

Optional Setup Instructions: Installing Python and PyCharm

This guide is for students who are new to Python and haven't yet set up their development environment. If you already have Python and an IDE like PyCharm or VS Code installed, you can skip this PDF.



Step 1: Install Python

1. Go to <https://www.python.org/downloads>
2. Download the latest version of Python 3.x for your operating system (Windows, macOS, Linux).
3. During installation, **make sure to check the box that says “Add Python to PATH”** (only necessary on Windows)
4. Complete the installation.



Step 2: Install PyCharm

1. Go to <https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/download>
2. Download the **Community Edition** (it's free). You may need to scroll at the bottom of the page to find the community edition.
3. Run the installer and follow the setup instructions.
4. Once installed, launch PyCharm.



Step 3: Create a New Project

1. Open PyCharm
2. Click on "**New Project**"
3. Choose a folder or create a new one for your project (e.g., `email_reminder`)
4. PyCharm may ask you to create a virtual environment – accept the default settings
5. Click "**Create**"

You should now see an empty project ready for your code.



Step 4: Create the `main.py` File

1. Right-click on your project folder
2. Choose **New > Python File**

3. Name it `main`
4. You can now start writing your Python code!

Having Trouble?

If you get stuck, you can ask questions in the Q&A section of the course.

You're all set!

You can now go back to the video and start coding along. See you there!