1. Install Python
2. In file system create a folder “ HELLO\_FLASK”
3. Use file > open folder in IDE
4. In IDE open view > command palette, then select python: create environment (this creates a virtual environment in your workspace), select venv and the python environment you want to use.
5. After the EV creation run Terminal: create new terminal from the command palette.
6. Install flask in EV by running: python -m pip install flask
7. Create Flask app in the EV, by creating a new file

You now have a self-contained environment ready for writing Flask code

VS Code (YOUR IDE) activates the environment automatically when you use **Terminal: Create New Terminal**. If you open a separate command prompt or terminal, activate the environment by running source .venv/bin/activate (Linux/macOS) or .venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1 (Windows). You know the environment is activated when the command prompt shows **(.venv)** at the beginning.