

Project Setup Guide

This document outlines the step-by-step instructions for setting up your development environment using **Visual Studio Code** and preparing your **Kaggle API credentials**.

1. Install Visual Studio Code

1. Download and install **Visual Studio Code** from the [official website](#).
 2. Upon successful installation, launch **Visual Studio Code**.
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2. Open the Project Folder

1. In Visual Studio Code, open your project folder:
 - Use **File > Open Folder** or the sidebar explorer on the left.
 2. Confirm that your project files appear in the sidebar.
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3. Open a New Terminal

1. Navigate to the **Top Menu Bar**:
Terminal > New Terminal
2. A new terminal instance will open at the bottom of the editor.
3. Verify your current working directory by typing:

bash

cd

and pressing **Enter**.

4. Configure Kaggle API Credentials

1. Log in to your [Kaggle](#) account.
2. Navigate to **Account Settings > API Section**.
3. Click **Create New API Token** — this will download a kaggle.json file to your computer.

4. Create a new folder named **.kaggle** in the following location:

makefile

C:\Users\YourUser\

⚠ *Ensure the folder name starts with a dot (.): .kaggle*

5. Move the downloaded kaggle.json file into the .kaggle folder.
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✅ 5. Verify Python Installation

1. In the terminal, check if Python is installed:

bash

python --version

- If Python is **not** installed, download and install it from the [official website](#) **before** proceeding.
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✅ 6. Create a Virtual Environment

1. In the terminal, execute the following command to create a virtual environment:

bash

python -m venv my_env1

2. Once the environment is created, **close** the terminal by clicking the **trash can icon** (Kill Terminal) on the right side of the terminal panel.
3. Open a **new terminal**:
Terminal > New Terminal
4. If your virtual environment is **not activated automatically**, run the following commands **sequentially**:

powershell

Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope Process

powershell

.\my_env1\Scripts\Activate.ps1

✔ 7. Begin Development

You are now ready to open or create your project files and start working within your **virtual environment**.