**GitLab Setup Guide for VS Code - Step by Step**

**Step 1: Install Required Software**

**1.1 Install Git for Windows**

**What is Git?** Git is the tool that tracks changes to your code.

1. **Download Git:** Go to [git-scm.com/download/win](https://git-scm.com/download/win)

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1. **Run the installer** (it will be named something like Git-2.xx.x-64-bit.exe)
2. **Important Installation Settings:**
   * When asked about "Adjusting your PATH environment", select **"Git from the command line and also from 3rd-party software"**
   * When asked about terminal emulator, select **"Use Git Bash as default terminal"**
   * For all other options, keep the default settings
3. **Click "Install"** and wait for it to finish
4. **Test installation:** Open Git Bash and type git --version - you should see a version number

**1.2 VS Code Installation**

**What is VS Code?** It's your code editor - like Microsoft Word but for programming.

Since you're on Windows:

1. VS Code is likely already installed or available
2. If needed, you can download it from the VS Code website
3. Install with default settings

**1.3 Install VS Code Extensions**

**What are extensions?** They're add-ons that make VS Code better for specific tasks.

1. Open VS Code
2. Click the Extensions icon (four squares) in the left sidebar

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1. Search and install these extensions:
   * **GitLens** (makes Git easier to use)
   * **Python** (if working with Python code)
   * **Prettier** (formats your code nicely)

**Step 2: Clone Your Repository**

**What is cloning?** It's downloading the entire project to your computer.

**A1: Using Git Bash (Recommended)**

1. **Open Git Bash** (search for "Git Bash" in Windows Start menu)
2. Use: **cd “c:/Users/[your-username]/Desktop/Dev” (created an empty Dev folder on desktop)**

Replace [your-username] with your actual Windows username (it is where you will save the project) you can also drag and drop the folder **Dev** in the bash

1. Use :**git clone** <https://gitlab.int.bell.ca/aic-team/chat-gen-bi-reports>

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1. Insert your username and password
2. Use : **cd chat-gen-bi-reports**

**A 2 : Using VS Code Terminal**

**File – open folder – open the “C:\Users\[yours id]\OneDrive - Bell Canada\Desktop\Dev\chat-gen-bi-reports**

1. Open VS Code
2. Open Terminal – new terminal
3. Cd “C:\Users\[your id]\OneDrive - Bell Canada\Desktop\Dev\chat-gen-bi-reports”
4. Stream run app\_v3.py --- you are all set to run the current package!
5. Use: **git fetch origin**, to get all the branches (remote branches)
6. Use: **git branch**, to see the branches (the ones you have)
7. Use: **git checkout v3**, to be on Repo v3

**Step 4: Understanding Your Workspace**

**4.1 VS Code Layout**

* **Explorer Panel (left):** Shows your project files
* **Editor (center):** Where you edit code
* **Terminal (bottom):** Where you type Git commands
* **Source Control (left sidebar):** Shows file changes

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**Step 5: Basic Git Workflow**

**The Golden Rule:** Always pull before you start working!

**5.1 Pull Latest Changes**

**What is pulling?** Getting the newest version of the code from GitLab.

**Using VS Code Terminal (Recommended):**

1. Open Terminal in VS Code (Terminal)
2. Use : **git pull origin v3** to get latest version of the code in v3
3. In terminal type **streamlit run app\_v3**

*Next steps are for coding :*

**5.2 Make Changes**

1. Edit your files in VS Code
2. Save your changes (Ctrl+S)

**5.3 Check What Changed**

**In Terminal:**

git status

**In VS Code:**

* Look at the Source Control panel
* Files with changes will appear there

**5.4 Stage Your Changes**

**What is staging?** Preparing files to be saved to GitLab.

**In Terminal:**

git add . (The dot means "add all changed files")

**In VS Code:**

* Go to Source Control panel
* Click the "+" next to files you want to save

**5.5 Commit Your Changes**

**What is committing?** Saving your changes with a message describing what you did.

**In Terminal:**

git commit -m "Brief description of what you changed"

**Example:**

git commit -m "Fixed login button bug"

**In VS Code:**

1. Go to Source Control panel
2. Type your commit message in the text box
3. Click the checkmark (✓) button

**5.6 Push Your Changes**

**What is pushing?** Sending your changes to GitLab so others can see them.

**In Terminal:**

Use : **git push origin v3**

**In VS Code:**

1. Click Source Control icon
2. Click the "..." menu
3. Select "Push"

**Daily Workflow Checklist**

**Before Starting Work:**

* [ ] Open VS Code
* [ ] Open Terminal
* [ ] Run git pull
* [ ] Check that you're working on the right files

**After Making Changes:**

* [ ] Save your files (Ctrl+S)
* [ ] Check what changed: git status
* [ ] Add changes: git add .
* [ ] Commit: git commit -m "Description of changes"
* [ ] Push: git push

**Before Going Home:**

* [ ] Make sure all changes are committed and pushed
* [ ] Check GitLab website to confirm your changes are there

**Terminal Commands Reference:**

git status # See what files changed

git pull # Get latest changes from GitLab

git add . # Stage all changes

git commit -m "message" # Save changes with message

git push # Send changes to GitLab

git log --oneline # See recent commits