

BUILD THE APP, LET USERS KEEP THE DATA

Solid Memo: flashcards that live in your own pod

I WANTED TO BUILD AN APP, NOT RUN A COMPANY

- A server to rent, patch and watch
- A database of other people's data, and its backups
- Accounts, passwords, password resets
- A privacy policy, and the duty to keep it
- A bill every month, whether anyone uses it or not

I ALSO WANTED TO PROVE SOMETHING

Solid is often shown in demos and prototypes.

Can it carry a polished app that anyone would use?

One the Solid project can point to.

FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO LEARN

The app shows each card again **just before you would forget it**.

A day, then a few days, then weeks. A few minutes a day are enough.

Not for Solid people: for a student, a traveler learning Korean, someone studying for a driving test.

Three promises, one bar

1. **No server of its own**, and almost no bill
2. **Free**, for anyone who wants to learn
3. **Open**, from the code to the decisions

All held to a showcase's standard.

1. NO SERVER OF ITS OWN

WHAT A SOLID POD IS

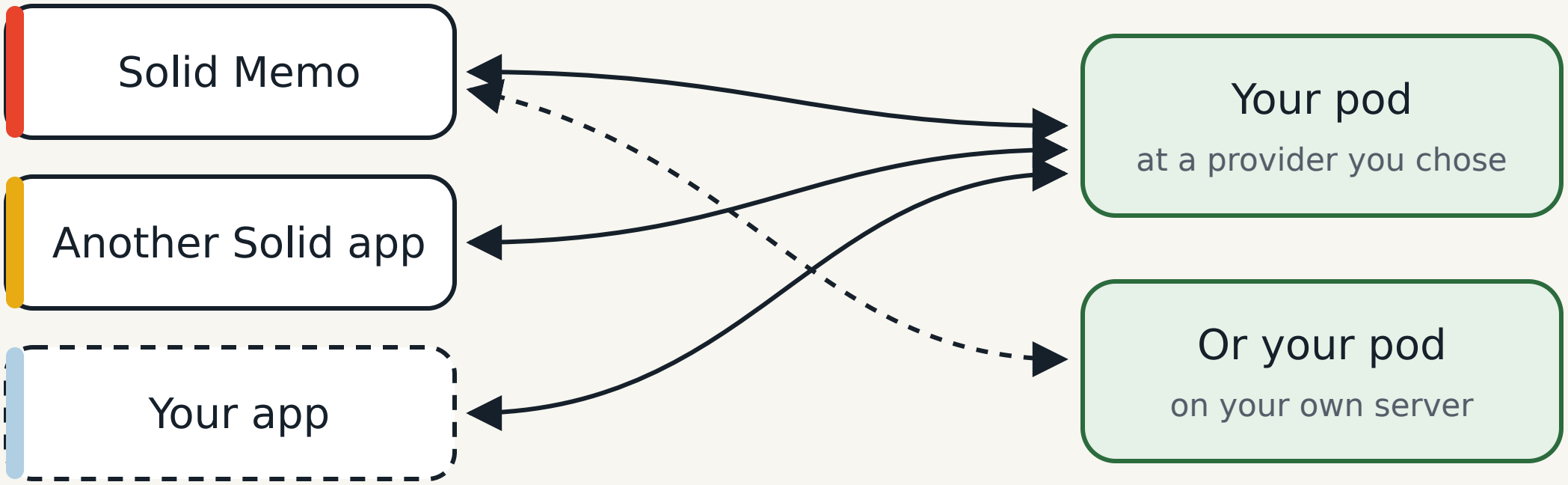
> Your own online storage, run by a Pod provider you choose, or by yourself. Apps that follow the Solid standards keep your data there, and **you decide who may read it.**

Solid is a set of open specifications from the W3C community for storing your data apart from the apps that use it.

Apps and data, apart

Apps: static files in your browser

Pods: the data, where you choose



Each app reads and writes your pod directly, with your permission.

ONE CARD, AS LINKED DATA

```
@prefix solid-memo: <https://solid-memo.com/ns/vocab/v1.ttl#> .
@prefix dcterms:    <http://purl.org/dc/terms/> .
@prefix xsd:        <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .

<#croatia>
    a solid-memo:Card ;
    solid-memo:formatVersion 6 ;
    solid-memo:frontLabel "Country or territory"@en , "Land eller territorium"@sv ;
    solid-memo:backLabel "Capital"@en , "Huvudstad"@sv ;
    dcterms:created "2026-09-22T10:40:42.499Z"^^xsd:dateTime ;
    dcterms:subject <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q224> ;
```

From the deck Capitals of the world, version 4, at solid-memo.com/decks/capitals-of-the-world/v4.ttl

What Solid Memo doesn't run

A typical app

- Servers, rented and patched
- A database, and its backups
- Accounts and password resets
- Personal data, and the duty to guard it
- Monitoring, on call

Solid Memo

- Static files, on GitHub Pages
- No database: your pod holds your data
- No accounts: your provider has them
- No analytics, no cookies, no tracking
- A domain

What it costs to run

123.75 SEK

a year, for the domain. Nothing else. **About 10 SEK a month.**

Costs that don't grow

Each learner brings their **own storage**.

A thousand more learners: still 123.75 SEK a year.

No users at all: still 123.75 SEK a year.

THE HONEST TRADE-OFFS

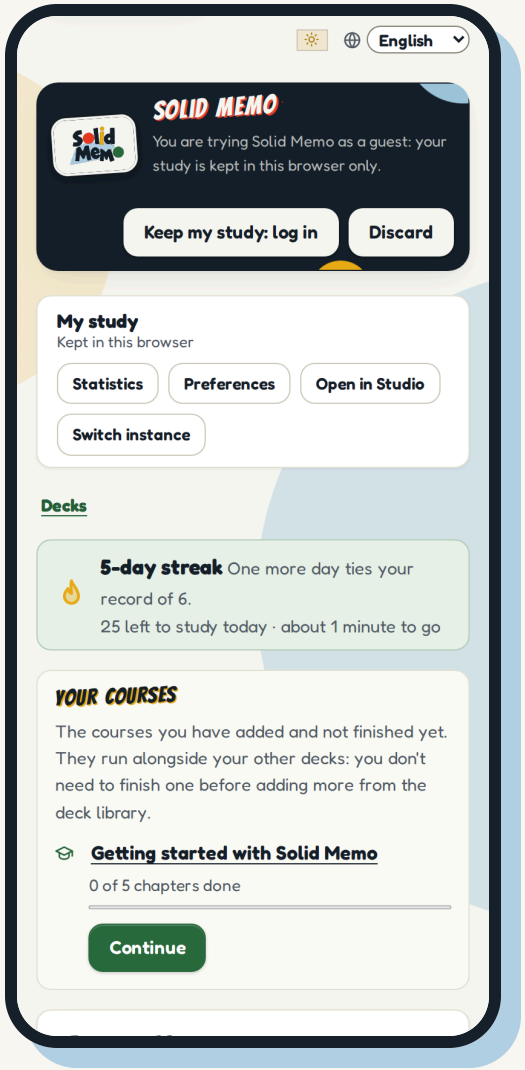
- **Learners need a pod.** So you can start as a guest, in the browser, and move into a pod later.
- **Pod servers differ.** So the app is tested against nine of them.
- **Nothing runs while the app is closed.** No push reminders: due cards wait for you.
- **A young ecosystem.** Fewer providers, fewer libraries, more to learn.

2. Free, for anyone who wants to learn

NO ACCOUNT NEEDED TO START

Try it without logging in. Study as a guest, and what you learn is kept in this browser.

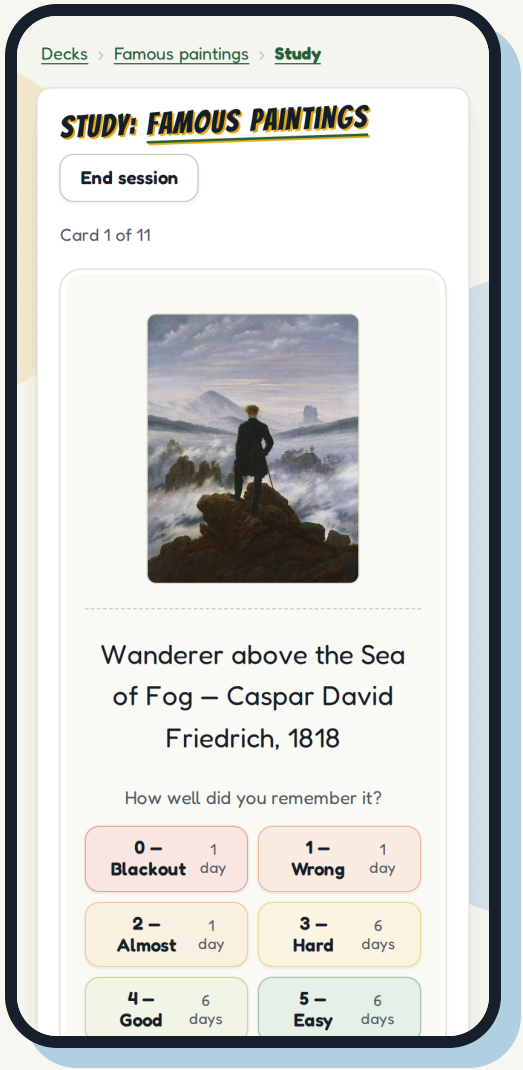
Log in later, and move it into your own pod.



STUDYING

A card's front, then its back. **How well did you remember it?**

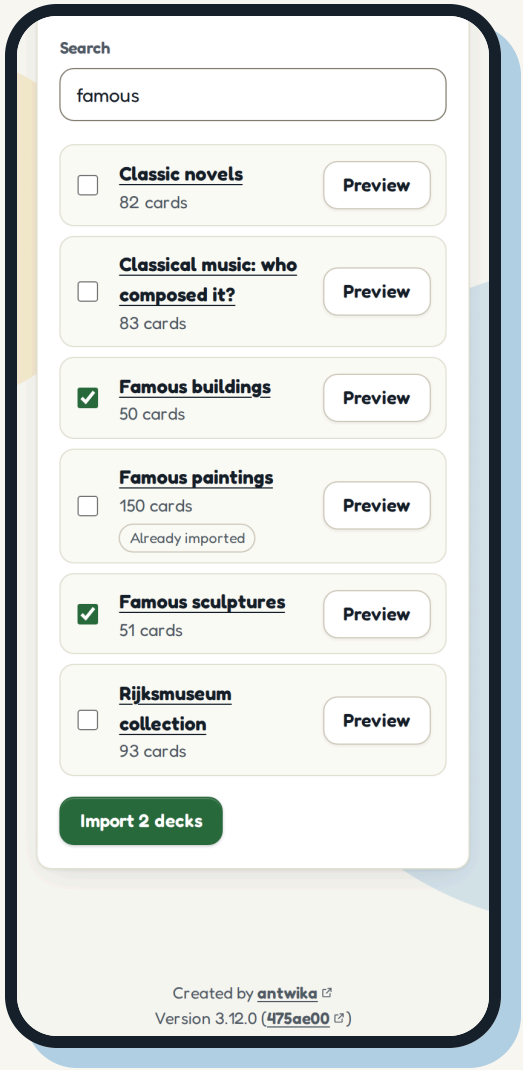
Scheduled with **FSRS-6** by default, or the classic **SM-2**, shown here.



FROM PAINTINGS TO VIM TO KOREAN

115 in the library: 106 decks and 9 courses.

The app speaks **six languages**: English, Swedish, Korean, German, Spanish and French.

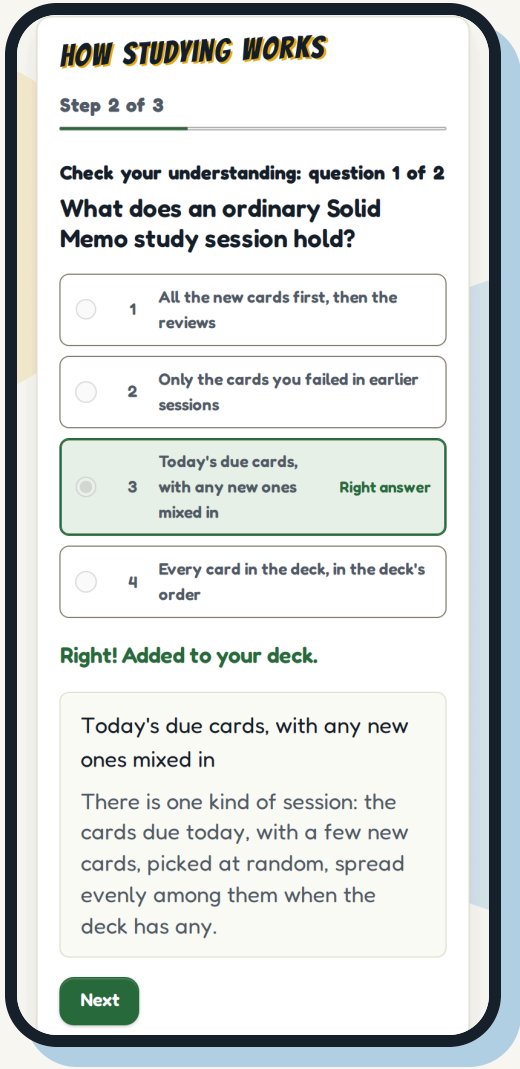


COURSES

A little theory, then questions.

Every question you answer **becomes a card** in your own deck.

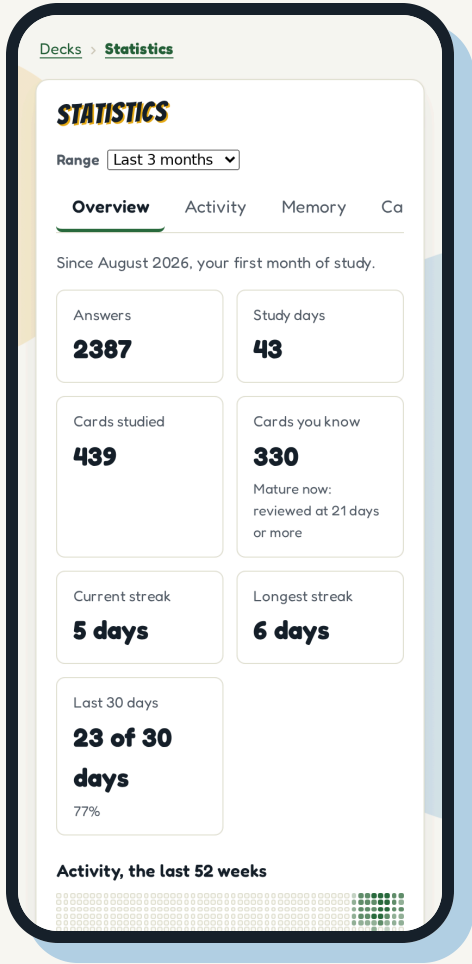
From **Getting started with Solid Memo** to **Swedish Driving License B: Theory**.

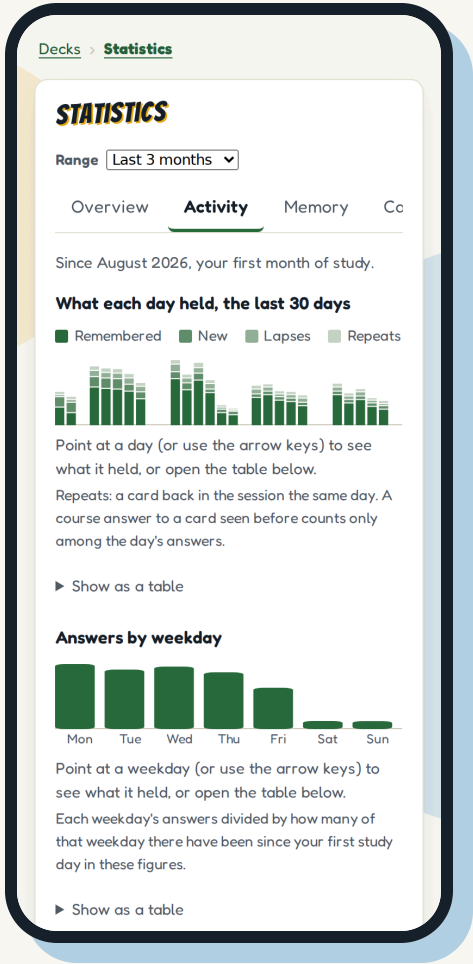


YOUR PROGRESS, WORKED OUT IN YOUR BROWSER

Streaks, answers, what you know.

All from your own pod. **Nothing is sent anywhere.**





Anyone includes everyone

- Aims for **WCAG 2.2, level AA**
- Every screen the **user journeys** visit, checked by **axe**, light and dark
- Made for the **keyboard** alone
- Four palettes, high contrast and color-blind friendly among them
- Text up to 1.5×, reduced motion, right-to-left text

An aim, not a claim: the gaps are listed in the docs.

3. OPEN

Open source, and open about how it's run

- Code under the **MIT** license, every file marked (REUSE)
- Committed to the **Standard for Public Code**
- Assessed against it in the open: 41 of 46 MUSTs, 36 of 51 SHOULDs
- The gaps written down, with what's planned

Assessed, not certified: October 18, 2026, at version 3.11.0.

Every decision in writing, in public

- Issues, discussions and pull requests are **the** channels
- A decision exists only once it is **written there**
- Every commit says **why**
- Two exceptions, both private: **security** reports and **code of conduct** reports

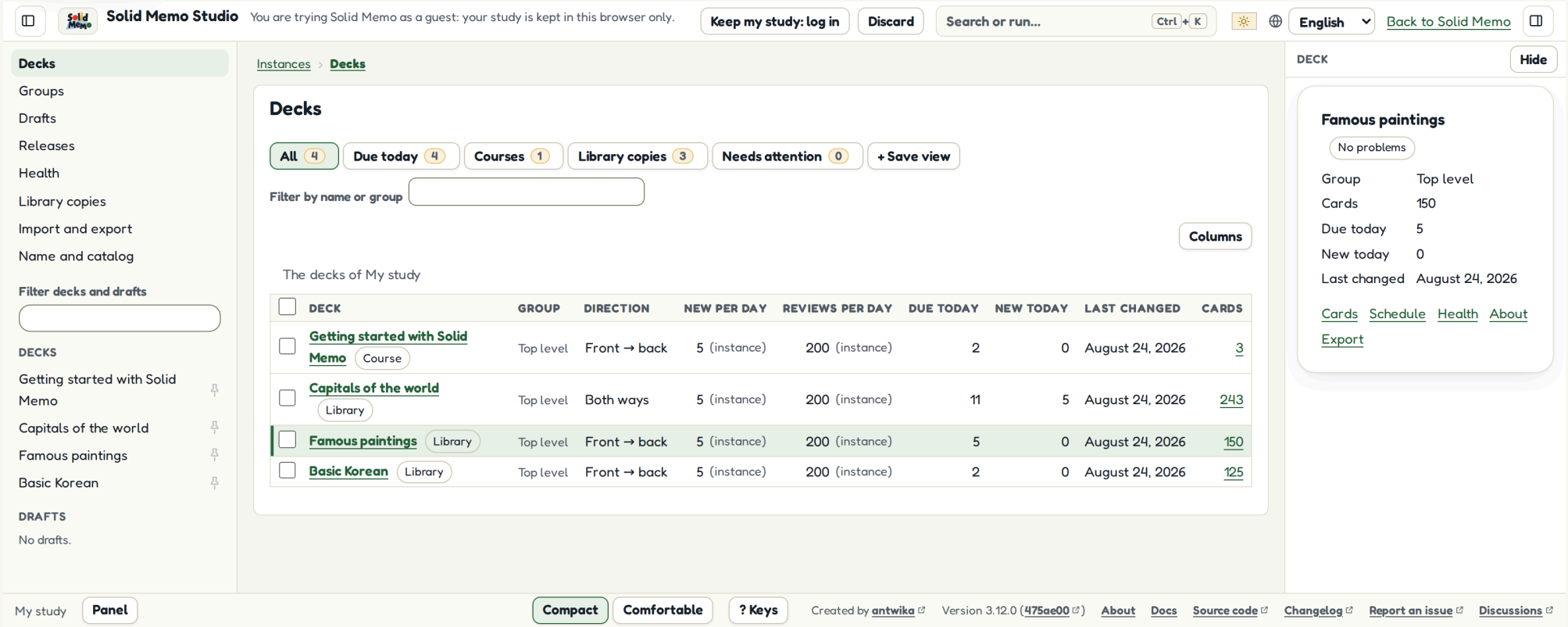
Open data, for other Solid apps

- A vocabulary for spaced repetition, at **solid-memo.com/ns/**
- **SHACL shapes** for what valid data looks like, version by version
- A deck library as a **DCAT** catalog, each deck under its own open license

Build an app that reads the same pod. **Your users will thank you.**

STUDIO: WRITING DECKS AND COURSES

Write a deck or a course, check it against every rule, preview it, play it as a learner would, and **publish it in your own pod**.



Built to outlast its maintainer

- A **DOI** at Zenodo for its releases
- The source preserved in **Software Heritage**
- A written plan for the **domain** if the maintainer steps away
- What other people's data points at, kept online for at least three years after

4. THE PROOF

Works with your pod, whoever hosts it

Tested against **nine** pod server setups, real servers in Docker:

Every pull request	Weekly, and when main's code changes
Community Solid Server 6 and 7	Community Solid Server 8 (alpha)
CSS 7 with ACP	Pivot (solidcommunity.net)
Node Solid Server 5 and 6	Nextcloud with Solid
	JavaScript Solid Server

TESTED LIKE A PERSON USES IT

- **User journeys**: a browser clicks through the app, step by step
- In **Chromium**; logging in and guest study also in **Firefox**, **WebKit** and on a **phone**
- On a fresh account and pod, on a real Solid server
- **No retries**: a flaky test is fixed, not re-run
- The report is public: **journeys.solid-memo.com**

Every line covered

- **100% coverage**, per package: statements, branches, functions, lines
- Unreachable code is **removed**, not excluded
- **Boundaries** between layers, checked on every change
- A limit on how complex a function may be

Coverage doesn't prove the code right. It proves none of it goes untested.

Stable, and says when it isn't

- **1.0.0** from the first release, on October 13, 2026
- **Semantic versioning**: a change that breaks data is a new major version
- Every promise to other apps is **written down**, one per line
- A vocabulary term is **never taken back**; a published shape or deck version is **never edited**

WHAT THIS PROVES

A polished app for anyone, built on Solid **by one person**,

with **no server** of its own, for **123.75 SEK a year**.

JOIN IN

- **Try it**: solid-memo.com
- **Write a deck**: start with the course **Getting started**, then the Studio
- **Contribute** on GitHub
- **Build your own** app with no server

solid-memo.com

Sponsor the domain:

github.com/sponsors/ixuz

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Thank you. Questions?

Slides: solid-memo.github.io/talks · CC BY 4.0