A NO-CODE WALKTHROUGH

Build Your Own Storm Watch

A copy-paste guide to building your own Hawaiʻi hurricane, wind, and surf dashboard with Claude — no coding required, no software to install.

~45–60 minutes | A Claude account — that's it | Works on phone or desktop

Pupukahitech Foundation · Field Notes / No-Code Build

How this actually works

You won't write a single line of code. Instead, you'll describe what you want in plain English — these descriptions are called **prompts** — and Claude writes the actual webpage for you, then hands you a link to it.

> **Your part in each step:** copy the tan box, paste it into your conversation, hit enter, and read what comes back. If it's not quite right, just say so in your own words — “make the text bigger,” “that's the wrong island,” “try again” — the same way you'd correct a person.

Paste these into a new chat at claude.ai (sign in, start a new conversation). That's all you need for the whole build; a couple of optional steps near the end mention a feature called Cowork, but they're skippable.

Before you start

- A free or paid Claude account, signed in at claude.ai
- About 45–60 minutes, though you can stop and resume anytime — your conversation is saved
- A rough idea of which islands and hazards you care about (you can change your mind later — Claude will ask)

The build, one piece at a time

Do these roughly in order. Each one adds a section to the dashboard; by step 7 you'll have all of them woven into a single page.

1

SCOPE

Tell Claude what you're building

This first prompt sets the whole project up and gets Claude to ask you questions before it builds anything — that's the moment to nail down what you actually want.

PROMPT 1 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
I want to build a personal weather dashboard as a single self-contained webpage. It should track hurricanes and tropical storms, wind, and surf conditions for the Hawaiian Islands.

Before you build anything, ask me clarifying questions about scope -- things like which islands to cover, how much surf detail I want (one flagship spot per island, or several), and how often the page should update. Once I answer, give me a short plan before we start building section by section.
```

Answer honestly here — the narrower your scope, the faster and cleaner the rest of the build goes.

2

STORMS

Build the storm tracker

This pulls real advisory data rather than guessing, which matters — storm positions and wind speeds change by the hour.

PROMPT 2 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Let's build the storm tracking section first. Look up current tropical storm and hurricane data from the National Hurricane Center and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center's public advisories (nhc.noaa.gov, including its Central Pacific and Eastern Pacific outlook pages).

For each active storm, show its name, position, wind speed, movement, and a plain-language note on whether it's relevant to Hawaii. Also add a card for any general area the Center is watching for possible development, with its formation chance over the next 7 days.
```

3

VISUAL

Add a satellite view

A picture sells the page. This one's optional and occasionally finicky — it's fine if Claude has to skip it.

PROMPT 3 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Add a satellite image as the visual centerpiece of the storm section. Use your
browser tool to go to zoom.earth, wait about 10 seconds for the map to fully load,
then take a screenshot and embed it in the page.

If the site is too slow or won't load, that's fine -- just skip the image and keep
the text data from the previous step.
```

Heavy interactive map sites almost always need that pause before a screenshot — an instant screenshot usually captures a blank loading state.

4

WIND

Add wind and rainfall

Short and simple — this section is usually the quickest to build.

PROMPT 4 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Add a section for trade winds and rainfall. Show current wind speed and direction
(a simple compass-style indicator would be nice), plus a windward-vs-leeward
rainfall outlook for each island I'm covering.
```

5

SURF

Add surf conditions

This is usually the section people care about most, so it's worth being specific about which shores and spots you want.

PROMPT 5 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Add a surf conditions section, organized in tabs by island. For each island, show
conditions for all four shore directions (north, south, east, west) -- wave height
range, whether it's building or dropping, and a couple of well-known named surf
spots on that shore.

Pull the actual surf heights from the National Weather Service Honolulu Nearshore
Forecast (weather.gov/hfo/SRF) rather than estimating them.
```

6

RADAR

Add radar

Live radar loops update every few minutes, so a snapshot goes stale almost immediately — linking out works better than embedding.

PROMPT 6 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Add a radar section. Instead of embedding a live radar loop, briefly describe Hawaii's radar station network and link out to the live NWS radar loop so I can click through and watch it directly.
```

7

DESIGN

Pull it together into one dashboard

Everything so far has been built section by section. This prompt is where it becomes one cohesive page.

PROMPT 7 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Now bring all of these sections together into one cohesive, good-looking dashboard rather than a stack of separate pieces. Pick a color palette and typography that fits a Hawaii ocean-and-weather theme, make sure it reads well on both phone and desktop screens, and support both light and dark mode. Give the whole dashboard a name.
```

8

PUBLISH

Publish it as a shareable link

Up to now everything has lived inside your chat. This step turns it into a real webpage with its own address.

PROMPT 8 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Publish this as a live webpage I can open anytime and share with others.
```

Save the link Claude gives you back — that's your dashboard's permanent address. Coming back later and asking for changes updates that same page instead of creating a new one.

9

OPTIONAL

Keep it updating automatically

Weather data goes stale fast. This step is optional and depends on which Claude product you're using.

PROMPT 9 — COPY EVERYTHING BELOW

```
Set this dashboard up to refresh itself automatically once a day at 9:00 AM Hawaii time, pulling fresh data from the same sources and republishing to the same link.
```

Automatic daily scheduling needs a Claude product with a scheduled-task feature (such as Cowork). In a plain claude.ai chat, just return to the conversation whenever you like and say “refresh the dashboard with today's data.”

Nothing has to be right the first time

Come back to the same conversation whenever you want and describe what's bothering you, the same way you'd give feedback to a person. A few examples of the kind of thing that works well:

> “The surf section feels cluttered — just show wave height and trend, drop the rest.”
>
> “Add Molokaʻi and Lānaʻi too.”
>
> “The storm cards are hard to read on my phone, can you fix that.”
>
> “Something looks off in dark mode — check the colors.”

If something doesn't work

A site's data won't load or times out

Heavy, interactive map sites are often too slow to capture in one try. Ask Claude to wait longer before taking a screenshot, or to fall back to text-based data instead of an image.

Claude can't find live data for a source

Ask it to use the source's plain-text forecast product instead of its interactive graphics — weather offices publish those specifically because they're reliable to read automatically.

The page looks broken after an edit

Ask Claude to “check the page for errors and fix them.” It can review its own work and usually catches what went wrong.

Resource directory

The sources behind every step above, plus a few more worth knowing about. Government (.gov) sources are the primary data; the others are good visual cross-checks or alternates.

Storms & hurricanes

PRIMARY **National Hurricane Center** `nhc.noaa.gov`
Official U.S. forecasts and advisories for Atlantic and Eastern Pacific systems.

PRIMARY **Central Pacific Hurricane Center** `nhc.noaa.gov/gtwo.php?basin=cpac`
Hawaii's own basin outlook — swap cpac for epac to see systems approaching from the east.

VISUAL **Zoom Earth** `zoom.earth`
Free real-time satellite imagery with storm track overlays. Good for the visual, not for the numbers.

CROSS-CHECK **Windy** `windy.com`
Layered wind, wave, and storm maps pulling from several forecast models — a nice second opinion.

Wind & rain

PRIMARY **PacIOOS** `pacioos.hawaii.edu`
Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System — Hawaii-specific wind, rainfall, and buoy data in one place.

PRIMARY **NWS Honolulu Forecast Office** `weather.gov/hfo`
The jumping-off page for every official Hawaii forecast product, including the ones below.

Surf & waves

PRIMARY **Nearshore Forecast (SRF)** `weather.gov/hfo/SRF`
The exact product used above — official surf heights by island and shore direction.

PRIMARY **PacIOOS wave buoys** `pacioos.hawaii.edu`
Real buoy readings (Waimea Bay, Hilo, and others) if you want raw numbers behind the forecast.

CROSS-CHECK **Surfline** `surfline.com`
Named-spot forecasts and surf cams; some detail sits behind a paid tier.

Tides

PRIMARY **NOAA Tides & Currents** `tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov`
Tide predictions and real-time water levels by station — a natural add-on if you want tide charts.

Radar

PRIMARY **NWS Radar** `radar.weather.gov`

Live loops from Hawaii's radar stations — pick a station near the island you care about.

One honest note: a dashboard built this way is a personal visualization of public data, not an official warning system. It can lag, misread a source, or miss an update. For anything safety-critical — deciding whether to evacuate, whether to go in the water — check the official National Weather Service advisory directly, every time.