

Assignment 5

1. Installation of VS Code

Steps to download and install Visual Studio Code on Windows 11:

1. Prerequisites:

- Ensure your system is running Windows 7, 8, 10, or 11.
- Internet connection for downloading the installation file.

2. Download:

- Go to the [Visual Studio Code website](https://code.visualstudio.com/).
- Click on the "Download for Windows" button. The site should automatically detect your OS version.

3. Installation:

- Once the download is complete, open the installer file (`VSCodeSetup.exe`).
- Follow the prompts in the setup wizard:
 - Accept the license agreement.
 - Choose the installation location.
 - Select additional tasks, such as adding VS Code to the system PATH for easy command-line access.
- Click on "Install" to begin the installation.
- After the installation completes, click "Finish" to launch VS Code.

2. First-time Setup

Initial configurations and settings for an optimal coding environment:

1. Theme and Appearance:

- Go to `File` > `Preferences` > `Color Theme` to choose a theme. Popular themes include "Dark+" and "Light+".

2. Font Size:

- Go to `File` > `Preferences` > `Settings`, then search for "Font Size" to adjust according to your preference.

3. Extensions:

- Essential extensions for various purposes:
 - Code formatting: Prettier
 - Linting: ESLint
 - Language support: Python, JavaScript, etc.
 - Version control: GitLens

4. Editor Configuration:

- Configure auto-save by searching for "Auto Save" in settings and setting it to `afterDelay`.

5. Keybindings:

- Go to `File` > `Preferences` > `Keyboard Shortcuts` to customize shortcuts according to your preference.

3. User Interface Overview

Main components of the VS Code user interface:

1. Activity Bar:

- Located on the farleft side.
- Provides quick access to views and actions such as Explorer, Search, Source Control, Run and Debug, Extensions.

2. Side Bar:

- Displays different views like Explorer, Search, and Source Control.
- Helps in navigating and managing files, searching text, and handling version control.

3. Editor Group:

- Central part of the interface where files are opened and edited.
- Can split into multiple groups for side-by-side editing.

4. Status Bar:

- Located at the bottom.
- Shows information like line and column number, current Git branch, and notifications.

4. Command Palette

What is the Command Palette and how to access it:

- The Command Palette provides access to many commands.
- Access it by pressing `Ctrl+Shift+P` or `F1`.
- Examples of tasks:
 - Changing color theme: Type "Color Theme".
 - Running tasks: Type "Run Task".
 - Opening settings: Type "Preferences: Open Settings".

5. Extensions in VS Code

Role of extensions and how to manage them:

- Extensions add functionalities such as language support, debuggers, and tools.
- To find and install extensions:
 - Click on the Extensions icon in the Activity Bar or press `Ctrl+Shift+X`.

- Search for the desired extension and click "Install".
- Manage installed extensions through the Extensions view, where you can enable, disable, or uninstall them.
- Essential extensions for web development:
 - Prettier: Code formatter.
 - ESLint: Linting JavaScript.
 - Live Server: Launch a development local server.
 - Debugger for Chrome: Debugging in Chrome.

6. Integrated Terminal

How to open and use the integrated terminal:

- Open the terminal by pressing `Ctrl+`` (backtick) or selecting `View > Terminal`.
- Advantages over an external terminal:
 - Seamless integration with the editor.
 - Access to multiple terminals.
 - Ability to run commands in the context of the project directory.

7. File and Folder Management

How to create, open, and manage files and folders:

- Creating a file/folder:
 - Right-click in the Explorer view and select `New File` or `New Folder`.
- Opening files:
 - Double-click a file in the Explorer or use `Ctrl+P` to quickly open files by name.
- Managing files:
 - Use the Explorer view to drag and drop files, rename, delete, and organize them into folders.
- Navigation:
 - Use `Ctrl+Tab` to switch between open files.
 - Use breadcrumbs for navigating within the file structure.

8. Settings and Preferences

How to find and customize settings:

- Access settings:
 - Go to `File > Preferences > Settings` or press `Ctrl+,`.
- Change theme:

- In settings, search for "Color Theme" and select a preferred theme.
- Change font size:
 - In settings, search for "Font Size" and adjust the value.
- Customize keybindings:
 - Go to `File` > `Preferences` > `Keyboard Shortcuts` and modify shortcuts as needed.

9. Debugging in VS Code

Steps to set up and start debugging a simple program:

1. Set up debugger:
 - Click on the Run and Debug icon in the Activity Bar or press `Ctrl+Shift+D`.
 - Click on "create a launch.json file" and select the appropriate environment.
2. Start debugging:
 - Set breakpoints by clicking in the gutter next to the line numbers.
 - Click the green play button or press `F5` to start debugging.
3. Key debugging features:
 - Step over, step into, and step out of functions.
 - Inspect variables and watch expressions.
 - View call stack and output.

10. Using Source Control

Integrating Git with VS Code for version control:

1. Initialize a repository:
 - Open the Source Control view by clicking the Source Control icon in the Activity Bar or pressing `Ctrl+Shift+G`.
 - Click on "Initialize Repository".
2. Making commits:
 - Stage changes by clicking the "+" icon next to files.
 - Write a commit message and click the checkmark icon to commit.
3. Pushing changes to GitHub:
 - Click on the ellipsis (`...`) in the Source Control view and select `Push`.
 - Follow prompts to authenticate with GitHub if necessary.