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# Lab 1: Step-by-Step Guide for Installing Visual Studio Code and Python

# **Step 1: Install Visual Studio Code (VS Code)**

#### 1. Download VS Code

- Go to the Visual Studio Code official website.
- Click on the **Download** button. The website should automatically detect your operating system (Windows, macOS, or Linux).

# 2. Install VS Code

- Windows: Run the downloaded installer and follow the on-screen instructions.
- o macOS: Open the .dmg file, drag the Visual Studio Code app into the Applications folder.
- o **Linux:** Use your package manager or follow the instructions on the <u>official site</u>.

#### 3. Launch VS Code

 Once the installation is complete, open VS Code from the Start menu (Windows) or Applications folder (macOS).

# **Step 2: Install Python**

# 1. Download Python

- Go to the official Python website.
- Click the **Download Python** button for your operating system. Ensure you're downloading the latest stable version.

# 2. Install Python

#### Windows:

- 1. Run the downloaded installer.
- 2. Make sure to check the box Add Python to PATH before clicking on Install Now.
- 3. Follow the instructions to complete the installation.

### o macOS/Linux:

- 1. Use the terminal to install Python via Homebrew or your package manager if not already installed.
- 2. Check if Python is installed by typing python3 --version in the terminal.

#### 3. Verify Python Installation

- o Open a terminal (Command Prompt for Windows, Terminal for macOS/Linux).
- o Type python --version (or python3 --version on macOS/Linux).
- You should see the installed Python version displayed.

# Step 3: Install Python Extension in VS Code

- 1. **Open VS Code** and go to the **Extensions** view by clicking the **Extensions icon** in the Activity Bar on the side of the window.
- 2. Search for the Python Extension

- o In the Extensions view, type **Python** in the search bar.
- o Click on the first result that appears (published by Microsoft), then click **Install**.

# **Step 4: Configure VS Code to Use Python**

- 1. **Open a Python file** in VS Code or create a new one:
  - o Go to File > New File, then save it with a .py extension (e.g., hello.py).
- 2. Select the Python Interpreter
  - o Press Ctrl+Shift+P (Windows/Linux) or Cmd+Shift+P (macOS).
  - Type **Python: Select Interpreter** and select the appropriate Python version from the list (ensure it matches the version you installed).

# **Step 5: Test Python in VS Code**

# 1. Write a Simple Python Program

o Open the Python file you created or create a new one and write the following code:

# 2. Run the Python Program

- Press **F5** or go to **Run > Start Debugging** to run the program.
- o You should see the output Hello, World! in the integrated terminal.