**Installation of VS Code**

Download Visual Studio for Windows installer from the website <https://code.visualstudio.com/>. The installer will download in the form of an executable file, .exe. Run the installer. Accept the license agreement and install it in the selected location. The prerequisites for this step are a Windows 11 operating system and the internet.

**First time set up**

The main configurations needed are setting up a theme and the font. Besides, it is possible to set up essential extensions such as ESLint for Javascript and Python.

**User Interface Overview**

Activity Bar: Allows navigation of the VS Code.

Side Bar: Displays views such as Source Control, Search and File Explorer.

Editor Group: Used for editing the code.

Status Bar: Displays key information, including file encoding, column number, and branch name.

**Command Palette**

It allows access to many commands. They include opening files, searching for symbols and accessing the editor. A common example is pressing Ctrl + Shift + P to access all commands.

**Extensions in VS Code**

Extensions enhance the functionality of the VS Code. Users can find extensions in the Activity Bar or use Ctrl + Shift + X. They can click on the desired extension to install or manage it. An example of an extension for web development is the ESLint.

**Integrated Terminal**

To open the integrated terminal, go to view, then click on the terminal. The benefit of the integrated terminal is that it allows switching between the code and the terminal. Besides, it supports multiple shells and terminals.

**File and Folder Management**

To open a file or folder, click Explorer, then new file or folder. For quick navigation, hold ctrl and press the Tab to view all files. Click Tab to open one of the files while still pressing ctrl. To open the file, release ctrl. Navigating between the left and right side, use Alt+Left and Alt+Right. Then, Breadcrumbs on the editor’s navigation bar allow quick navigation between folders, files and symbols.

**Settings and Preferences**

Users can access settings by navigating File > Preferences > Settings.

Examples:

To change the theme, go to settings, then workbench, then color theme and select the preferred color.

To change the font, go to settings, select the text editor font size, and select the preferred size.

To access keybindings, navigate to the workbench settings.

**Debugging in VS Code**

To start debugging, go to the Activity Bar and select the Run and Debug Icon, select the debugger from the list provided, and perform debug configuration using the available options. A user can select breakpoints in the code to start debugging. Key debug features include breakpoints, log points, data inspection, and a debug console.

**Using Source Control**

First, access Source Control on the Activity Bar. Then, open a Git Repository. For a new local Git repository, select a folder on the local machine and open it in VS Code. Then, select the initialize repository on the Source Control. Then, on Source Control, click Views and More Actions, then from the drop-down menu, select Commit. Then, publish the repository on GitHub.