**Getting code suggestions in your IDE with GitHub Copilot**

Use GitHub Copilot to get code suggestions in your editor.

[**About GitHub Copilot and Visual Studio Code**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#about-github-copilot-and-visual-studio-code)

This guide demonstrates how to get coding suggestions from GitHub Copilot in Visual Studio Code. To see instructions for other popular coding environments, use the tool switcher at the top of the page.

The examples in this guide use JavaScript, however other languages will work similarly. GitHub Copilot provides suggestions for numerous languages and a wide variety of frameworks, but works especially well for Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Ruby, Go, C# and C++. GitHub Copilot can also assist in query generation for databases, generating suggestions for APIs and frameworks, and can help with infrastructure as code development.

[**Prerequisites**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#prerequisites-2)

* **Subscription to Copilot**. To use GitHub Copilot in Visual Studio Code, you must have an active GitHub Copilot subscription. For information about how to get access to Copilot, see "[About GitHub Copilot](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/about-github-copilot#getting-access-to-github-copilot)."
* **Visual Studio Code**. To use GitHub Copilot in Visual Studio Code, you must have Visual Studio Code installed. For more information, see the [Visual Studio Code download page](https://code.visualstudio.com/Download).
* **Copilot extension for Visual Studio Code**. To use GitHub Copilot in Visual Studio Code, you must install the [GitHub Copilot extension](https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=GitHub.copilot). For more information, see "[Set up GitHub Copilot in Visual Studio Code](https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/copilot/setup)" in the Visual Studio Code documentation.

[**Getting code suggestions**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#getting-code-suggestions-2)

GitHub Copilot offers coding suggestions as you type. For example, type this function header in a JavaScript file:

JavaScript

function calculateDaysBetweenDates(begin, end) {

GitHub Copilot will automatically suggest the rest of the function. To accept the suggestion, press Tab.

You can also describe something you want to do using natural language within a comment, and Copilot will suggest the code to accomplish your goal. For example, type this comment in a JavaScript file:

JavaScript

// write a function to

// find all images without alternate text

// and give them a red border

GitHub Copilot will automatically suggest code. To accept the suggestion, press Tab.

Tip

If you receive limited or no suggestions from Copilot, you may have duplication detection enabled. For more information about duplication detection, see "[Managing Copilot policies as an individual subscriber](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/configuring-github-copilot/configuring-your-personal-github-copilot-settings-on-githubcom#enabling-or-disabling-suggestions-matching-public-code)."

[**Showing alternative suggestions**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#showing-alternative-suggestions-2)

For any given input, GitHub Copilot may offer multiple suggestions. You can select which suggestion to use, or reject all suggestions.

For example, type this function header in a JavaScript file, and press Enter:

JavaScript

function calculateDaysBetweenDates(begin, end) {

GitHub Copilot will show you a suggestion.

Now hover over the suggestion to show the GitHub Copilot control for choosing suggestions. To display next or previous suggestions, click the forward or back arrow button in the control.

You can also use keyboard shortcuts to show alternative suggestions:

| **OS** | **See next suggestion** | **See previous suggestion** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| macOS | Option (⌥) or Alt+] | Option (⌥) or Alt+[ |
| Windows or Linux | Alt+] | Alt+[ |

To accept a suggestion, click "Accept" in the Copilot command palette, or press Tab. To reject all suggestions, press Esc.

[**Showing multiple suggestions in a new tab**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#showing-multiple-suggestions-in-a-new-tab-1)

If you don't want to use any of the initial suggestions GitHub Copilot offers, you can show multiple suggestions in a new tab.

For example, type this function header in a JavaScript file, and press Enter:

JavaScript

function calculateDaysBetweenDates(begin, end) {

GitHub Copilot will show you a suggestion. Now press Ctrl+Enter to open a new tab with multiple additional options.

To accept a suggestion, below the suggestion, click **Accept suggestion NUMBER**. To reject all suggestions, close the tab.

[**Accepting partial suggestions**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#accepting-partial-suggestions-1)

If you don't want to accept an entire suggestion from GitHub Copilot, you can accept the next word or the next line of a suggestion.

For example, type this function header in a JavaScript file, and press Enter:

JavaScript

function calculateDaysBetweenDates(begin, end) {

GitHub Copilot will automatically suggest an entire function body in grayed text. The exact suggestion may vary.

Now hover over the suggestion to show the GitHub Copilot control for choosing suggestions. To accept only the next word of the suggestion, click **Accept Word** in the control.

Alternatively, you can use a keyboard shortcut to accept the next word of a suggestion:

| **OS** | **Accept Next Word** |
| --- | --- |
| macOS | Command+→ |
| Windows or Linux | Control+→ |

If you want to accept the next line of a suggestion, you will need to set a custom keyboard shortcut for the command editor.action.inlineSuggest.acceptNextLine. For more information on setting custom keyboard shortcuts, see "[Configuring GitHub Copilot in your environment](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/configuring-github-copilot/configuring-github-copilot-in-your-environment)."

[**Next steps**](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/getting-code-suggestions-in-your-ide-with-github-copilot#next-steps)

* **Learn how to write effective prompts** - See "[Prompt engineering for GitHub Copilot](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/using-github-copilot/prompt-engineering-for-github-copilot)."
* **Configure Copilot in your editor** - You can enable or disable GitHub Copilot from within your editor, and create your own preferred keyboard shortcuts for Copilot. See "[Configuring GitHub Copilot in your environment](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/configuring-github-copilot/configuring-github-copilot-in-your-environment)."
* **Get started with GitHub Copilot Chat** - Learn how to ask Copilot for information and assistance, using GitHub Copilot Chat. See "[Asking GitHub Copilot questions in your IDE](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/github-copilot-chat/using-github-copilot-chat-in-your-ide)".
* **Troubleshoot issues** - Learn more about how to troubleshoot common issues with GitHub Copilot. See "[Troubleshooting GitHub Copilot](https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/troubleshooting-github-copilot)."