

Which Claude for which job?

Anthropic's current lineup on one page, from its own models page. Speed labels are Anthropic's ratings, not mine.

API price

What developers pay per million tokens, input / output. Not an app subscription price.

Token

A small unit of text, like a word or part of one. Anthropic's glossary: about 3.5 English characters for Claude. It varies by language.

Context window

How much text the model can look back on while it answers. Anthropic calls it the model's working memory.

MODEL	ANTHROPIC SAYS IT'S	SPEED, PER ANTHROPIC	API PRICE PER MILLION TOKENS (IN / OUT)	CONTEXT	KNOWLEDGE CUTOFF
Fable 5.1	For demanding reasoning and long-horizon agentic work	Slower	\$10 / \$50	1M tokens	Jun 2026
Opus 5.5	For long-running agentic coding and knowledge work	Moderate	\$4 / \$20	1M tokens	Jun 2026
Sonnet 5.5	The best combination of speed and intelligence	Fast	\$2 / \$10	1M tokens	Jun 2026
Haiku 4.5	The fastest model with near-frontier intelligence	Fastest	\$1 / \$5	200K tokens	Feb 2025

Notice the pattern in today's table: the higher the API price, the slower the model. That describes this table, not a rule for future models.

Anthropic's starting advice

The models page tells developers: if you're unsure, start with Opus 5.5 for most workloads, and use Fable 5.1 for demanding reasoning and long-horizon agentic work. Haiku 5.5 is announced, not out: Anthropic says it joins the 5.5 family "in the coming weeks".

Choose for yourself

1. Pick one real task you do every week.
2. Run it on two models.
3. Compare the answers, the speed and the cost.

SOURCES

platform.claude.com/docs/en/models/overview (models, speed, prices, context, cutoff, advice), checked Oct 1, 2026

platform.claude.com/docs/en/about-claude/glossary (token, context window), checked Oct 1, 2026

anthropic.com/claude-sonnet-5-5 (Haiku 5.5 "in the coming weeks"), Sep 28, 2026

Prices change. Open the models page before you rely on a number here.

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