

# React Project Setup Guide

This guide will help you set up, install dependencies, and run the Recipe Search Platform on your local machine. Please follow the steps outlined below.

## Prerequisites

Before you start, ensure you have the following installed on your machine:

- **Node.js** (version 14 or higher): Download and install from [Node.js official website](https://nodejs.org/en/).
- **npm** (comes with Node.js): You can check if npm is installed by running the following command in your terminal:

```
`npm -v`
```

If npm is not installed, follow the instructions [here](#) to install it.

- **Git** (optional but recommended): Install Git for version control from [Git official site](https://git-scm.com/)

## Step-by-Step Setup Instructions

### Step 1: Clone the Project Repository

The first step is to clone the project repository to your local machine using Git. Open your terminal or command prompt and run the following command:

```
`git clone https://github.com/Prasanth3699/recipes_search_platform.git`
```

This command clones the project from the GitHub repository.

### Step 2: Navigate to the Project Directory

Once the repository is cloned, move into the project directory using the following command:

```
`cd recipe-search-platform/frontend`
```

This will change your working directory to the project folder.

### Step 3: Install the Required Dependencies

The project requires several npm packages (dependencies) to work properly. Use npm to install all these dependencies by running:

```
`npm install`
```

## Step 4: Set Up Environment Variables

Next, you need to set up the environment variables that the project will use. Specifically, you need to define the `VITE_API_BASE_URL` variable, which is the base URL for the API that the app will use.

To do this, create an `.env` file in the root directory of the project by running:

```
`touch .env`
```

Now, open the `.env` file you just created and add the following line to it:

```
`VITE_API_BASE_URL=http://your-api-url.com`
```

Replace `http://your-api-url.com` with the actual API URL that the application should interact with.

## Step 5: Run the Application in Development Mode

Once the dependencies are installed and the environment variables are set up, you can run the application in development mode. To start the development server, run the following command:

```
`npm run dev`
```

This command will start the local development server, and you should see output similar to:

```
VITE v2.x.x ready in xx ms  
→ Local: http://localhost: 5173/  
→ Network: use --host to expose
```

Now, open your web browser and navigate to `http://localhost: 5173/` to see the application in action.

## Step 6: Test and Use the Application

You should now see the Recipe Search Platform running in your browser. You can:

- Use the **search bar** to look for specific recipes.
- Apply **filters** like category, rating, or protein levels to refine your search.
- View **detailed information** on individual recipes by clicking on them.