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autoApprove in Cline's MCP settings: why Cline should ask before each generation

Cline & Roo Code

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autoApprove in Cline's MCP settings: why Cline should ask before each generation

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With the All in One AI MCP server, Cline can generate images, video and voice and ask other models. Several of these tools spend credits. The `autoApprove` field decides whether Cline asks for permission before using them. Our advice: leave it empty.

The field in the file

The server lives in `cline_mcp_settings.json`, which you open from the **MCP Servers** icon, the **Configure** tab, the **Configure MCP Servers** button:

```
{
  "mcpServers": {
    "interweb-ai": {
      "type": "streamableHttp",
      "url": "https://api.interweb.ao/mcp",
      "headers": { "Authorization": "Bearer prod_..." },
      "disabled": false,
      "autoApprove": []
    }
  }
}
```

With `"autoApprove": []`, Cline asks before each call to one of the server's tools. That way no generation starts without your yes.

Which tools spend

Tool	What it costs
`list_models`, `get_model`, `get_generation`, `get_balance`	Nothing.

Tool	What it costs
`generate_image`, `generate_video`, `generate_audio`	Credits, at the model price: per image, per second of video or per generation.
`chat`	The tokens at the model price, or Coding Plan points for plan models.
`web_search`	0.5 credits per search.

A generation keeps running on the server even if the agent stops waiting, and it is charged when it finishes. That is why the question has to come first.

If you want fewer questions

Cline's documentation says to limit `autoApprove` to safe tools. On our server, the ones that spend nothing are the four read tools. If you do not want Cline to ask about them, put only their names in the list:

```
"autoApprove": ["list_models", "get_model", "get_generation", "get_balance"]
```

Leave out the `generate_*` tools, `chat` and `web_search`.

Cline's auto-approve settings

Besides each server's `autoApprove`, Cline has auto-approve permissions, among them **Use MCP servers**, and a **YOLO mode** that approves everything, MCP tools included. **Cline's documentation** says YOLO mode is dangerous and disables all safety checks. For Cline to ask before each generation, leave both off.

This file has the key written in it.
Keep it on your computer only: do not copy it into a repository. To test without spending, use a `sandbox_` key: the generation is ready at once, with a sample link and 0 credits.

RECOMMENDED

Want images, video and voice in Cline? Visit the Coding with AI page.

See Coding with AI →

SEE ALSO

- The All in One AI MCP server in Cursor, Windsurf and Cline: the file for each one →
- The All in One AI MCP server: images, video and voice inside Claude Code, Codex and ChatGPT →

Cline with All in One AI: the OpenAI Compatible provider, field by field

What Cline spends: the History tab and a key just for Cline

Coding with AI in All in One AI

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