# 🎯 CURSOR DEVELOPMENT FILE MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

## ✅ \*\*1. VERIFY YOUR WORKING DIRECTORY\*\*

### Before Starting Any Development:

- [ ] Open terminal in Cursor: `Cmd+Shift+` (backtick)

- [ ] Run `pwd` to see current directory

- [ ] Confirm you're in: `/Users/johnniewatsoniii/Desktop/Mingus Application - Cursor`

- [ ] \*\*NOT\*\* in any `/backups/` subdirectory

- [ ] \*\*NOT\*\* in any dated backup folder like `/2025-06-09-backup/`

### Quick Directory Check:

```bash

# Run this command to verify location

pwd

ls -la

# You should see: app.py, config.py, backend/, templates/, static/

```

## ✅ \*\*2. PROJECT STRUCTURE VERIFICATION\*\*

### Your MAIN project should look like:

```

Mingus Application - Cursor/

├── app.py ← MAIN Flask app

├── config.py ← MAIN config file

├── backend/

│ ├── app\_factory.py ← MAIN app factory

│ ├── routes/

│ │ └── auth.py ← MAIN auth routes

│ └── services/

├── templates/

│ ├── login.html ← MAIN login template

│ └── register.html ← MAIN register template

├── static/

├── tests/

├── Mingus-Cypress-Tests/ ← Cypress tests directory

└── backups/ ← IGNORE THIS FOLDER

└── 2025-06-09-backup/ ← OLD BACKUP - DON'T WORK HERE

```

## ✅ \*\*3. CURSOR WORKSPACE SETUP\*\*

### File Management in Cursor:

- [ ] Open MAIN project folder in Cursor, not backup

- [ ] Check Cursor's file explorer panel shows correct structure

- [ ] Verify "MINGUS APPLICATION - CURSOR" is the root folder name

- [ ] If you see backup folders in file tree, you're in wrong location

### Cursor Navigation Check:

- [ ] Press `Cmd+P` (Quick Open)

- [ ] Type "app.py" - should show only one main app.py file

- [ ] If you see multiple app.py files (like backup versions), close and reopen correct folder

## ✅ \*\*4. DEVELOPMENT WORKFLOW CHECKLIST\*\*

### Before Making Any Changes:

- [ ] \*\*STOP\*\* - Check you're in main directory: `pwd`

- [ ] Verify file path in Cursor shows main project, not backup

- [ ] If editing templates, ensure path is `/templates/login.html` not `/backups/.../templates/login.html`

### Before Running Flask App:

- [ ] Check terminal location: `pwd`

- [ ] Should be in main project root

- [ ] Run `ls -la` - should see main app.py, not backup

- [ ] Flask should start from main directory: `python app.py`

### Before Running Tests:

- [ ] Cypress tests should run from: `Mingus-Cypress-Tests/` directory

- [ ] Flask should be running from main project directory

- [ ] Not from any backup subdirectory

## ✅ \*\*5. CURSOR-SPECIFIC FILE CHECKS\*\*

### When Opening Files in Cursor:

- [ ] Check file tabs at top - paths should NOT contain "backup"

- [ ] Breadcrumb path should show: `Mingus Application - Cursor > templates > login.html`

- [ ] NOT: `Mingus Application - Cursor > backups > 2025-06-09-backup > templates > login.html`

### When Using Cursor AI:

- [ ] When asking Cursor to analyze files, specify: "analyze my main app.py file"

- [ ] If Cursor references backup files, clarify: "I need to work on the main project files, not backup"

## ✅ \*\*6. QUICK VERIFICATION COMMANDS\*\*

### Run These Before Any Development Session:

```bash

# 1. Check location

pwd

# Should show: /Users/johnniewatsoniii/Desktop/Mingus Application - Cursor

# 2. Verify main files exist

ls -la app.py config.py

# Should show both files with recent timestamps

# 3. Check NOT in backup

echo $PWD | grep backup

# Should return NOTHING (empty result)

# 4. Verify git status (if using git)

git status

# Should show main project, not backup

```

## ✅ \*\*7. EMERGENCY BACKUP DETECTION\*\*

### If You Accidentally Work in Backup:

- [ ] \*\*STOP IMMEDIATELY\*\*

- [ ] Copy any changes you made to a text file

- [ ] Navigate to main project directory

- [ ] Apply changes to main project files

- [ ] Delete or ignore backup work

### Warning Signs You're in Wrong Directory:

- ❌ Terminal shows path with "backup" or date folder

- ❌ Cursor file tree shows nested backup folders

- ❌ Flask app won't start or shows old code

- ❌ File timestamps are old/don't match recent work

## ✅ \*\*8. CURSOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT\*\*

### Cursor Workspace Best Practices:

- [ ] Always open root project folder, not subdirectories

- [ ] Use `File > Open Folder` and select "Mingus Application - Cursor"

- [ ] Bookmark main project in Cursor for quick access

- [ ] Close backup folders from workspace if accidentally opened

### Quick Folder Switch in Cursor:

- [ ] `Cmd+Shift+P` → "File: Open Folder"

- [ ] Navigate to main project directory

- [ ] Avoid clicking into backup subdirectories

## 🚨 \*\*DAILY DEVELOPMENT ROUTINE\*\*

### Start of Each Development Session:

1. [ ] Open Cursor

2. [ ] Open correct project folder (main, not backup)

3. [ ] Run `pwd` in terminal to verify location

4. [ ] Check file paths don't contain "backup"

5. [ ] Start Flask from main directory

6. [ ] Run tests from correct Cypress directory

### Before Making Changes:

1. [ ] Double-check file path in Cursor editor

2. [ ] Verify you're editing main project files

3. [ ] Save changes to main project, not backup

This checklist prevents the backup folder confusion that caused your development delays!