

Google Colab Interface Manual



Top Menu Bar

File

- **New Notebook** – Create a fresh `.ipynb` file.
- **Open Notebook** – Load an existing notebook (from Drive, GitHub, local upload, or Colab examples).
- **Upload Notebook** – Import a `.ipynb` file from your computer.
- **Save a Copy in Drive** – Save a duplicate of the notebook into Google Drive.
- **Download** – Export as `.ipynb`, `.py`, or `.html`.
- **Revision History** – Check older versions and restore them.
- **Move to Trash** – Delete the notebook.

Edit

- **Undo/Redo** – Basic text editing.
- **Cut/Copy/Paste Cells** – Manage entire code/text cells.
- **Find & Replace** – Search or replace code inside notebook.
- **Indent/Outdent** – Adjust code alignment.

View

- **Expand Sections** – Collapse or expand cells.
- **Output Options** – Hide/show code outputs.
- **Presentation Mode** – Cleaner display for teaching.
- **Dark/Light Theme** – Switch between themes.

Insert

- **Code Cell** – Add new Python code cell.
- **Text Cell (Markdown)** – Add formatted text, images, equations.
- **Form Field** – Add interactive widgets (dropdowns, sliders).
- **Section Header** – For organization.

Runtime

- **Run All** – Execute all cells from top to bottom.
- **Run Before/Run After** – Selectively execute based on position.
- **Restart Runtime** – Clear memory & restart kernel.
- **Change Runtime Type** – Choose Python version, GPU/TPU.
- **Manage Sessions** – Disconnect or monitor memory usage.

Tools

- **Command Palette** (⌘ /Ctrl + Shift + P) – Search all commands quickly.
- **Preferences** – Adjust font size, editor theme, keymap (Jupyter/Vim).
- **Keyboard Shortcuts** – See or customize shortcuts.
- **Variables Inspector** – Monitor live variables.

Help

- **Documentation** – Links to Colab & Python docs.
- **Cheat Sheets** – Keyboard shortcuts and commands.
- **Report a Problem** – Send feedback to Google.



Notebook Header

- **Filename (Untitled30.ipynb)** – Name of the notebook, click to rename.
- **Star Icon** ★ – Bookmark the notebook in Drive.
- **Folder Icon** – Shows location in Google Drive.
- **Share Button** – Control permissions (view/edit/comment).



Toolbar under Filename

- **Commands** – Quick access to actions.
- **+Code** – Insert a new code cell.
- **+Text** – Insert a new text/Markdown cell.
- **Run All (▼)** – Run all cells or choose variations (before/after, etc.).









Sidebar (left icons)

1. **Table of Contents** – Navigate between notebook sections.
2. **Search** – Find text/code inside notebook.
3. **Files** – Browse your Drive/local files, upload/download.
4. **Code Snippets** – Ready-to-use Python snippets.
5. **Variables Panel** – Inspect all active variables & memory usage.



Main Code Area

- Cells contain either:
 - **Code** (Python) – Executable with .
 - **Text (Markdown)** – Notes, titles, formatted text.
- Each cell has a toolbar:
 -   (Move cell),
 -  (Run),
 -  (Add to playlist),
 -  (Settings).



Runtime Connection

(top-right "Connect")

- Shows if your notebook is connected to a backend.
- Options:
 - **Connect/Disconnect** – Attach to Google's cloud VM.
 - **Change runtime type** – Switch CPU, GPU, TPU.
 - **Manage sessions** – End unused runtimes.



Bottom Bar

- **Variables** – Open variable explorer.
- **Terminal** – Access Linux terminal inside Colab.