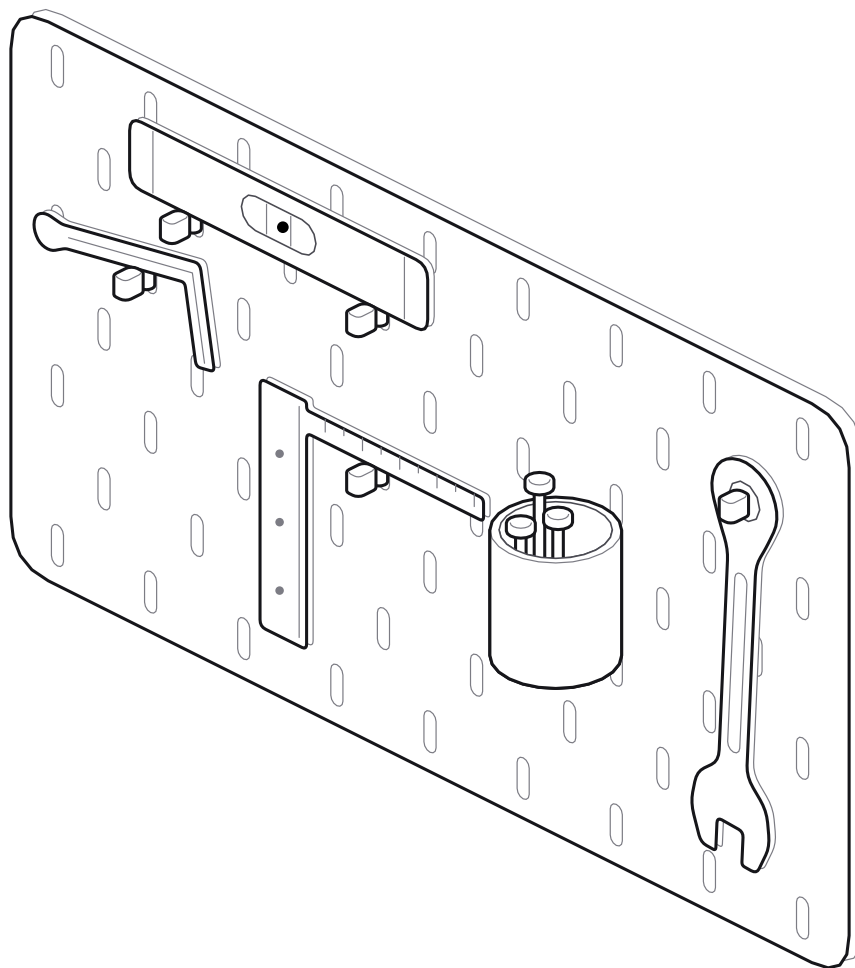


Stay local when you can

OpenKara separates stems on the device. Apple Say and OpenLoop run entirely on the Mac. money keeps its data in encrypted SQLite.

Before you call support

How to bring a problem, what comes back, and the mistakes that cost the most time.



Bring

- 1 The moment that wastes time, described plainly, and who it happens to.
- 2 Where the source of truth lives today.
- 3 What must not change: platform, data, budget, deadline.
- 4 One real example: a file, a screenshot, a log.

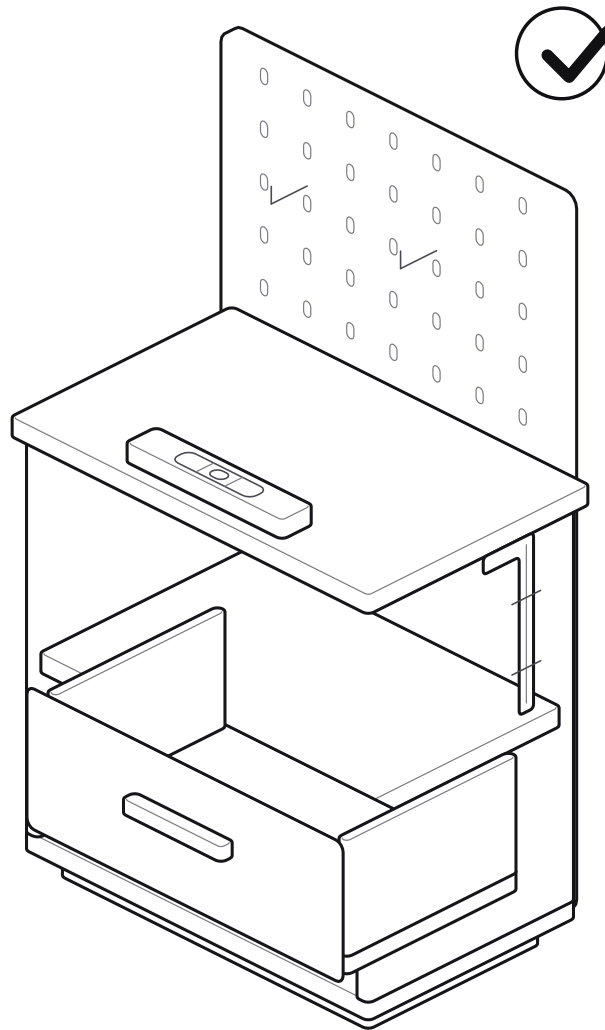
Expect back

- ✓ A short written plan that names the parts and who owns each, before any code.
- ✓ Something to try early: a prototype, a dry run, or a CLI.
- ✓ Changes you can preview and undo.
- ✓ Plain notes on trade-offs, including what I chose not to build.

Avoid

- ✗ Starting from a feature list instead of the friction.
- ✗ Two systems that both think they own the data.
- ✗ Changes with no preview and no way back.
- ✗ Asking for everything in the first version.

Ready for use.



NEXT STEP

Send me the friction: one moment that wastes someone's time. I will reply with what I would build first, and what I would leave out.

thedavidweng@gmail.com

David (Jiachen) Weng

Product Engineer & Creative Technologist
Vancouver, British Columbia

Website	<u>thedavidweng.github.io</u>
Software	<u>thedavidweng.github.io/site</u>
GitHub	<u>github.com/thedavidweng</u>
LinkedIn	<u>linkedin.com/in/thedavidweng</u>
Résumé	<u>thedavidweng.github.io/resume.html</u>

Colophon. Edition 1, October 2026. Set in Mona Sans (SIL Open Font License 1.1). Illustrations drawn with Hairline by Lucas Marques (MIT License) and exported as vector art. Typeset with Typst. Project facts were checked against each project's public repository and website in October 2026. This is an independent publication by David Weng. It is not affiliated with, sponsored by, or endorsed by IKEA.