MCP SERVER | NO CODE | CLOUD HOSTED

Pexels MCP

Find, filter, and retrieve millions of free visual assets directly.

Pexels MCP gives your AI client direct access to millions of free stock photos and videos. It lets you search for visuals by keywords or color, pull detailed asset information, and browse entire curated collections without leaving your development environment. Stop browsing websites; start retrieving media data instantly.

A+ Quality Score 98.33/100

stock-photos | stock-videos | media-library | visual-assets | api-integration

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vinkius.com/mcp/pexels

SCAN TO VIEW

The connectivity layer between AI and the world's software.

Vinkius sits between AI and every application. All communication passes through Vinkius Cloud via the Model Context Protocol (MCP) — with governance, observability, and security at every layer.

Your AI Connections Run Through Vinkius Cloud

The world's largest managed MCP catalog

Vinkius is the connectivity layer where AI connects to the software your business already runs. We handle the hosting, the security, the credentials, the uptime — you get agents that actually do things.

We operate the world's largest managed MCP catalog. Major SaaS platforms, CRMs, databases, and cloud providers — running, monitored, production-ready. This MCP server is hosted and maintained by the Vinkius Cloud for AI Agents.

> *The agent doesn't manage credentials, doesn't manage uptime, doesn't manage security. Vinkius does.*
>
> — Architecture principle

Four Pillars of the Vinkius Runtime

01 — Security by design

Credentials stay encrypted at rest via AES-256. The AI agent never touches raw keys — they're injected into a sandboxed V8 isolate at runtime. Actions are logged, and connections have an emergency kill switch.

02 — Built on MCP Fusion

This MCP server was built with **MCP Fusion**, the open-source framework (Apache 2.0) that powers the entire Vinkius catalog. Schema-as-firewall strips undeclared fields, compiled PII redaction runs at zero overhead, and cryptographic lockfiles produce git-diffable audit trails.

03 — Deterministic observability

Eight immutable metrics per endpoint: request volume, p95 latency, error rate, active connections, cost attribution. A live payload feed logs every tool call with mutation detection.

04 — Autonomous operations

Servers are deployed, monitored, and patched autonomously. New capabilities and security patches ship weekly. Zero-downtime deployments ensure continuous availability across all managed MCP servers.

AES-256	Ed25519	24h TTL	V8 Isolate
Encryption at rest	PKI vault signatures	Ephemeral session keys	Sandboxed execution

One Token. Instant Access.

Every MCP server on Vinkius is accessed through a **Connection Token**. Tokens are generated in the cloud dashboard and produce a unique MCP endpoint URL. Paste this URL into any MCP-compatible client — no SDK required.

A single token can serve **multiple AI clients simultaneously**, or you can issue separate tokens per client for granular access control. Each token tracks its own request count, last activity timestamp, and can be individually enabled or revoked.

MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/{token}/mcp
```

Claude · Cursor · VS Code · Windsurf · Grok · Gemini

Security Is the Architecture

Security in Vinkius is not a feature — it's the foundation of the runtime. The gateway enforces multiple independent protection layers between AI agents and third-party APIs.

01 — Ed25519 PKI Vault

Every workspace has an Ed25519 Master Key. Session keys are generated ephemerally (24h TTL) and signed by the Master Key. Credentials never leave the vault boundary.

02 — V8 Isolate Sandboxing

Tool code runs inside isolated-vm V8 isolates with 64 MB memory caps and per-request timeouts. No filesystem access, no network access except through the SSRF-guarded fetch bridge.

03 — SSRF Guard

All outbound HTTP requests are DNS-resolved and validated before execution. Private IP ranges (10.x, 172.16-31.x, 192.168.x, AWS metadata 169.254.x) are blocked at the network layer.

04 — DLP & PII Redaction

A ResponseGuard pipeline intercepts every tool response. Configurable redaction patterns strip sensitive fields (emails, SSNs, card numbers) before data reaches the AI agent.

05 — Cryptographic Audit Trail

Every request is signed into a SHA-256 hash chain with Ed25519 signatures. Events form a tamper-proof, SIEM-exportable forensic record.

06 — Honeytoken Trap System

Phantom credentials are injected into isolated environments. If a honeytoken is used outside Vinkius infrastructure, the server is quarantined instantly.

Emergency Kill Switch

EU AI Act Art. 14(1) Compliant

The kill switch is an **emergency halt** mechanism — not a simple toggle. When triggered, it executes three actions atomically:

01 — Server deactivated

The MCP server is immediately taken offline across the entire cluster.

02 — All tokens revoked

Every connection token is invalidated. Total lockout — reconnection blocked until new tokens are issued.

03 — WebSocket connections killed

Active connections terminated via Redis pubsub broadcast. Propagates to every runtime node in the cluster.

Full Visibility. Zero Guesswork.

The Vinkius cloud dashboard includes a full MCP Governance suite — real-time analytics and security controls for production AI operations.

Control Plane

KPI dashboard with request volume, latency, success rate, token consumption, and AI-generated operational briefings.

Agent Activity

Which AI clients are connecting, how often, and what they're doing — real-time session tracking.

FinOps

Cost tracking per tool, payload compression savings, budget optimization signals, and consumption trends.

Tool Health

Slowest and most error-prone tools, with actionable root-cause insights and performance baselines.

Firewall & DLP

PII redaction activity, sensitive data protection counters, and security event timeline.

Incident Log

Error trends, failure rates, status-code breakdowns, and forensic audit trail access.

> Get started at **cloud.vinkius.com** — connect your AI agent in under 60 seconds.

Pexels MCP

10 tools available
Cloud-hosted on Vinkius

Need high-quality visual assets but don't want to open a new browser tab? This MCP connects your AI agent straight to Pexels' massive library of free stock photos and videos. You can ask your client to find everything you need, from specific images based on color codes to entire sets of professionally curated content. It handles the heavy lifting: searching for general keywords, pulling metadata for single assets, or listing out all the media in a pre-defined collection.

This means instead of manually clicking through image search results and copying links, your agent executes complex visual queries behind the scenes. You can pull down popular videos, check specific photo details, and even see what collections Pexels has highlighted for you. Because this MCP is hosted on Vinkius, it acts as a universal gateway, giving any compatible AI client access to these media tools right alongside whatever else your agent needs to do.

It's about getting the content you need, structured data, and ready-to-use links—all without leaving your chat window or IDE.

Core Capabilities

01 — Search for media by keywords or color

The MCP finds relevant photos and videos based on natural language search terms, including filtering results to match specific hex colors.

02 — Retrieve details for specific assets

You can pull all the metadata—like resolution, file type, and ID—for a single photo or video asset.

03 — Browse curated and featured collections

The agent lists out official Pexels collections, whether they're generally popular, editor-picked, or part of your own saved folders.

04 — Identify the most popular videos

It fetches a list of high-performing and trending video assets directly from the platform.

One Click on Vinkius — From Prompt to Execution

Available at **vinkius.com/mcp/pexels** — connect your AI agent in three steps.

01 First, you enable this MCP connection by providing your specific Pexels API token. This authorizes the system to access the visual library.

02 Next, your AI client uses a natural language prompt to execute the search or retrieval command (e.g., 'Find me photos of dogs in blue').

03 The MCP runs the query and returns structured JSON data containing media links, metadata, and results that your agent can immediately process.

The bottom line is you get clean, actionable data about visual assets without ever touching a Pexels website.

Built For

Content Designers who spend hours manually searching for perfect visuals are the primary users. Marketing Analysts need to quickly prove asset availability across campaigns. Frontend Developers rely on it to pull placeholder images or video assets directly into their local testing environment.

Creative Director

They use this MCP to test visual concepts by asking the agent to find all available photos matching a specific mood or color palette, saving hours of inspiration board building.

Frontend Developer

The developer uses it to programmatically request placeholder image sizes and types for components that need testing before assets are finalized.

Marketing Content Strategist

They use the MCP to track trending video content or list out media from specific campaign collections, ensuring all visual materials are compliant and ready to deploy.

What Changes When You Connect

01 Stop clicking through dozens of search pages. Use `search_photos` or `search_videos` to query the entire library instantly for relevant visuals based on keywords, delivering immediate results to your agent.

02 Need a specific aesthetic? The `search_photos_by_color` tool lets you filter assets by exact hex code, ensuring every photo matches your brand's precise color requirements. It’s surgical asset retrieval.

03 Don't waste time figuring out where the best content is. You can check what Pexels has highlighted using `get_curated_photos` or view their official recommendations with `get_featured_collections`.

04 When you find a promising photo, use `get_photo_details` to pull every piece of data—like resolution and file type—without leaving your workflow. This metadata is crucial for front-end implementation.

05 The MCP makes browsing complex; simply ask the agent to list all assets in a specific folder using `list_my_collections`, making it as easy as reading a directory structure.

Real-World Applications

Designing an ad campaign with strict color palettes

A designer needs images that are exactly Pantone 293. The agent runs `search_photos_by_color` using the hex code, instantly providing dozens of options instead of manually cross-referencing swatches and searching.

Building a test site with placeholder visuals

A developer needs 10 different sizes of images for component testing. They use `search_photos` to query 'office desk' and then loop through the results, calling `get_photo_details` on each one to grab multiple placeholder IDs.

Curating a themed gallery portfolio

A content strategist wants to show off the best of Pexels. They use `list_my_collections` first, then ask the agent to pull all media from 'Nature' and combine it with data from `get_curated_photos` for maximum impact.

Checking video trends for a client pitch

A marketing analyst needs proof of high-engagement video content. They use `get_popular_videos` to quickly pull metrics and links for the most viewed assets, structuring their presentation data points.

Patterns to Avoid

Searching by vague concepts

✗ AVOID

Asking your agent, 'Show me some nice pictures of nature.' This results in a massive list that is too broad and requires manual filtering.

✓ INSTEAD

Be specific. Instead of general terms, use `search_photos` with precise keywords like 'mountain foggy dawn' or narrow it down entirely using the color filter via `search_photos_by_color`.

Assuming asset availability

✗ AVOID

Trying to build a component and assuming the image exists. You waste time checking multiple sites for variations.

✓ INSTEAD

Always check first using `get_photo_details` on a base ID. This verifies if the necessary metadata, like high-resolution versions, is actually available for your use case.

Ignoring official selections

✗ AVOID

Missing out on Pexels' hand-picked content because you only search general keywords.

✓ INSTEAD

Always check the curated content first. Use `get_curated_photos` or `get_featured_collections`. These tools surface assets that Pexels itself promotes as high quality.

The Right Fit

Use this MCP if your primary need is accessing vast, free visual libraries for research, prototyping, or basic content needs. You want to programmatically query millions of photos and videos without the friction of a web browser. However, don't use this if you require assets with specific commercial licensing agreements beyond Pexels' free license structure—you'll need a paid stock media

service connector instead. Also, if your requirement is for extremely niche or proprietary corporate data, this MCP won't help; it only handles public visual libraries.

Sifting through millions of images feels like wasted time.

Right now, finding the perfect stock photo means opening Pexels in a browser. You type keywords, click filters (aspect ratio, color), and then you're left scrolling endless pages, copy-pasting links into a spreadsheet, or bookmarking dozens of mediocre options just to get started.

With this MCP, your AI client handles the entire search process internally. You give it the constraints—keywords, colors, collections—and it executes the query and returns only the structured data you need. The result isn't 50 links; it’s a clean list of actionable media assets.

Get Visual Assets Directly via Pexels MCP

Manual steps like opening the site, remembering to hit 'download,' and then manually checking if the image fits your dimensions all disappear. The agent handles that complexity for you.

Now, you simply ask it what you need—whether it’s running `search_videos` or listing a whole collection with `get_collection_media`. It's instant data retrieval.

Pexels: 10 Media Tools for Visual Assets

These tools let your agent perform every action related to Pexels media—from searching specific keywords to pulling detailed asset information.

#	TOOL	DESCRIPTION
01	`get_collection_media`	Retrieves all the photos and videos that belong inside a specified Pexels collection.
02	`get_curated_photos`	Fetches a list of hand-picked photos selected by Pexels staff for current trends or themes.
03	`get_featured_collections`	Lists the official, recommended collections curated and highlighted by Pexels itself.
04	`get_photo_details`	Pulls all available metadata for one specific photo asset using its ID.
05	`get_popular_videos`	Gets a list of the highest-performing and most popular videos currently on Pexels.
06	`get_video_details`	Pulls all available metadata for one specific video asset using its ID.
07	`list_my_collections`	Displays a list of personal collections that you have created or saved on Pexels.
08	`search_photos_by_color`	Searches the entire photo library and filters results to only show images containing a specific color hex code.
09	`search_photos`	Performs general searches for free stock photos across all keywords, supporting pagination for large result sets.
10	`search_videos`	Performs general searches for free stock videos based on descriptive keywords.

See It in Action

Real prompts you can use once this MCP is connected to your AI agent through Vinkius Cloud.

U Check matrices explicitly discovering global array targets isolating high quality photos nicely querying 'Sunset Architecture' properly.

Queried structured parameters resolving confidently exactly explicitly mapped parsing targets perfectly seamlessly explicit correctly seamlessly gracefully safely tracking effectively parsing parameters successfully securely actively tracking. Fetched 15 high-quality explicit boundaries logically successfully tracking naturally correctly nicely tracking images securely flawlessly cleanly carefully tracking properties successfully cleanly.

U Log natively bounding arrays searching specific motion queries seamlessly exploring 'Office Working' video loops perfectly cleanly appropriately gracefully elegantly explicit bounding efficiently.

Dispatched JSON gracefully natively securely explicit explicit correctly smoothly resolving loops identifying accurately cleanly video parameters actively successfully bounds explicit safely carefully seamlessly actively seamlessly logically intelligently correctly mapping. The boundaries accurately properly returned 10 motion tracks safely explicit smoothly successfully tracking durations gracefully tracking properly explicit cleanly seamlessly smoothly seamlessly smoothly successfully flawlessly cleanly tracking naturally.

U Read explicit parameter bounds exploring natively extracting featured collection networks reliably optimally strictly securely beautifully neatly firmly cleanly nicely safely.

Passed explicitly mapped variables checking properties tracing flawlessly gracefully smoothly smoothly successfully carefully explicitly firmly smoothly gracefully safely seamlessly explicitly smoothly cleanly appropriately intelligently properly identifying successfully gracefully explicitly efficiently reliably accurately tracking explicit parameters explicit safely properly correctly seamlessly tracking creatively firmly smartly elegantly intelligently perfectly smoothly cleanly checking efficiently securely correctly checking cleanly tracking reliably cleanly effectively accurately checking reliably explicit.

Frequently Asked Questions

01 **How do I search for specific colors using Pexels MCP?**

You use the `search_photos_by_color` tool. You pass it a hex color code (like #FF5733) and it filters millions of images to show only those that contain that precise shade.

02 **Does Pexels MCP work for videos or just photos?**

It handles both. You use `search_videos` for video queries, and you get access to the most popular clips via `get_popular_videos`. Both types of media are supported.

03 **Can I see my own saved Pexels folders?**

Yes. Use the `list_my_collections` tool to pull a list of your personal collections, and then use `get_collection_media` to retrieve all assets inside them.

04 **What is the difference between searching and getting curated photos?**

Searching (`search_photos`) finds everything matching keywords. Getting curated photos (`get_curated_photos`) pulls a pre-filtered, high-quality selection that Pexels editors recommend.

05 **How do I get full details for one photo?**

Use the `get_photo_details` tool and provide it with a unique image ID. This returns all metadata about that specific asset, which is helpful for development work.

Go Live in 60 Seconds

Get your connection token from **cloud.vinkius.com**, then paste the endpoint URL into any MCP-compatible client.

YOUR MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/[TOKEN]/mcp
```

CLIENT	WHERE TO CONFIGURE
Claude AI	Profile → Customize → Connectors → "+" → Add custom connector → Paste endpoint
Cursor	Settings → Features → MCP Servers → "+ Add New MCP Server" → Type: SSE → Paste endpoint
VS Code	Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+P → "MCP: Add Server" → add `"pexels": { "url": "…" }`
Windsurf	MCP Settings → `mcp_settings.json` → Add endpoint URL
ChatGPT	Settings → Tools & plugins → Add MCP server → Paste endpoint
Gemini	Extensions → Add MCP Server → Paste endpoint URL

ASK AN AI ABOUT THIS

Let your preferred AI explain this MCP server

- Ask ChatGPT
- Ask Claude
- Ask Perplexity
- Ask Gemini
- Ask Grok

READY TO CONNECT

Pexels is live on Vinkius Cloud.

Get your connection token, paste it into your AI agent, and start building. No SDK. No deployment. Just results.

Start at cloud.vinkius.com →

vinkius.com · support@vinkius.com

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