

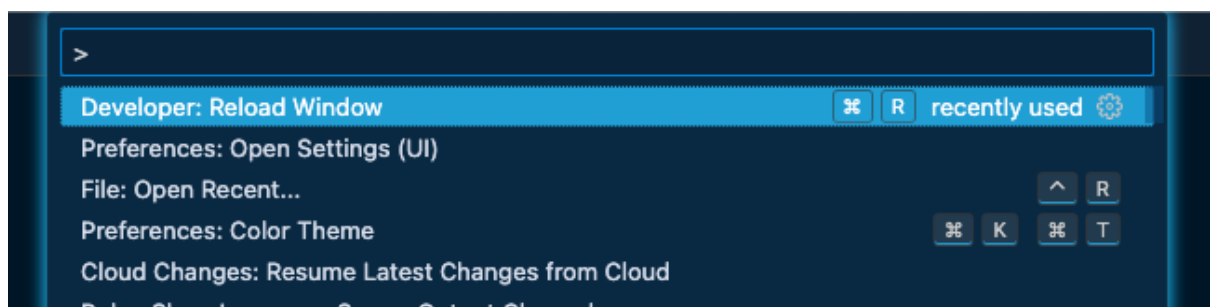
Add VSCode to Your System PATH

In this lesson, we'll add VSCode to our system **PATH**. The **PATH** is a collection of folders/directories where your command-line application (like Terminal or PowerShell) looks for software.

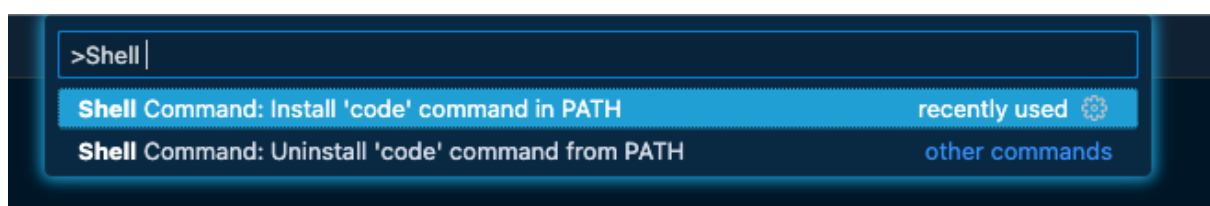
The instructions below will enable you to open a file/folder with VSCode on any directory on our computer. Without this code, we would have to manually navigate to VSCode's installation directory, which can be annoying and tedious.

It's possible that the installation process already setup this logic but it's good to walk through it regardless (just in case).

- Open up Visual Studio Code.
- Press the keyboard shortcut **Cmd + Shift + P** (macOS) or **Ctrl + Shift + P** (Windows) to bring up the Command Palette.
- The Command Palette is like a mini-Terminal specifically for VSCode. We can use it to issue instructions to the text editor. It consists of an input.



- Keep the opening > bracket and search for the text **Shell Command**. As you type, the list of commands will filter to those that match your search term.



- Look for the option **Shell Command: Install 'code' command in PATH**. You can use your arrow keys to navigate to the option if it is not the first choice.
- Once the option is highlighted, press **Enter**. VSCode should add its installation directory to the PATH.
- Moving forward, if you are using your Terminal/PowerShell, you can open VSCode in any directory/project with the command **code**.
- **code** is the name of the program and the **dot** indicates "the current directory". So **code .** means "open the current folder with the VSCode". You'll then be able to see the files and folders within VSCode.