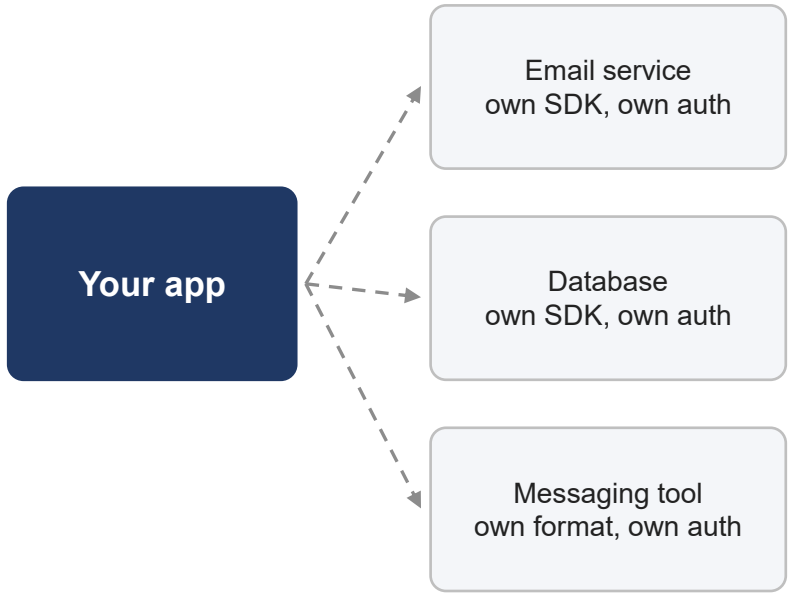
MCP: One Standard Connector

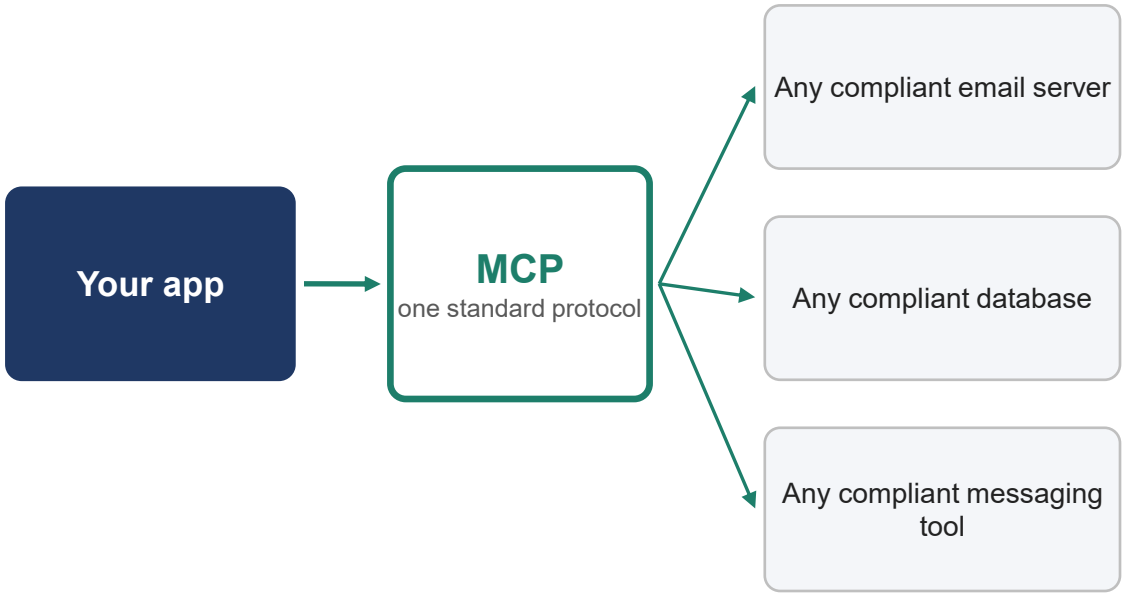
Before MCP, every AI product wired up each tool separately. MCP replaces the custom cables with one standard protocol.

Before: one custom cable per service



Three services, three one-off integrations, none reusable.

After: one standard connector

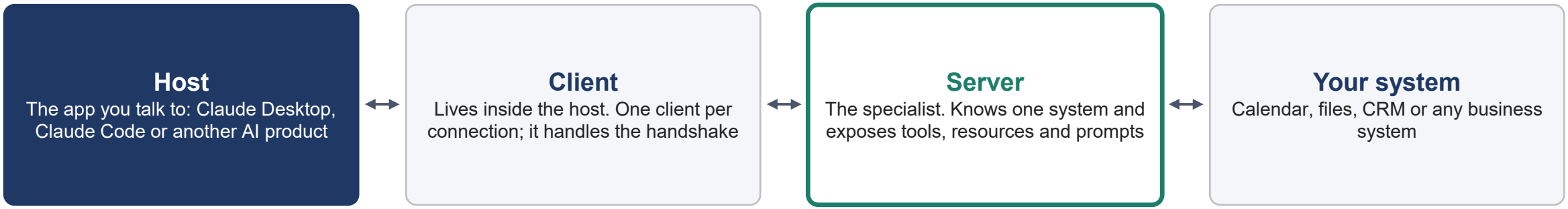


One integration pattern, reusable across every server.

Source: [MCP: Connecting AI to Your Business Systems]

The Three Roles and Six Building Blocks

Every MCP connection has a host, a client and a server. Servers and clients each offer three primitives.

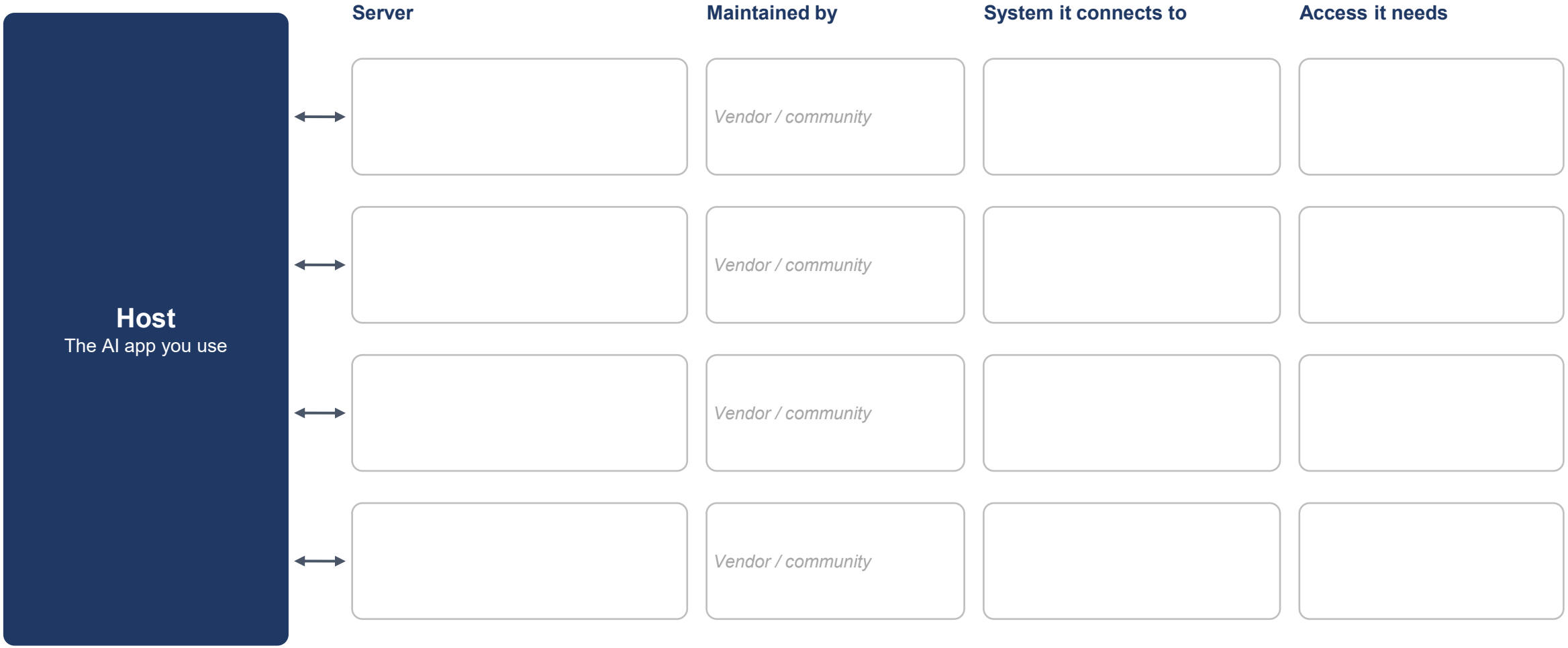


Primitive	Offered by	What it does
Tools	Server	Actions the AI can call: update a task, send a message, run a query
Resources	Server	Read-only context the AI can pull in: a file, a record, a document
Prompts	Server	Reusable, pre-approved prompt templates for consistent use
Elicitation	Client	Lets a server pause and ask the person for missing information or confirmation
Sampling	Client	*Deprecated in the mid-2026 specification: let a server ask the host's model to generate text*
Roots	Client	*Deprecated in the mid-2026 specification: defined which local folders a server could see*

Source: MCP: Connecting AI to Your Business Systems

Map your MCP connections

List the systems you want an AI assistant to act in, who maintains each server, and the access it needs.



Favour vendor-maintained servers, start with one connection and prove it works before adding the next.

About this diagram

MCP Overview

When this fits

- Teams that want an AI assistant to act inside business systems, not only answer questions about them.
- Explaining MCP to non-technical stakeholders: the before/after slide makes the case in one picture.
- Planning which connections to add first, and checking who maintains each server.

When it doesn't fit

- Read-only knowledge assistants. Retrieval (RAG) is usually enough there.
- Detailed security review. The protocol standardises the connection; it does not vet a server or the credentials it holds.

How to use this file

- Every element is a native PowerPoint shape: edit the text, recolour it, or delete what you don't need.
- Use the blank template slide (the one headed Map your or Plan your) to fill in your own version.
- Copy the diagram straight into your own deck. It is sized for a standard widescreen slide.
- The deprecations shown reflect the specification described in the post. Check the current MCP specification before relying on them.

Source: MCP: Connecting AI to Your Business Systems