# How to Safely Close and Resume Your MERN Project

## ✅ Steps to Safely Close Your Project

Whether you're done for the day or just taking a break, follow these steps:

### 1. Stop the Development Servers

If your backend and frontend dev servers are running in terminal windows:  
  
- In each terminal, press Ctrl + C  
 This stops the running 'npm start' (for backend) or 'npm run dev' (for frontend).  
  
You'll see something like:  
^C  
[nodemon] clean exit

### 2. Close VS Code or Your Editor

Once the servers are stopped:  
- Save all open files (Ctrl + S)  
- Then close VS Code or your preferred editor

### 3. Close Terminals

Exit or close your terminal/command prompt windows.

## ✅ How to Resume Later

When you're ready to continue:

1. 1. Open your project folder again:

cd path/to/AI\_COURSE\_BUILDER\_PROJECT

1. 2. Start the backend:

cd server  
npm start

1. 3. In a second terminal, start the frontend:

cd client  
npm run dev

That’s it — you're back to coding!