**VSCode Solidity setup**

**Improving Code Format in Visual Studio Code**

When you first start, your code might just look like a whole bunch of dull, lifeless, white text.

This can be easily fixed by using one of the Solidity extensions. Out of all the Solidity extensions available in the Extensions tab (CTRL/CMD + SHIFT + X) the following are worth mentioning:

1. [Solidity by Juan Blanco](https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=JuanBlanco.solidity), the most used Solidity extension out there.
2. [Solidity by Nomic Foundation](https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=NomicFoundation.hardhat-solidity) is Patrick's favorite Solidity extension. The rest of the course will be displaying this extension.
3. [Solidity Visual Developer](https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=tintinweb.solidity-visual-auditor) is another popular choice.

**NOTE:** If the code remains unhighlighted despite having installed the extension, there's a quick solution to that. Press Command + Shift + P, or Control + Shift + P on Windows. This opens up the command bar. In the command bar, type in "Settings" and select "Preferences: Open User Settings (JSON)".

If you have nothing in there, create a new setting by typing in:

{

"editor.defaultFormatter": "NomicFoundation.hardhat"

}

Use:

"editor.defaultFormatter": "tintinweb.solidity-visual-auditor" for Solidity Visual Developer

or

"editor.defaultFormatter": "JuanBlanco.solidity" for Solidity by Juan Blanco

**Other interesting extensions**

In the previous lesson, we mentioned a file called foundry.toml. This also has an extension that formats it to make it easier to read. Please install [Even Better TOML](https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=tamasfe.even-better-toml).

Another indispensable extension is [Inline Bookmarks](https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=tintinweb.vscode-inline-bookmarks).

The Inline Bookmarks plugin facilitates bookmarking the actual code. The extension can be used for document review, auditing, log analysis, and keeping track of development notes and to-do lists. You may share your notes and bookmarks with others with ease because they are saved with your files.

The following default trigger words/tags are configured by default:

1. @todo - (blue) General ToDo remark.
2. @note - (blue) General remark.
3. @remind - (blue) General remark.
4. @follow-up - (blue) General remark.
5. @audit - (red) General bookmark for potential issues.
6. @audit-info - (blue) General bookmark for information to be noted for later use.
7. @audit-ok - (green) Add a note that a specific line is not an issue even though it might look like.
8. @audit-issue - (purple) Reference a code location an issue was filed for.

You can fully customize the colors!

Remember these! They will be very handy in developing and especially in auditing projects.

More details are available [here](https://github.com/tintinweb/vscode-inline-bookmarks).

Next comes the fun part! Let's compile our contract using Foundry!