

Run your YouTube with Claude Code skills

Install the free plugin, connect your channel, paste one prompt. Every screen is from a real run on our own channel. Nothing uploads until you say yes.

uplika.com

Skills guide
October 2026

What the prompt does

1. **Finds where viewers left.**
   Give it the retention file from YouTube Studio. It names the cliffs and what you were saying there.

2. **Writes your next script.**
   Five hooks off 21 formulas, scored, then the script.

3. **Writes the title and thumbnail text as a pair.**
   So they don't say the same thing twice. The text, not the picture.

4. **Marks what to cut.**
   Dead air, filler and retakes, with timecodes.

5. **Finds the Shorts in a long video.**
   The top spans with timecodes and a new first line for each.

6. **Uploads only after your yes.**
   Private unless you choose otherwise.

What it does not do. Uplika does not make, cut or edit video, and it has no retention data of its own. You export the retention file from Studio, and you make the cuts in your editor.

Every screen here is from one run on our channel, **@uplika**, on **October 27, 2026**: Claude Code v2.1.304 and Uplika plugin 0.1.12. We ran steps 0, 1 and 6.

What you need

1 **Claude Code.**

It needs a Claude Pro, Max, Team or Enterprise plan, or an API key. Source: Claude Help Center, checked October 23, 2026.

2 **A YouTube channel.**

You connect it to Uplika with your Google sign-in in step 2.

3 **An Uplika account.**

Free during the beta. You can make it with Google, GitHub or email.

4 **One video's retention file and its link.**

From YouTube Studio. Step 3 shows where.

The plugin is free and open source (MIT). Its YouTube skills are adapted from Jake Schincariol's **youtube-agent-skill** (MIT). We are not affiliated with the original author.

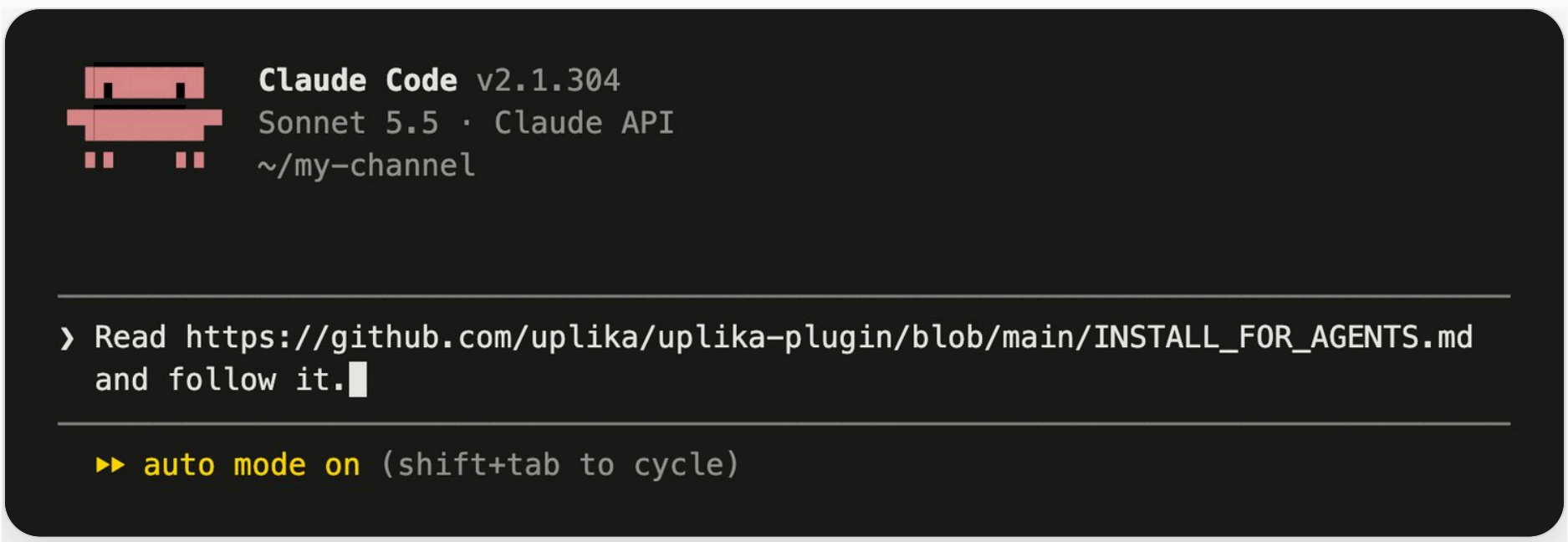
STEP 1

Paste one line into Claude Code

Open Claude Code in a folder for your channel. Paste this and press Enter.

PASTE INTO CLAUDE CODE

```
Read https://github.com/uplika/uplika-plugin/blob/main/INSTALL_FOR_AGENTS.md and follow it.
```



It reads the install guide and picks the Claude Code section. Two commands follow: add the Uplika marketplace, then install the plugin.

STEP 1

It installs, then says what is left

```
● Bash(claude plugin marketplace add uplika/uplika-plugin && claude plugin
      install uplika@uplika --scope user)
  ⎿  Adding marketplace…SSH not configured, cloning via HTTPS: https://gith
     ub.com/uplika/uplika-plugin.git
     Refreshing marketplace cache (timeout: 120s)…
     … +7 lines (ctrl+o to expand)
  ⎿  Allowed by auto mode classifier

● The Uplika plugin is installed, but it isn't connected yet. I haven't been
  able to check the connection.

  I ran the Claude Code steps from INSTALL_FOR_AGENTS.md:
  - claude plugin marketplace add uplika/uplika-plugin added the marketplace.
    Both commands succeeded.
  - claude plugin install uplika@uplika --scope user installed the plugin at
    user scope.

  I read the file through a fetch tool that summarised it, so I didn't see the
  full text. I skipped the sections for other agents (Codex, OpenClaw, Hermes).

  Two steps remain, and I can't do them from this session:
  1. Reload. Reload plugins or restart Claude Code so the plugin's MCP server
     loads. The new tools won't appear in this session until then.
  2. Authenticate. If Claude Code says the server needs authentication, call its
     authenticate tool and open the URL it returns to approve access. It uses
     OAuth, so you don't need an API key. After you approve, call list_accounts
     to confirm it works.

  If list_accounts shows no connected channels, the file says to add them at
  uplika.com/dashboard/connections. If Uplika shows up twice, for example as a
  separate claude.ai connector, turn one copy off in /mcp.
```

Ours ran in auto mode, so it installed without asking. In the default mode it asks first: choose **Yes**. The other choices change what Claude Code may run without asking.

STEP 1

Reload, then sign in

Type `/reload-plugins`. Then ask Claude to sign in to Uplika. It gives you a link.

```
❯ /reload-plugins
  └ Reloaded: 1 plugin · 39 skills · 6 agents · 0 hooks · 1 plugin MCP server ·
    0 plugin LSP servers
```

```
● Open this URL in your browser and approve access:

  https://api.uplika.com/…   (sign-in link, hidden here)

  The scopes it asks for are reading accounts, reading posts, writing posts, and
  offline access.

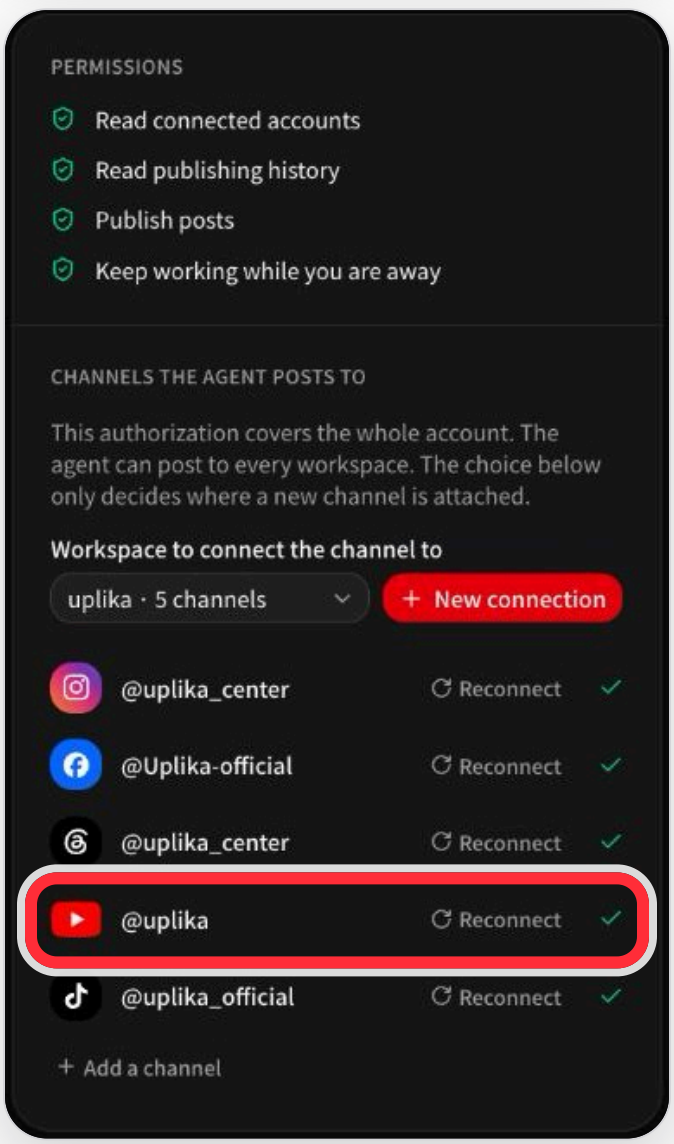
  After you approve, the browser will probably show a connection error on a
  localhost:53452/callback?... page. That's expected. Copy the full URL from the
  address bar and paste it here. I'll use it to finish signing in and then
  check with list_accounts.
```

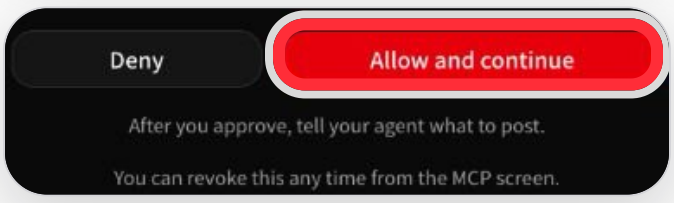
After you approve, the browser may land on a **localhost** page that does not load. That is expected. Copy the whole address and paste it back into Claude Code. We hid our link.

STEP 2

Approve it in the browser







1 **Sign in to Uplika.**

Google, GitHub or email. No account yet? Sign up there.

2 **Read what it asks for.**

Read your accounts and publishing history, publish posts, keep working while you are away.

3 **No YouTube in the list?**

Press **New connection** and pick YouTube. Google's sign-in opens. Pick the Google account that owns your channel and allow it.

4 **Allow and continue.**

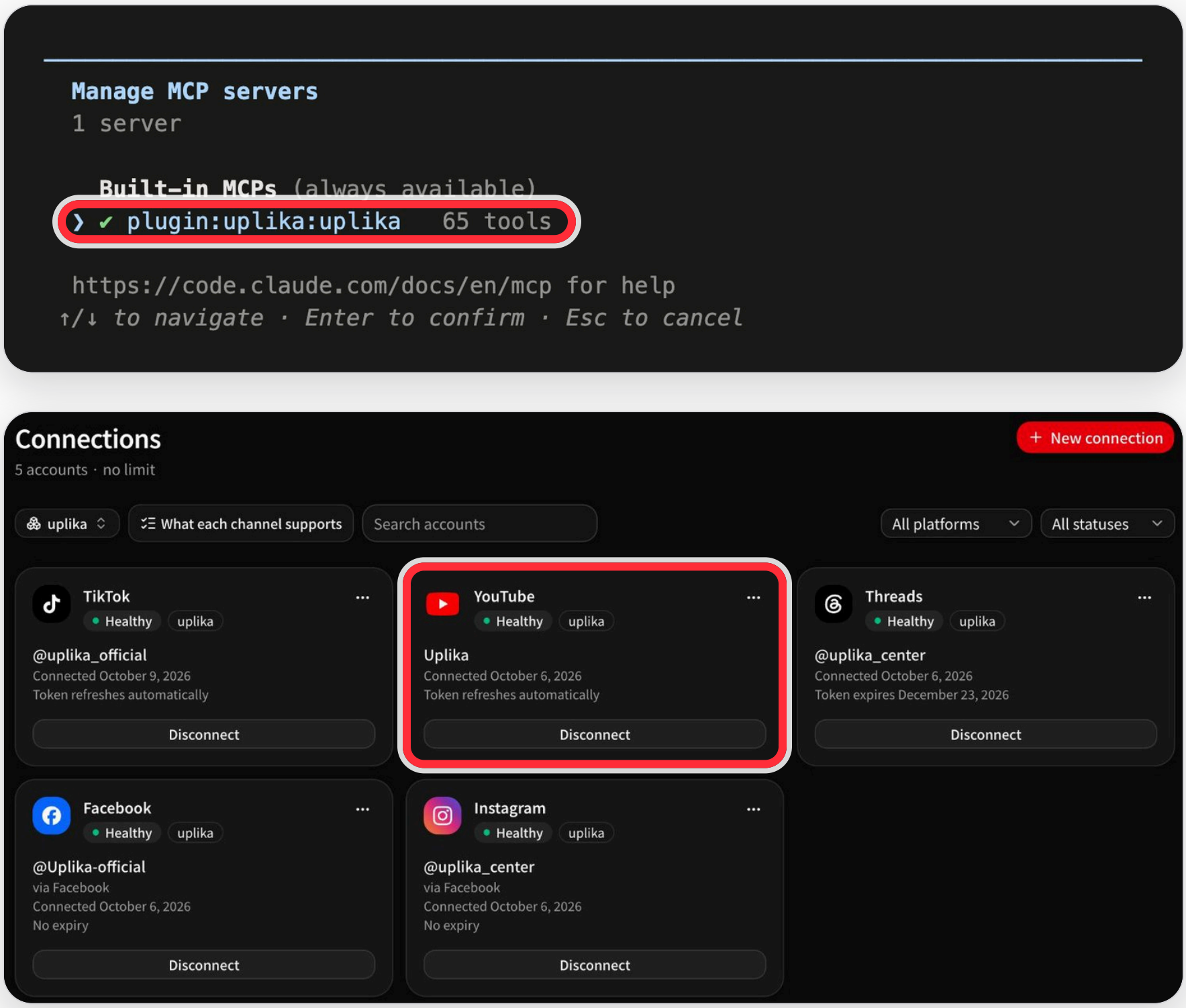
Then go back to the terminal.

Ours lists the other channels in our workspace too. You only need YouTube for this guide.

STEP 2

Check that it is connected

Run `/mcp`. Uplika shows a check mark. On uplika.com, **Connections** lists your YouTube as **Healthy**.



Connect it on the Connections screen if it is not there yet: **New connection**, then YouTube.

STEP 3

Export the retention file

In YouTube Studio, open the video you want read and follow this path.

Content › **the video** › **Analytics** › **Engagement** ›
Audience retention › **See more** › **Export current view** › **CSV**

1 **You get a ZIP file.**

Unzip it. Inside are several CSV files. Give Claude the one with the retention curve for all viewers.

2 **Put it in the folder.**

We named ours `retention.csv`.

3 **Copy the video's link.**

Claude uses it to read the captions, so it can say what you were saying at each cliff.

Menu names are from YouTube Help, checked October 27, 2026. Our Studio was not in English, so we renamed the file's two column headers to the English ones. The numbers are as exported.

THE PROMPT · 1 OF 2

Now paste this, all of it

```
You are helping me grow my YouTube channel with the Uplika
plugin.

0. Call list_accounts and tell me which YouTube channel is
connected. If none is, stop and send me to
https://uplika.com/dashboard/connections.

1. Retention. Run /uplika:yt-retention. I will export the
audience retention file for one video from YouTube Studio
(Content, the video, Analytics, the Audience retention report,
See more, Export current view, the CSV option) and give you the
file and the video link. Get its automatic captions with yt-dlp,
run the report with the video's length and the transcript, and
tell me the hook leak, the cliffs with what I was saying there,
and the one change to make.

2. Next script. Run /uplika:yt-script on my next idea: five
hooks off the 21 formulas, scored, then the script.

3. Title and thumbnail. Run /uplika:yt-package for that video:
the title and the thumbnail text as one pair, linted.
```

Paste it into the same Claude Code session. It continues on the next page.

THE PROMPT · 2 OF 2

And the rest

```
4. The edit. When I give you the transcript of my recording, run
/uplika:yt-edit and list the dead air, filler and retakes to
cut, with timecodes. I cut them in my editor.

5. Shorts. Run /uplika:yt-shorts on one of my long videos: the
top five spans with timecodes and a new first line for each. I
cut them myself.

6. Upload. When a video is ready, run /uplika:yt-upload. If the
file is on my computer and you cannot read it, give me a link
with media_upload_link. Ask me the privacy and whether it is
made for kids, show me the title, description and time, and
upload with publish only after I say yes. Then read me the link
and any warning from get_post.

Never upload, schedule, reply or change anything without my yes.
```

It only names skills and tools that are in the plugin today. Each step waits for your answer.

WHAT HAPPENS

Send it, then tell it where to start

We put one line above the prompt that names our workspace and channel. Then we gave it the file and the link.

```
❯ Use my Uplika workspace named "uplika" and my YouTube channel Uplika.

  You are helping me grow my YouTube channel with the Uplika plugin.
```

```
  Start with steps 0 and 1. The retention file is ./retention.csv and the video
  is https://www.youtube.com/shorts/d4roQOI_wuU

  Listed 1 directory, called plugin:uplika:uplika (ctrl+o to expand)

● Skill(uplika:yt-retention)
  └  Successfully loaded skill
```

One brand in Uplika? You can leave the first line out. Step 0 checks which channel is connected before anything else.

STEP 4 · RETENTION

The numbers come first

- Steps 0 and 1 are only partly done, and I'm stopping here because I need a transcript from you.

  Step 0: The connected YouTube channel is **Uplika** (@uplika), status active and healthy. It's in your "uplika" workspace.

  Step 1: I ran the retention report. YouTube blocked the caption download twice with HTTP 429 (too many requests), so I don't have a transcript yet.

  The video is 49 seconds long on YouTube. Your local my-short.mp4 is 57.6 seconds, so it's a different cut and I didn't use it for the transcript. These numbers use 49 seconds.

  - **Hook leak: severe.** 65.3% of viewers are gone in the opening. Under 25% is healthy.
  - **Cliffs:** The biggest drops are at 1s (3.8%), 11s (3.6%), 2s (3.3%), 12s (3.1%) and 0s (2.7%). So viewers leave in the first two seconds, and then again around 11–12 seconds.
  - **Slide:** The middle loses a steady 0.79% per unit. That's pacing, not a single bad moment.
  - **The one change:** Rewrite the first line, since most of the loss happens in the first two seconds. I can't say what you were saying at 1s or at 11–12s until I have the transcript.

  To finish, I need one of these from you:
  1. Paste the transcript (SRT or plain text) of the 49-second version.
  2. Tell me to retry yt-dlp later, once the rate limit clears.
  3. Have me transcribe my-short.mp4, but only if it has the same audio as the YouTube version.

  I haven't uploaded, scheduled, replied or changed anything.

YouTube refused the caption download twice (429, too many requests), so it gave the numbers and asked for a transcript. It also noticed our file was a different cut: 57.6 seconds, against a 49-second Short on the channel.

STEP 4 · RETENTION

Each cliff, with what was said

```
❯ The captions are in ./captions.en.srt (I downloaded them). Use them and
  finish step 1.
● Here is the finished retention report for the 49-second Short.

  Biggest leak: the first 2 seconds, then the setup steps. The script's caption
  snippets were garbled by YouTube's rolling captions, so I matched the
  timecodes against the SRT by hand.
```

When	Loss	What you were saying
0–2s	3.8%, 3.3%, 2.7% (the three biggest drops)	"Claude can run your YouTube channel now." (0:00–0:02)
11–12s	3.6%, 3.1%	"Click add custom connector, call it Ublica, and paste this link. Hit connect, sign in…"

We downloaded the captions ourselves and dropped the file in the folder. The report lines each drop up with what was being said at that second.

STEP 4 · RETENTION

Then one change to make

- **Hook leak: severe.** 65.3% of viewers are gone in the opening. Under 25% is healthy.
- **The hook line promises a result, then gives a chore.** After "Let me show you," the next 20 seconds are click-by-click connector setup: customize, connectors, add custom connector, name it, paste the link, connect, sign in, pick YouTube, allow. The second cliff at 11–12s lands in the middle of that list.
- **The payoff comes too late.** What the viewer wants is at 0:24–0:40: it reads your videos and views, writes titles, hooks and descriptions, schedules the week after you say yes, and answers comments. Viewers who left before 0:24 never reached it.
- **Slide:** The middle loses 0.79% per unit, which is pacing. The setup steps are one long stretch of the same kind of instruction.
- **Not a packaging problem:** the hook leak is severe, so yt-package isn't the next step.

The one change: Move the payoff to the front. Open with the result, then show the setup. For example: "Claude just wrote my next week of YouTube uploads and scheduled them. Here's how to set it up in 30 seconds." Then cut the connector steps down to a few lines, or point to the link for the details.

The captions also render the product name as "Ublica" instead of "Uplika." Check that the spoken name is clear, and fix the on-screen text if it's wrong.

Nothing was uploaded, scheduled, replied to or changed.

Ship it, or change it? Tell me if you want a rewritten first line and a re-cut order for this Short, or if I should move on to step 2 (the next script).

Its read on ours: the first line promises a result, then turns into setup, and the payoff comes too late. The fix is to open with the payoff. It also caught YouTube's captions spelling our name wrong.

STEP 5 · UPLOAD

It drafts the upload and checks the rules

```
❯ Skip 2 to 5 for now. Step 6: the video is ./my-short.mp4

● Skill(uplika:yt-upload)
  └ Successfully loaded skill
● The upload isn't sent yet. I need your answers to the questions below, and
  I've drafted the title and description for you to review.

  Rules I read from list_platforms for YouTube
  - The channel is Uplika (@uplika), active and healthy.
  - my-short.mp4 is 1080×1920 and 57.6 seconds, so it will publish as a Short
    (vertical, under 180 seconds).
  - A Short takes no custom thumbnail.
  - The title can be up to 100 characters and the description up to 5000 bytes.

  Check this first. The video at youtube.com/shorts/d4roQOI_wuU is 49 seconds,
  but this file is 57.6 seconds. This would be a new, separate video, not a
  replacement. The file itself can't be swapped on an existing video. If you
  meant to fix the existing Short, say so and we should talk about that instead.

  Draft to approve
  - Title (69 characters): Claude can run your YouTube channel now (setup in 30
    seconds)
  - Description:
  Connect Claude to your YouTube channel with Uplika. It reads your videos and
  views, finds Shorts working on your topic, writes your next titles, hooks and
  descriptions, and schedules the week once you say yes. It can also answer
  comments and fix titles on old videos.

  Want the prompt? Tap the link on our profile and open number six.
  - Tags: claude, youtube automation, youtube shorts, ai youtube, uplika
  - Language: en-US (I assumed English because the captions are English)
  - Synthetic media: not set, since this looks like a screen recording. Tell me
    if it has AI-generated people or scenes.
  - Thumbnail: none, because Shorts don't take one.
```

We skipped steps 2 to 5 of the prompt. It read YouTube's limits first: this file goes up as a Short, and a Short takes no custom thumbnail. Its description came from our old Short, last line included, so we had it drop that line.

STEP 5 · UPLOAD

It asks, it does not guess

Questions for you
1. **Privacy:** public, unlisted or private?
2. **Made for kids:** yes or no? I won't set this myself.
3. **When:** upload now, or at a specific time? If it's a specific time, give me the date, time and time zone.
4. Is the title, description and tag list above OK, or what should change?

After you answer, I'll show you the final version of everything. I'll only upload when you say yes to that.

Privacy, made for kids, and when. It won't pick "made for kids" for you. Left out, privacy is private.

STEP 5 · UPLOAD

You answer, it shows the final version

```
❯ 1. Private. 2. Not made for kids. 3. Now. 4. Title: Claude can find where
  viewers stop watching. Keep the description but drop the last line.

● Here is the final version. Nothing has been uploaded.
```

Field	Value
Channel	Uplika (@uplika), YouTube
File	my-short.mp4, 1080×1920, 57.6s (publishes as a Short)
Title	Claude can find where viewers stop watching (43 characters)
Privacy	private
Made for kids	no
When	now
Language	en-US
Tags	claude, youtube automation, youtube shorts, ai youtube, uplika
Synthetic media	not set
Thumbnail	none (Shorts don't take one)

Ours: private, not made for kids, now, and a new title. Nothing is uploaded at this point.

STEP 5 · UPLOAD

Read the warnings, then decide

Description:
Connect Claude to your YouTube channel with Uplika. It reads your videos and views, finds Shorts working on your topic, writes your next titles, hooks and descriptions, and schedules the week once you say yes. It can also answer comments and fix titles on old videos.

- **Title doesn't match the video.** The video is about Claude running your channel, but this title is about finding where viewers stop watching. You can change either one.
- **Private upload.** It will be visible only to you in YouTube Studio until you make it public.
- **This is a new video.** It does not replace the existing Short.

Do you want me to upload it with these settings? Reply **yes**, or tell me what to change.

It judged the new title against the captions of the Short already on the channel, not our new cut. Check warnings like this against your own video. It uploads only when you reply **yes**.

STEP 5 · UPLOAD

We said no. Nothing went out.

```
❯ No, don't upload. That's all for now.

● Understood, I didn't upload anything. I also didn't schedule, reply to or
  change anything on your channel, so the Uplika channel is exactly as it was.

  Here is where things stand:
  - Step 0: Your connected YouTube channel is Uplika (@uplika).
  - Step 1: The retention report is done. The biggest leak is the opening, where
    65.3% of viewers leave. The fix is to open with the payoff and then show
    the setup.
  - Step 6: The upload was drafted but not sent, at your request. The title and
    description are only in this conversation.
  - Steps 2–5: Skipped, as you asked.
```

This was a demo, so we stopped at the last screen before the upload. Say yes and it uploads with `publish`, then reads you the link and any warning.

IF IT DOES NOT WORK

Things that go wrong

No Uplika tools after the install

Type `/reload-plugins` or restart Claude Code. If `/mcp` says it needs authentication, choose **Authenticate**.

YouTube blocks the captions (429)

Wait and try again later, or download the captions yourself and give Claude the file.

It says Uplika's daily YouTube limit ran out

Uplika shares one daily YouTube allowance across everyone. Wait until it refills. It is not your account.

No thumbnail on a Short

Shorts don't take a custom thumbnail. Long videos do.

The video went up as private

Private is the default. Pick public or unlisted when it asks, or ask Claude to change it later with `update_post`.

Anything else

Ask Claude to call `get_help` with the error, or read uplika.com/en/docs/help.

Install once.
Then just ask.

Plugin `github.com/uplika/uplika-plugin`

Nothing uploads until you say yes.

Questions: support@uplika.com

uplika.com

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