

Atto Setup Guide

Product: Atto — local Italian civil-record genealogy workbench

Price model: One-time DIY kit (**you** do the archive browsing)

Support: support@youratto.com

What Atto is (and is not)

Atto does	Atto does not
Keep notes, scans, and your tree private on this computer	Automatically download your ancestors' acts from Italy
Build a Find plan with ready-made browser links	Scrape Antenati / FamilySearch for you
Let you Approve before anything enters the tree	Auto-merge guesses into GEDCOM
Track a citizenship document checklist (status words + soft-flags only)	Tell you that you are eligible, "grandfathered," or file at a consulate

You browse archives. Atto organizes. Tree writes are human-gated: Approve merges, or Import a GEDCOM you already own.

Privacy (short)

- Vault stays on disk (~/AttoVault/) unless **you** publish a family share or opt into AI suggest
- Full SSN is stripped before LLM packs; family Publish expects Cloudflare Access (fail-closed)
- AI is suggest-only — never self-approves the tree

This is / isn't (citizenship)

This is	This isn't
An organizer for <i>copie integrali</i> , US vitals, apostille, translation	An attorney or eligibility verdict
Status labels: Identified → Requested → Received → ... → Recognized	“Ready to File / Approved / You are eligible”
Soft-flags for comune (Circ. 26185) vs consular Prenot@Mi tracks	Equating Prenot@Mi screenshots with municipal a-bis

What you installed

Piece	Role
Atto.app	Desktop UI + bundled <code>atto</code> engine (no Terminal)
<code>atto wheel</code> (optional)	CLI/ <code>uv</code> or MCP — buyer claim download only , not on the public kit
This guide	Zero → first Find plan

Your files live in a private folder on this computer (default `~/AttoVault/` on Mac/Linux). Nothing is uploaded to an Atto cloud — there isn't one for your vault.

1. Requirements

macOS (Apple Silicon)

- Apple Silicon Mac (M1–M4) · macOS 13+ recommended
- ~500 MB free disk
- Internet when you open archive sites in your browser
- **No Terminal** for the normal kit — the engine ships inside Atto.app

Refund

No refunds. Atto is a digital download. Once the kit or license claim is available, the sale is final on Stripe. Wrong-platform purchases (Intel Mac; expected Windows SmartScreen for a new

publisher) are not refund reasons. EU/UK: immediate digital delivery means you lose the 14-day withdrawal right once the claim is available — see youratto.com/terms. Support: support@youratto.com.

Gatekeeper (first open)

This build is **Apple-notarized** (Developer ID). First open should work with a normal double-click.

If macOS still warns (rare, usually after downloading):

1. Finder → right-click **Atto.app** → **Open** → **Open**
2. Or: **System Settings** → **Privacy & Security** → allow Atto

Linux (x86_64 — CLI + desktop beta)

- Ubuntu 22.04 / 24.04 (or similar glibc Linux)
- **Desktop beta (unsigned, invite-only):** email support@youratto.com with your Stripe receipt for a private `.deb` / AppImage link (not a public GitHub download)
- **CLI engine (public):**
https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/linux/atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
- No Python / `uv` required for the frozen engine. Vault default: `~/AttoVault/`
- `.deb` needs: `sudo apt install libwebkit2gtk-4.1-0` (if not pulled automatically)
- AppImage: `chmod +x Atto_*.AppImage` — if FUSE fails, use `--appimage-extract`

```
# CLI
chmod +x atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
./atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu --help
./atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu license status # expect state: licensed (exit 0)

# Desktop (.deb) — after Support sends the private installer
sudo dpkg -i ./Atto*_amd64.deb || sudo apt-get install -f -y
atto-desktop &
```

Windows (x64) is a desktop kit alongside Mac, at <https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/windows/> — Authenticode-signed via Azure Artifact Signing (publisher: Claudio Barone). SmartScreen may still warn once for a new publisher while reputation builds.

2. Install (macOS — no Terminal)

1. Open the DMG → drag **Atto.app** to Applications (or any folder you like)
2. Open **Atto** (double-click; see Gatekeeper above if macOS warns)
3. On Home you should see **Engine ready** — the engine is inside the app

If Home shows **Something's missing from this install**, re-download the DMG from <https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/> (old kits required a Terminal wheel install). Support: <https://youratto.com/support/>

Optional CLI / MCP wheel (power users only) is in §7 — **not** required for the desktop app.

3. Import your license (required, no Terminal)

Atto stays locked until a valid `license.json` is imported. This is a two-click step:

1. Open the **claim link** from your purchase email (or the page Stripe showed after checkout) and download `license.json`
2. In Atto, click **Import license** in the bar at the top of the window and pick that file
3. The banner turns into **Licensed to** If not, click **Check again**
4. **Standard kit:** paste your claim link once under **Register this computer** (or keep `claim_token` beside `license.json`) so this machine is registered — there is no separate Activate step. **Pro (2 seats):** use **Activate this machine** on each machine.

That is all. No folders to find, no commands to type.

Claim link says it expired? The download link is deliberately short-lived (about 5 minutes). Reopen the claim page and it works again — your purchase is fine. Lost the email entirely: support@youratto.com with your Stripe receipt.

► Fallback: place the file by hand

Stripe buy / claim: <https://buy.stripe.com/3cl00jdsI49h0fl7BIb3q00>

4. First launch (guided)

1. Open **Atto.app**

2. On **Home**, create a short project name (e.g. `my-family`) — use lowercase letters, digits, hyphens, or underscores (for example `my-family` or `rossi_1`). You do **not** need to pick a folder
3. On **Home**, open **Who are you looking for?** — fill in a name, rough birth year, and town (or load **Try a practice example**) → click **Find records for ...**
4. On **Find**, click a link under **Open & check** (preferred — Atto opens the archive, then takes you to **Documents** to capture) or **Open only** (just the browser). To rebuild links later, use **Build search links / Rebuild links**.
5. Optional: **Citizenship document checklist** — track *copie integrali*, US vitals, apostille, translation (not legal advice; never files for you). Use **Reveal playbook folder** to open `CITIZENSHIP.md` / `FIND.md` in Finder.
6. When you later save an act and create a suggestion, use **Approve** before it enters the tree

Practice tools on Find use made-up sample records that ship with the app. They are not real finds and they never change your tree.

5. Approve (human gate)

1. Open **Approve**
2. Review one suggestion at a time
3. **Add to tree** only when the act matches — that is the merge (Import GEDCOM is the other human write path)

A find that is not attached to a person yet cannot be added. Choose who the record is about on **Find** or **Documents** first — for handwriting readings there is a **Who is this record about?** picker — or use Documents → **Add person (Approve once)**, or import a GEDCOM so there is someone to attach it to.

6. Tree & Share (later)

- A new project starts with an **empty tree**. Import a GEDCOM or approve your first find and the chart appears.

Share / Secrets stay under **More** until the tree has people. Family **Publish** needs a Cloudflare account and Wrangler (Access email gate).

7. Optional — AI helper (MCP) for Cursor / Claude

Skip this entirely if you don't want AI tools near your family files. The desktop app does not need MCP.

The optional **MCP/CLI wheel is a buyer claim download**, not a public kit file. After Stripe checkout, open your claim page on `license.youratto.com` and use **Download MCP/CLI wheel** (claim-gated; link expires in ~5 minutes — refresh the claim page for a new one). Anonymous kit URLs do not serve `.whl` files.

If you already use **Cursor**, **Claude Code**, or **Claude Desktop**:

1. Download the wheel from the claim page, then install the MCP extra:

```
cd ~/Downloads # or wherever the claim-page wheel was saved
uv tool install --force "./atto-*.whl[mcp]"
atto-mcp --help
```

2. Add Atto to your MCP config (Cursor: `~/.cursor/mcp.json` or project `.cursor/mcp.json`):

```
{
  "mcpServers": {
    "atto": {
      "command": "atto-mcp",
      "args": [],
      "env": {
        "ATTO_VAULT_ROOT": "/Users/YOUR_USERNAME/AttoVault"
      }
    }
  }
}
```

3. Restart the AI app. Treat suggestions as research help only — **Approve** in Atto remains the only way to change the tree. MCP may open allowlisted research URLs in your browser; it does not scrape archive HTML into your vault. Do not paste scraped pages into Approve.
4. Full write-up: <https://youratto.com/mcp/>

You do **not** need to upload a skill to a marketplace. MCP is a local connection on your computer.

Licensing recap

Importing the license is §3 above — do it right after install. The same claim page also offers the optional MCP/CLI wheel (never a public kit file).

Kit files (DMG, this guide): <https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/> — MCP/CLI wheel is claim-only.

Windows (x64)

Windows installer is **Authenticode-signed** via Azure Artifact Signing (publisher: Claudio Barone):

<https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/windows/>

1. Buy on Stripe → claim `license.json`. Friend comps: ask Support for an invite.
2. Download `Atto_0.1.11_x64-setup.zip` from the Windows kit page.
3. Confirm the **zip** SHA-256 against published `SHA256SUMS.txt` (entry for the Windows zip; hash starts `c325f015...`) **before** you run anything.
4. Unzip, run the `.exe`. SmartScreen may still warn once for a new publisher while reputation builds — if so, **More info** → **Run anyway** (not a refund reason). Quit Atto first if upgrading — install over the old app; your vault stays put.
5. Import `license.json` before using Home / Documents / Find.
6. Later updates: in Atto → Home → **Advanced — updates & support** → **Check for updates** (or re-download the zip and install over — your vault stays on disk).

Without a license, Atto's app features stay locked. Your vault folder is always ordinary files on your disk — never encrypted, never held hostage.

Troubleshooting

Symptom	Fix
Something's missing from this install	Re-download the current kit from youratto.com/kit (or Home → Check for updates). Engine is bundled. Old kits needed Terminal — this one does not.
Optional CLI <code>atto:</code> command not found	Only if you installed the wheel: <code>uv tool update-shell</code> or <code>export PATH="\$HOME/.local/bin:\$PATH"</code>
Find plan empty	Save a note with Subject / Birth / Place (or <code>Comune:</code> / <code>Year:</code> lines) first
Practice run	Made-up sample data by design — use Open & check / Open only links for real archives
Approve queue empty	Finds only reach Approve once they are attached to a person. On Documents use Add person (Approve once) , import a GEDCOM, or pick the person on Find before reading handwriting.
Tree looks blank	A new project starts empty. Import a GEDCOM, add a person on Documents, or approve your first find.
Citizenship checklist	Find → build checklist; update doc status; Reveal playbook folder
Gatekeeper / “damaged”	Right-click → Open (should be rare — build is notarized)
License required / vault locked	Claim <code>license.json</code> from Stripe → Import license in Atto (§3)
Claim download link expired	Normal — reopen the claim page for a fresh link
Windows SmartScreen	May warn once for a new publisher (Azure-signed); More info → Run anyway — not a refund reason

Thank you for buying the DIY kit. Research takes patience; Atto keeps the filing honest.