

Read me first

Hi — you've unzipped the file, so you're in the right place. This report shows how much money is tied up in inventory that isn't selling. It runs inside Claude Cowork (nothing is uploaded anywhere else) and takes about 5 minutes. Just follow the steps below in order.

STEP 1 — DOWNLOAD YOUR 3 EXPORTS FROM SHOPIFY

Save each one as "**CSV for Excel, Numbers, or other spreadsheet programs**". The menus have a few choices — the ones that matter are called out in orange below.

1. **Products** — Products → **Export** → **All products** → CSV for Excel → **Export products**.
2. **Inventory** — Products → Inventory → **Export** → Inventory states shown: **All states** → Export: **All variants** → CSV for Excel → **Export**.
3. **Orders** — Orders → **Export** → **Export orders**, date range **last 12 months** → CSV for Excel.

Two choices that matter — get these right or the report can't read the file:

- Inventory: pick **All states**, not **Available**. "Available" reshapes the file (it turns your location names into columns and drops the on-hand count), and it also subtracts units already committed to orders — a different, lower number. And pick **All variants**, not "Current page" (that's only the ~50 rows on your screen).
- Orders: click **Export orders** — **NOT** "Export transaction histories". "Export orders" is the line-item file (one row per product sold, with its name, quantity, and date), which is what the report needs. "Export transaction histories" is only the payments file — no product lines at all, so it can't be used. Quick check: the right file has a **Lineitem name / Lineitem quantity** column; the wrong one doesn't.

Big store? Shopify emails you the CSV instead of downloading it — just wait for the email and use that CSV as-is. Don't open it in Excel and "Save As" an .xlsx: for very large files Excel silently drops rows past its limit. The CSV Shopify sends has no limit, so hand that over. A very large export may also arrive split into **many files** (orders_export_1, _2, ...) — drop them ALL in, duplicates and all; the tool combines the parts and removes any duplicate copies itself.

Can't easily pull 12 months? Twelve months is the default and gives the definitive read. If a full year is painful to export (huge store), export at least **3 or 6 months** instead — the report still runs, as a clearly-labeled **guest check** that gives you two numbers instead of one verdict: a **confirmed** dead amount (only what a full year's tests can prove from your window — often \$0 on a short export, which is honest, not broken) and an **up-to** "possibly dead" amount that a 12-month export will confirm or clear. A short window can't see seasonality (a product whose season falls outside your window looks dead when it isn't) — that's exactly why the unproven part stays labeled "possibly." Under about 45 days of orders it won't run at all.

Don't use SKUs? That's fine. If your products have SKU codes the report uses them (most precise). If they don't, it automatically matches your stock to your sales by **product name + options** instead, and labels the result "directional" — so you still get a report either way. Nothing extra to do; just export the three files above.

STEP 2 — PUT THE 3 FILES IN THE FOLDER

Drag all three exports into the **Redo_Deadstock** folder — right next to this README and **START_HERE**, **not** inside the **deadstock_cowork_kit** folder (leave that one alone). File names don't matter; the tool figures out which is which by looking inside them.

STEP 3 — OPEN CLAUDE COWORK AND SET THE MODEL TO OPUS 4.8

Before you start — set the model to Opus 4.8, effort level High. At the top of the Cowork window there's a model selector; choose **Opus 4.8** and set its effort (thinking) level to **High** before you begin. This tool's analysis and its built-in accuracy check need it to run reliably. (Claude can't switch its own model, so this one's on you — it takes a second.)

STEP 4 — CONNECT THE FOLDER AND SWITCH ON AUTO

1. Click the **folder chip** at the bottom-left of the Cowork message box. A short list of folders drops down — if **Redo_Deadstock** is in it, click it. If it isn't, click **"Choose a different folder"** at the bottom of that list, then find the folder where you saved it (usually your Desktop) and select it.
2. When the access dialog appears, click **Allow** and tick **"Don't ask again for this folder on this device"** — that's what lets Claude read your exports and save the report.
3. Next to the folder chip, set the mode toggle to **Auto**. This lets Claude run the whole report end-to-end without stopping to ask permission at every step.
4. Drag the **START_HERE.md** file (it's in the folder) into the message box, then type **"the store name is X"** (your store's real name in place of X — it goes on the report cover and isn't in the export files) and send.

Forgot to drag the file or give the name? No problem — just saying "run the dead-stock report" works too; Claude finds the instructions in the folder itself and asks for the name.

5. Keep the chat open and watch it — if it needs anything (the store name, or a file that's off — say, a missing export) it asks right in the chat and tells you exactly what to fix. Answer and it continues on its own.

STEP 5 — WAIT, THEN OPEN YOUR REPORT

Give it a minute. It reads your files, runs its own accuracy check, and writes a **DEAD_STOCK_REPORT** folder with `card.html`. Open that in any browser; click any colored box to see the products inside it, and use **"Download report (CSV)"** to save the full list.

IF IT ASKS YOU SOMETHING

"What's your store's name?" → it asks this every time (the name isn't in the exports) — answer with whatever you want printed on the report.

"Where is the folder?" → tell it where you put Redo_Deadstock (e.g. "it's on my Desktop").

"Missing: orders" (or products / inventory) → re-export that one, drag it in, run again.

It will never show you a number it couldn't verify — if a check fails it stops and says what to fix.

ONE THING WHEN YOU READ IT

"Dead" means a product hasn't sold in the last year. The tool can't see when your current stock arrived, so if something flagged is actually a recent restock, ignore it — it just hasn't had time to sell.