BY MENDY / 23 SEP 2026

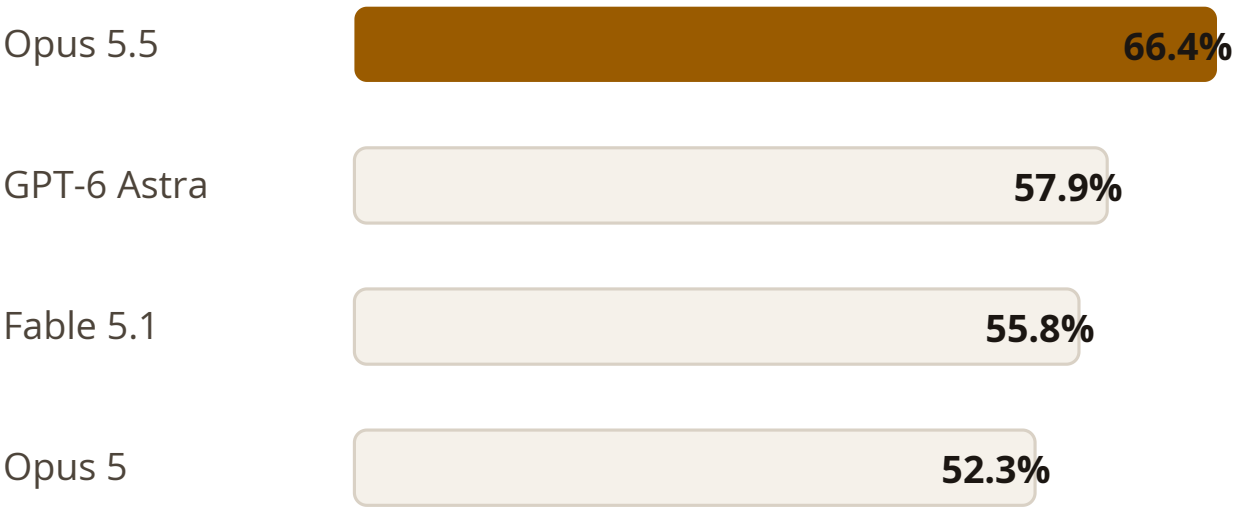
Opus 5.5 is here: Fable-class brains, 60% off

Anthropic's new Opus 5.5 matches its flagship Fable 5.1 on most tasks at $4/$20 per million tokens — the launch-day numbers, visualized.

$4 / $20 per million input / output tokens	**66.4%** Terminal-Bench 4.0 (vendor score)
30%+ faster output than Opus 5	**60%** cheaper than Fable 5.1

Anthropic launched **Claude Opus 5.5** on September 22 — sixty days after Opus 5. The pitch is simple: performance at the level of its most expensive model, Fable 5.1, for most tasks, at less than half the price.

Terminal-Bench 4.0



Anthropic-reported scores; independent tests differ (see cavea

The price list

MODEL	INPUT / 1M	OUTPUT / 1M	CACHE READ / 1M
Opus 5.5	$4	$20	$0.20
Opus 5	$5	$25	$0.50
Fable 5.1	$10	$50	$0.25

Cache reads matter most — Anthropic says they're the majority of the bill in agentic and coding work, and they dropped 60% versus Opus 5. A **fast mode** ($8/$40, up to 2.5x quicker) is available in Claude Code and the Claude platform.

Worth knowing

It stays on task

One tester finished a 680,000-line code migration in under a day; another reported 18+ hours of continuous repo work. 39 of 40 pages hit their load-time targets in web optimization tests.

Safety pitch

Ties Fable 5.1 for the lowest prompt-injection success rate on Gray Swan's benchmark, and attempted to circumvent its boundaries 85% less often than Opus 5. Cybersecurity queries route to Opus 4.8; biology work needs approval.

Subscribers win too

Five-hour usage limits rose ~20% on Pro, Max, and Team plans, with a bankable rate-limit reset.

What's next

Sonnet 5.5 and Haiku 5.5 are due within weeks. The model ships on AWS, Google Cloud, and Azure.

ⓘ **The honest caveat:** every benchmark above is vendor-reported, and launch-week independent testing is thin. Artificial Analysis measured 52.5% on Terminal-Bench at medium effort — well below Anthropic's 66.4%. The price, though, is a commitment, not a claim: it shows up on the bill.

Sources: AI Weekly, Gadgets360, Implicator (all Sep 22–23, 2026).