

Atto Setup Guide (v0.1.0)

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 Mac	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
atto CLI (wheel)	Engine behind the UI — required for this kit
This guide	Zero → first Find plan

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

1. Requirements

macOS (desktop kit — primary)

- Apple Silicon Mac (M1–M4) · macOS 13+ recommended
- ~500 MB free disk
- Internet when you open archive sites in your browser
- **Terminal once** to install the engine wheel (step 2)

Refund

No refunds. Atto is a digital download. Once the kit or license claim is available, the sale is final on Stripe. 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 (CLI engine only — no GUI yet)

- x86_64 Ubuntu 22.04 / 24.04 (or similar glibc Linux)
- Download `atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu` from https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/linux/atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
- No Python / `uv` required. Vault default: `~/AttoVault/`
- Desktop `.deb` / `AppImage` is **not** in this kit yet

```
chmod +x atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
./atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu --help
./atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu license status    # soft-gate; never locks vault
./atto-x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu project new my-family
```

Windows is not shipped.

2. Install the `atto` engine (macOS — required)

The app will show a red **Engine not found** banner on Home until this works.

```
# Install uv (if you do not have it)
curl -LsSf https://astral.sh/uv/install.sh | sh

# Put uv tools on your PATH (needed in *new* Terminal windows)
uv tool update-shell
# Then close Terminal and open a new window, OR for this window only:
#   export PATH="$HOME/.local/bin:$PATH"

# From the folder where you downloaded the kit files:
cd ~/Downloads    # or wherever the kit saved
```

```
uv tool install ./atto-*.whl
atto --help
```

Then quit and reopen Atto. The desktop app looks for `~/local/bin/atto` even when GUI PATH is limited.

If it still fails:

```
export ATTO_BIN="$(which atto)"
open -a Atto
```

3. First launch (guided)

1. Open **Atto.app** (right-click → Open the first time)
2. On **Home**, create a short project name (e.g. `my-family`) — you do **not** need to pick a folder
3. Use **Guided first run**: edit the note (or keep the practice example) → **Save note & open Find plan**
4. On **Research**, click the first **Open:** link — that is *you* searching in the browser
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

Sample demo buttons on Research use fake practice data. They are not real finds.

4. Approve (human gate)

1. Open **Approve**
 2. Review one suggestion at a time
 3. **Approve** only when the act matches — Approve merges evidence into your tree (Import GEDCOM is the other human write path)
-

5. Tree & Share (later)

- **Tree** needs an imported GEDCOM or Approved people

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

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

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

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

1. Reinstall the engine with the MCP extra (same folder as your kit wheel):

```
cd ~/Downloads # or your kit folder
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.

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 Mac.

License (optional soft-gate)

Atto works **without** a license file — your vault at `~/AttoVault/` is never locked. No DRM.

Buy on Stripe → claim page → download `license.json` → save as `~/.atto/license.json` → the soft banner goes quiet.

Stripe buy / claim: <https://buy.stripe.com/3cl00jdsI49h0fl7Blb3q00>

Kit files (DMG, wheel, this guide): <https://youratto.com/kit/v0.1.0/>

Troubleshooting

Symptom	Fix
Engine not found	<code>uv tool install ./atto-*.whl</code> then <code>uv tool update-shell</code> + new Terminal; reopen Atto
<code>atto: command not found</code>	<code>export PATH="\$HOME/.local/bin:\$PATH"</code> or <code>uv tool update-shell</code>
Find plan empty	Save a note with Subject / Birth / Place (or <code>Comune: / Year:</code> lines) first
Practice / sample demo	Fake data by design — use Open: links for real archives
Citizenship checklist	Research → build checklist; update doc status; Reveal playbook folder
Gatekeeper / “damaged”	Right-click → Open (should be rare — build is notarized)
Soft license banner	Expected until you claim <code>license.json</code> from Stripe — vault still works

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