Visual studio code terminal, how to run a command with administrator rights?

Asked 6 years, 3 months ago   Modified 17 days ago   Viewed 211k times

150

42

The new version 1.2.0 include a terminal, but when I try to install any pack with node I get the npm ERR! code EPERM that I usually solve right clicking and running it as administrator. So how I do that in the vscode terminal? There is something like sudo for linux?

```
c:\gitrepos\htmlunity>npm install -g ruby
C:\Program Files\nodejs
└─ ruby@0.6.1
   └─ lodash@4.13.1

npm ERR! Windows_NT 10.0.10586
npm ERR! argv "C:\\Program Files\\nodejs\\node.exe" "C:\\Program Files\\nodejs\\node_modules\\npm\\bin\\npm-cli.js" "install" "-g" "ruby"
npm ERR! node v5.9.1
npm ERR! npm  v3.3.12
npm ERR! path C:\Program Files\nodejs\node_modules\.staging
npm ERR! code EPERM
npm ERR! errno -4048
npm ERR! syscall mkdir

npm ERR! Error: EPERM: operation not permitted, mkdir 'C:\Program Files\nodejs\node_modules\.staging'
npm ERR!     at Error (native)
npm ERR! { [Error: EPERM: operation not permitted, mkdir 'C:\Program Files\nodejs\node_modules\.staging']
npm ERR!   errno: -4048,
npm ERR!   code: 'EPERM',
npm ERR!   syscall: 'mkdir',
npm ERR!   path: 'C:\\Program Files\\nodejs\\node_modules\\.staging' }
npm ERR!
npm ERR! Please try running this command again as root/Administrator.

npm ERR! Please include the following file with any support request:
npm ERR!     c:\gitrepos\htmlunity\npm-debug.log
```

windows   npm   visual-studio-code

Share Edit Follow

edited Apr 12, 2019 at 22:39
CTS_AE
11.1k ●8 ●53 ●58

asked Jun 8, 2016 at 10:55
Dragod83
1,837 ●3 ●16 ●19

---

7   Found the answer myself, just run visual studio code as administrator. Just right click on it. Don't know why I didn't think of that earlier. – Dragod83 Jun 9, 2016 at 14:29

is there no other workaround to this? I've been running Visual Studio for years as admin but this just seems 'wrong' somehow. Also sometimes in VSCode I don't have to do this. Is it only when a package is being deleted or updated that you'd get this? – Simon_Weaver Jan 1, 2018 at 19:24

`just run visual studio code as administrator. Just right click on it.' **it works only if you close all instances of VScode before** – JinSnow May 31, 2019 at 11:05 ✎

Sorted by:
Trending sort available ⓘ

7 Answers

Highest score (default)

Option 1 - Easier & Persistent

197

Running Visual Studio Code as Administrator should do the trick.

If you're on Windows you can:

1. Right click the shortcut or app/exe

2. Go to properties

3. Compatibility tab

4. Check "Run this program as an administrator"

There is a caveat to it though
Make sure you have all other instances of VS Code closed and then try to run as Administrator. The electron framework likes to stall processes when closing them so it's best to check your task manager and kill the remaining processes.

Related Changes in Codebase

- https://visualstudio.uservoice.com/forums/293070-visual-studio-code/suggestions/8915236-visual-code-w-terminal-integrated-and-super-admin

- https://github.com/Microsoft/vscode/issues/7407

Option 2 - More like Sudo

If for some weird reason this is not running your commands as an Administrator you can try the `runas` command. [Microsoft: runas command](#)

Examples

- `runas /user:Administrator myCommand`

- `runas "/user:First Last" "my command"`

Notes

- Just don't forget to put double quotes around anything that has a space in it.

- Also it's quite possible that you have never set the password on the Administrator account, as it will ask you for the password when trying to run the command. You can always use an account without the username of Administrator if it has administrator access rights/permissions.

Share Edit Follow   edited Sep 16, 2017 at 2:05   answered Oct 9, 2016 at 21:00

CTS_AE
11.1k ●8 ●53 ●58

1   The default location for the executable is `C:\Program Files\Microsoft VS Code\Code.exe` – bbsimonbb

Apr 3, 2018 at 8:06

---

1   when I use runas "user:domain\adname" "npm install -g @angular/cli" I get an error "RUNAS ERROR:
     Unable to run - npm install -g @angular/cli the system cannot find the file specified" – Tom McDonald Apr
     25, 2018 at 14:16

1   You will not be able to use mapped drives in your project or code with Option 1.
     stackoverflow.com/a/32715171/5060792 – Clay Sep 22, 2019 at 13:26

2   Like the answer mentions, you might find that you've never set your administrator password, if that's the
     case, leaving the password blank won't work (on Windows 10 at least), but you might also find that your
     own user account is also an administrator, so use your own user name instead of `Administrator` and
     you'll achieve the same result. – Tomáš Hübelbauer Mar 22, 2020 at 9:23

1   Also, the integrated terminal won't be reused if you use `runas`, instead, a new console window will open
     where the argument command will be executed. It will close itself afterwards, to keep it open, use `cmd /k`
     `{command}`. – Tomáš Hübelbauer Mar 22, 2020 at 9:35

▲

56   **Step 1:** Restart VS Code as an adminstrator

▼   (click the windows key, search for "Visual Studio Code", right click, and you'll see the administrator
        option)

↺   **Step 2:** In your VS code powershell terminal run `Set-ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted`

Share   Edit   Follow   answered Jul 25, 2020 at 4:41

                                                                    cham
                                                                    6,784 ● 8 ● 45 ● 62

---

5   This works. I don't know why everyone is still upvoting other answers when this is working. Have I missed
     something, is there a drawback? – Jamie Marshall Dec 29, 2020 at 23:28

     This even has the benefit that you don't have to confirm running VSC as an administrator on startup. – lema
     Jan 11, 2021 at 13:36

     This is the correct answer! Kudos to you, sir! – ito Apr 30, 2021 at 23:26

     This worked for me. Option 1 in the the accepted is not working – user3731783 Jul 8, 2021 at 17:16

1   Works, sadly it isn't persistent, unless I'm missing something. Will stick to Option 1 of the accepted answer.
     – robro Nov 2, 2021 at 12:58

▲

5   In my case even while running as admin I had to set the execution policy.

        In the terminal type:

▼
        ```
        Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy  Unrestricted -Scope Process
        ```
↺

---

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.core/about/about_execution_policies?view=powershell-7.2
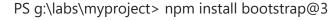
Share Edit Follow

answered Dec 22, 2021 at 16:36

Darryl Windsor
79 ● 1 ● 4

3

Here's what I get.

I'm using Visual Studio Code and its Terminal to execute the 'npm' commands.

Visual Studio Code (not as administrator)
PS g:\labs\myproject> npm install bootstrap@3

Results in scandir and/or permission errors.

Visual Studio Code (as Administrator)
Run this command after I've run something like 'ng serve'

PS g:\labs\myproject> npm install bootstrap@3

Results in scandir and/or permission errors.

Visual Studio Code (as Administrator - closing and opening the IDE)
If I have already executed other commands that would impact node modules I decided to try closing Visual Studio Code first, opening it up as Administrator then running the command:

PS g:\labs\myproject> npm install bootstrap@3

Result I get then is: + *bootstrap@3.3.7*
added 115 packages and updated 1 package in 24.685s

This is not a permanent solution since I don't want to continue closing down VS Code every time I want to execute an npm command, but it did resolve the issue to a point.

Share Edit Follow

answered Mar 12, 2018 at 14:16

Jacques
6,666 ● 8 ● 42 ● 98

I also have the same issue with my new laptop. @Jacques, do you know why this happen? – Ivan Oct 22, 2021 at 21:42 ✎

@Ivan absolutely no idea. Although I haven't had this happen in a while, but I can't tell you what changed – Jacques Oct 25, 2021 at 6:50

1   According to the documentation -the integrated terminal shell is running with the permissions of VS Code.

This may be true, but in my case (problems with NVM commands), and in using Bash as my default terminal, I had to *also* set the permissions for GitBash itself to always run as administrator. Easy to accomplish in Bash with a right click on exe location > properties > compatibility > run as administrator, not sure of a persistent way to do it in Powershell (or Windows Terminal). – chrisz May 1 at 7:20 ✎

▲

3

▼

↺

There are two ways you can solve this problem,

> **For temporary**
> You can follow these steps for it,
>
> 1. Search Vscode after in the windows.
>
> 2. Then right-click and run the VScode as an administrator.

But you can do this every time when you open the VScode.So I supposed it is not the best way to solve this problem.

> **Best way**
> You can follow these steps for it,
>
> 1. Search Vscode after in the windows.
>
> 2. Then right-click and click the open file location.
>
> 3. Then you can click the VScode icon and go to the properties.
>
> 4. Next you want to go to the compatibility tab.
>
> 5. At the bottom of the tab, there are selection boxes, in there you can see run this program as an administrator selection box you want to tick it.
>
> 6. Then you can apply those changes and save it.

You can refer to below page to do more things related to this run as administrator stuffs
https://www.sevenforums.com/tutorials/11841-run-administrator.html

Share Edit Follow

answered Dec 8, 2021 at 14:21

Dilshan Madhuranga
166 ● 2 ● 7

---

tried the best way but now my terminal isnt loading properly :/ niether bash nor powershell load. I cant type anything into them. – VibrationPositive Jul 19 at 21:27

---

turned off run as admin in compatibility mode via right clicking the shortcut and accessing it via properties now it loads again but not sure about if I have admin rights – VibrationPositive Jul 19 at 21:29

▲

3

▼

🕓

Running as admin didn't help me. (also got errors with syscall: rename)

Turns out this error can also occur if files are locked by Windows.

This can occur if :

- You are actually running the project

- You have files open in both Visual Studio and VSCode.

Running as admin doesn't get around windows file locking.

I created a new project in VS2017 and then switched to VSCode to try to add more packages. After stopping the project from running and closing VS2017 it was able to complete without error

Disclaimer: I'm not exactly sure if this means running as admin isn't necessary, but try to avoid it if possible to avoid the possibility of some rogue package doing stuff it isn't meant to.

Share Edit Follow

answered Jan 1, 2018 at 19:37

Simon_Weaver
133k ● 75 ● 623 ● 666

Thanks, this is exactly what happened to me. Closing the other applications that uses the folder and then reinstalling via cmd in Admin. – Annie Lagang Jun 5, 2020 at 3:35

▲

0

▼

🕓

The only thing that solved the issue for me

Right click on Vs Code exe file -> Compatibility -> Check "Run this program as administrator"

Share Edit Follow

answered Aug 31 at 18:06

Aleks
704 ● 9 ● 14