

YESBRAINER

Complete Manual & Onboarding Guide

The Mind's Studio. Your ideas. Unsupervised.

1 Core · 7 Lenses · ∞ Forever · 8+ Tools

Version 2.0 · An Offline.Ltd product

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1. Getting Started

Yesbrainer is a solo thinktank — a private, offline machine for thinking dangerous, stupid, and brilliant thoughts without consequences. Each tool runs as a single HTML file. No installation. No cloud. No subscriptions. AI features require Ollama locally.

System Requirements

Component	Requirement	Notes
Browser	Chrome 90+, Firefox 88+, Edge 90+, Safari 15+	ES2020 + BroadcastChannel + IndexedDB
Ollama	ollama.com	Required for AI. Free, open source.
Models	llama3.2 + nomic-embed-text	Chat + embedding. Optional: gemma2:9b
HTTP Server	python3 -m http.server 8090	Required for inter-tab communication
Storage	localStorage + IndexedDB	All data stays local

Quick Start — Launcher (Recommended)

The package includes **start-yesbrainer.sh** (macOS/Linux) and **start-yesbrainer.bat** (Windows). These scripts check for Ollama, pull missing models, start the HTTP server, and open the Core in your browser.

```
chmod +x start-yesbrainer.sh && ./start-yesbrainer.sh
```

Quick Start — Manual Setup

1. Install Ollama from ollama.com and run: `ollama serve`
2. Pull models: `ollama pull llama3.2` and `ollama pull nomic-embed-text`
3. Place all HTML files and `sw-yesbrainer.js` in one folder
4. `python3 -m http.server 8090`
5. Open `http://localhost:8090/yesbrainer-core.html`
6. Upload sources to Source Vault, click INDEX ALL
7. Open lens tabs from the same URL

Open each lens in its own tab from the same localhost URL. BroadcastChannel requires same-origin. Open the Core first.

Opening files via `file://` disables inter-tab communication and Ollama CORS. Always use the HTTP server.

2. Architecture Overview

Hub-and-spoke architecture. Yesbrainer Core is the central hub: source library, steering dashboard, synthesis engine, arena, weaver, RAG research. Seven specialist lenses connect via BroadcastChannel.

The Lenses

Lens	Role	Core Question
Core	Hub	Source Vault, Steering, Synthesis, Arena, Weaver, RAG, Constellation
Economic	Markets	Who profits? Who pays? Where does the money flow?
Political	Power	Who gains power? Who loses it? What becomes possible?
Social	Community	How does this change the way people live together?
Cultural	Identity	What stories does this create? What identities does it touch?
Technological	Systems	What does this need to exist? What does it make obsolete?
Environmental	Planet	What does this cost the planet? What are the timescales?
Ethical / Religious	Morality	Is this right? By whose morality? What frameworks clash?

Data Bus

Event	Sender	Description
yb_heartbeat	All	Status ping (includes ybVersion)
steering_update	Core	Lens weights and active states
lens_analysis	Any lens	Analysis completed notification
synthesis_result	Core	Multi-lens synthesis completed

3. Saving & File Management

Auto-save on every action. localStorage can be cleared unexpectedly — export regularly.

Feature	Description
State Export	JSON export of Core or any individual lens state.
Encrypted Export	AES-256-GCM. Available in Core and every lens. Password stays local.
Constellation Export	All lens states bundled in one JSON (Core only).
Analysis Export	Latest analysis as Markdown (individual lenses).
Service Worker	sw-yesbrainer.js caches fonts and HTML files for true offline use.
Export Reminder	Toast notification after 7 days without export. Resets on any export.
Version Mismatch	Lenses warn if they detect the Core at a different version.

Name exports by date and project for easy switching between research sessions. Importing overwrites current data. Export first.

4. Yesbrainer Core

File: yesbrainer-core.html · v2.0 · The shared backbone of the Yesbrainer constellation

The Core is the foundation. It manages the shared source library, embedding pipeline, RAG retrieval engine, steering dashboard, synthesis engine, arena, weaver, and constellation status that all lenses connect to.

Source Vault — Upload & Index

Upload your sources — articles, notes, research, books, arguments, data. This is the fuel for every lens. Sources are stored in localStorage (text) and IndexedDB (embeddings).

Field	Description
Source Documents	Drag-and-drop .txt or .md files
Authority Tier	Primary (canonical), Secondary (important), Background (context)
Embedding Model	nomic-embed-text via Ollama

Assign canonical research to Primary tier. The AI weights these most heavily during retrieval.

Steering Dashboard — Weight & Focus

Each lens is a lever. Slide it up to amplify that perspective, toggle it off to remove it entirely. The Synthesis Engine reads these settings and weights its analysis accordingly.

Feature	Description
Lens Sliders	Weight each lens from 0–100%. Higher = more emphasis in synthesis.
Active Toggle	Enable or disable any lens entirely.
Presets	PEST, PESTLE, STEEP, All On, or Reset. One-click configurations.
Custom Lenses	Add your own perspectives: Psychological, Legal, Aesthetic, Military, etc.

Start with a preset (PESTLE is a good default), then adjust weights based on your scenario.

Synthesis Engine — Multi-Lens Analysis

Enter an idea, hypothesis, or scenario. Hit Synthesize. The engine runs it through every active lens, weighted by your sliders, and produces a comprehensive analysis covering tensions, reinforcements, blind spots, and the most surprising consequence.

Output	Description
Per-Lens Analysis	What each active lens reveals about your idea
Tensions	Where lenses create conflict (economic opportunity vs. environmental cost)
Reinforcements	Where lenses support each other (cultural acceptance enabling political feasibility)
Blind Spots	What you haven't considered
Surprising Consequence	The angle nobody expects
Synthesis History	All previous syntheses, reloadable

The Arena — Idea Assassin

After any synthesis, click **Assassinate This Idea** to enter adversarial mode. The Arena generates 4–6 adversarial personas — historical thinkers, worst-case critics, rival ideologies, contrarians. Each persona attacks your idea from their unique angle with maximum destructive power.

After the teardown, the Arena delivers a **Verdict**: what survived the assault, what didn't, and how to make the idea antifragile — stronger because of the attack, not despite it.

The Weaver — Branching Futures

The Weaver turns Yesbrainer from a static analyser into a strategic foresight machine. After any synthesis, click **Weave Futures** to project your idea forward in time.

Feature	Description
Time Horizons	Choose 6 months, 2 years, 5 years, or 10 years. Multiple horizons can be selected.
Paths	Optimistic, Baseline, or Pessimistic. The Weaver re-analyses through all active lenses for each path.
Constraints	Add external shocks: "AI regulation passes in 2027", "Major recession in 2028".
Branching	Click Fork on any future node to branch from that point. Build a tree of possible futures.

Research — RAG-Powered Q&A

Ask questions about your uploaded sources. The AI reads your material and answers based on what you've given it, not generic training data. Toggle RAG and tier weighting on or off.

Use specific questions. The AI uses your sources as context, not its general training data.

Constellation — Live Status & Lens Alchemy

Live status of connected lens tabs and the data bus log. Lens Alchemy lets you breed new perspectives from existing ones — click any two lenses to fuse them into a hybrid with its own system prompt.

5. Economic Lens

File: economic-lens.html · v2.0 · Who profits? Who pays? Where does the money flow?

The Economic Lens analyses any idea purely from a financial and market perspective. It examines incentive structures, wealth distribution, market dynamics, labour effects, trade implications, and unintended economic consequences.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Incentive Structures	What behaviours does this reward or punish?
Wealth Distribution	Who gains wealth? Who loses it?
Market Dynamics	How do supply, demand, and competition shift?
Labour & Employment	What happens to jobs, wages, and working conditions?
Trade & Global Effects	How does this ripple across borders?
Unintended Consequences	What economic side-effects are nobody talking about?
Historical Parallels	When has something similar been tried before?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Economic Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

6. Political Lens

File: political-lens.html · v2.0 · Who gains power? Who loses it? What becomes possible?

The Political Lens examines power dynamics, governance structures, coalitions, institutional change, and the political feasibility of any idea.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Power Dynamics	Who gains influence? Who is marginalised?
Coalitions & Opposition	What alliances form? What strange bedfellows emerge?
Governance & Institutions	What institutions are created, strengthened, or weakened?
Legitimacy & Consent	Is this politically viable? What makes it so — or not?
Enforcement & Resistance	What apparatus is needed? What resistance emerges?
Geopolitics	International response, diplomatic consequences?
Historical Parallels	What political precedents apply?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Political Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

7. Social Lens

File: social-lens.html · v2.0 · How does this change the way people live together?

The Social Lens examines how an idea affects communities, families, inequality, identity, mental health, and the social fabric.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Community & Cohesion	How do social bonds strengthen or fray?
Inclusion & Exclusion	Who benefits? Who is left behind? Who becomes invisible?
Trust & Social Capital	What happens to trust between people and institutions?
Inequality & Stratification	Who benefits? Who is left behind?
Family & Relationships	How does daily life change at home?
Education & Socialisation	How does learning and growing up change?
Historical Parallels	What social transformations compare?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Social Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

8. Cultural Lens

File: cultural-lens.html · v2.0 · What stories does this create? What identities does it touch?

The Cultural Lens examines narrative, meaning, values, creative expression, and how an idea changes the stories a society tells about itself.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Identity & Belonging	How do group identities shift?
Narratives & Meaning	What new stories does this create or destroy?
Traditions & Rituals	What cultural practices are affected? What new rituals emerge?
Values & Taboos	What becomes acceptable, celebrated, or taboo?
Art & Expression	How does art, media, and culture respond?
Cross-Cultural Variation	How do different cultures respond differently?
Historical Parallels	What cultural shifts compare?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Cultural Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

9. Technological Lens

File: technological-lens.html · v2.0 · What does this need to exist? What does it make obsolete?

The Technological Lens examines the infrastructure, tools, systems, and innovations required for an idea to work — and what it displaces.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Infrastructure & Feasibility	What technology is needed? Does it exist?
Enablement & New Capabilities	What does this make possible that wasn't before?
Obsolescence & Displacement	What does this make redundant?
Surveillance & Control	What monitoring or enforcement does this enable?
Access & Digital Divide	Who gets it first? Who is excluded?
Failure Modes & Cascades	Single points of failure, cascading breakdowns?
Historical Parallels	What technological transitions compare?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Technological Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

10. Environmental Lens

File: environmental-lens.html · v2.0 · What does this cost the planet? What are the timescales?

The Environmental Lens examines ecological impact, resource consumption, carbon effects, timescales, and the tension between economic growth and planetary limits.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Climate Impact	What are the direct and indirect carbon implications?
Resource Use & Depletion	What materials, energy, and land does this require?
Ecosystems & Biodiversity	How does this affect ecosystems, habitats, and species?
Pollution & Waste	What pollutants and contamination risks arise?
Energy Systems	What energy is required? How does this affect the transition?
Land Use & Urbanisation	Agriculture, urban sprawl, deforestation, rewilding?
Historical Parallels	Past environmental changes and outcomes?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Environmental Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

11. Ethical / Religious Lens

File: ethical-lens.html · v2.0 · Is this right? By whose morality? What frameworks clash?

The Ethical Lens runs any idea through multiple moral frameworks: utilitarian, Kantian, rights-based, virtue ethics, and major religious traditions.

Deep Dive Focuses

Focus	What It Asks
Moral Frameworks	Utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, care ethics — where do they agree and disagree?
Religious Perspectives	How do Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, secular humanism respond?
Rights & Dignity	Whose rights are expanded or curtailed? Is human dignity preserved?
Justice & Fairness	Rawlsian, libertarian, communitarian — does this benefit the least advantaged?
Consent & Autonomy	Is consent meaningful? Who speaks for the voiceless?
Competing Goods	Freedom vs. security, individual vs. collective, present vs. future?
Historical Parallels	How were similar moral dilemmas resolved?
Custom Focus	User-defined angle

Shared Lens Features

Feature	Description
Analyze	Run your idea through this single perspective. Full AI analysis.
Deep Dive	Pick a specific sub-angle and drill down.
Notes	Capture your own insights. Timestamped, persistent.
History	Review all previous analyses and deep dives.
Core Connection	Weight indicator shows the Core's current steering weight for this lens.
Export	JSON state, Markdown analysis, or encrypted backup.

Open the Ethical / Religious Lens in its own tab for focused work. It reads the Core's indexed sources from shared localStorage.

12. Keyboard Shortcuts

Available in the Core and all lenses:

Shortcut	Action
Ctrl/■ + S	Save state
Ctrl/■ + E	Export JSON
Ctrl/■ + I	Import JSON

13. Troubleshooting

Lenses can't see the Core

Serve all files from the same origin (e.g., localhost:8090). Don't open via file://.

Ollama not connecting

Run `ollama serve`. Check the status indicator in the Core header.

Fonts not loading offline

Serve via HTTP once with internet so the service worker caches fonts. Then fully offline.

Storage full

Export, clear old sources, re-import. Encrypted export for sensitive work.

Import fails

Valid JSON? Same file type? Importing overwrites current data.

Version mismatch warning

Replace all eight HTML files together. Don't update individual files.

Launcher script fails

Missing Python? Try `python` instead of `python3`. Port 8090 in use? Stop the other process.

Poor RAG results

Check indexing, tier assignments. Specific queries help. Ensure nomic-embed-text is pulled.

14. Accuracy & Limitations

Tool	Quality	Notes
RAG Retrieval	High	Scales with source quality and quantity
Synthesis Engine	Good	Best with specific, bounded scenarios
Individual Lens Analysis	Good	Quality scales with prompt specificity
Deep Dives	Good	Focused sub-angles produce sharper results
The Arena	Good	Adversarial quality scales with synthesis quality
The Weaver	Good	Best with constraints; unconstrained futures are speculative
Lens Alchemy	Experimental	Fused lenses can surface unexpected angles
Steering Dashboard	Exact	Pure UI — no AI involved
Inter-tab Communication	Reliable	Same-origin BroadcastChannel
Export / Encryption	Exact	AES-256-GCM, deterministic

All AI output is suggestive, not authoritative. Apply your own judgement. Yesbrainer helps you crash safely so you can walk away smarter.

15. Glossary

Term	Definition
Arena	Adversarial testing mode. Generates personas that attack your synthesis.
BroadcastChannel	Cross-tab browser API, same origin required.
Chunk	Text segment for embedding and retrieval.
Constellation	Connected Yesbrainer instances (Core + open lenses).
Custom Lens	User-defined perspective added to the Steering Dashboard.
Data Bus	Inter-tab communication channel.
Deep Dive	Focused analysis on a specific sub-angle within a lens.
Embedding	Vector representation for semantic search.
Encrypted Export	AES-256-GCM protection. Password stays in your browser.
Export Reminder	Toast notification after 7 days without export.
Heartbeat	30-second status ping between tabs.
IndexedDB	Browser database for vector embeddings.
Lens	Single-perspective analysis tool (HTML file).
Lens Alchemy	Fuse two lenses into a hybrid perspective in the Constellation tab.
localStorage	Key-value state storage in the browser.
Ollama	Local LLM server. Free, open source.
Origin	Protocol + host + port. Must match across all tabs.
Preset	One-click steering configuration (PEST, PESTLE, STEEP, etc.).
RAG	Retrieval-Augmented Generation. Finds relevant passages first.
Service Worker	sw-yesbrainer.js — caches fonts and files for offline use.
Source Vault	Document upload and indexing system in the Core.
State File	JSON export of Core or lens data.
Steering Dashboard	Slider and toggle controls for lens weights.
Synthesis Engine	Multi-lens analysis engine in the Core.
Tier	Source authority level: Primary, Secondary, Background.
Version Mismatch	Warning when lens and Core versions differ.
Weaver	Branching futures engine. Projects ideas across time horizons and paths.

YESBRAINER

The Mind's Studio

Your ideas. Unsupervised.

An Offline.Ltd product. Same bloodline. Same philosophy. Different instrument.