

Here's a detailed summary of the uv (pronounced "you-vee") tool and its **main commands** for both *projects* and *scripts* (based on its official docs). I'll highlight the key commands you'll likely see in the video you referenced, and what the "project" vs "script" distinction means.

What is “uv”

- uv is a high-speed package & project manager for Python — combining functionality of pip, virtualenv, pyenv, poetry, etc. ([Real Python](#))
 - It can manage **projects** (directories of code, with `pyproject.toml`, build system, etc) *and scripts* (stand-alone `.py` files) with their own inline metadata or dependencies. ([docs.astral.sh](#))
 - “Project” in this context means a directory meant to develop a full Python package/app (can be installable, build/distribute). ([mathspp.com](#))
 - “Script” means a standalone file you want to execute (maybe small utility) where you can declare inline dependencies, Python version, and run it via uv without manually managing virtualenvs. ([docs.astral.sh](#))
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Key Commands for Projects

Here are some of the main commands you'll encounter with uv when dealing with **projects**:

- `uv init [<name>]` — initialize a new project. Eg: `uv init myproject` (maybe with flags like `--app`, `--package`). ([DataCamp](#))
- `uv sync` — sync/install dependencies in the project, set up the environment according to `pyproject.toml` + lockfile. ([til.simonwillison.net](#))
- `uv add <pkg>` — add a dependency to the project (updates `pyproject.toml`, lockfile). ([DataCamp](#))
- `uv remove <pkg>` — remove a dependency. ([DataCamp](#))

- `uv lock` — lock dependencies (create/refresh `uv.lock`). ([docs.astral.sh](#))
 - `uv run <command or script>` — run a command inside the project's environment.
For example: `uv run pytest` or `uv run python main.py`. ([til.simonwillison.net](#))
 - `uv build` — build your project into distribution artifacts (sdist/wheel). ([DataCamp](#))
 - `uv publish [--token <token>]` — publish your built package to PyPI or other index. ([DataCamp](#))
 - `uv self update` — update uv itself (when installed via installer). ([Real Python](#))
 - `uv python install <version>` or `uv python pin <version>` — manage and set the Python version for the project. ([GitHub](#))
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Key Commands for Scripts

When dealing with **scripts** (standalone `.py`), uv also has specific commands and flags. Here are the major ones:

- `uv run example.py` — run a script without dependencies. ([docs.astral.sh](#))
- `uv run --with <dependency> example.py` — run a script and dynamically specify dependencies for that run. E.g., `uv run --with rich example.py` if script uses `rich`. ([docs.astral.sh](#))
- `uv run --python <version> example.py` — run the script specifying a target Python version. ([docs.astral.sh](#))
- `uv init --script example.py [--python <version>]` — initialize inline metadata in a script (for dependencies, Python version) so the script becomes self-contained. ([docs.astral.sh](#))
- `uv add --script example.py <deps...>` — declare dependencies inline for the script. Eg: `uv add --script example.py requests rich`. ([docs.astral.sh](#))

- `uv lock --script example.py` — lock dependencies for the script (generates `example.py.lock`). ([docs.astral.sh](#))
- `uv run --no-project example.py` — run the script ignoring the project environment (i.e., don't install the current project) if you are in a project directory. ([docs.astral.sh](#))

There are also tool/CLI-specific commands around “tool” invocation (for running arbitrary tools) such as:

- `uvx <tool>` (alias for `uv tool run <tool>`) — run a tool in an isolated environment. ([Medium](#))
 - `uv tool install <tool>` — install a tool for persistent use. ([Medium](#))
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“Project” vs “Script” — clarification

- A **project** under uv is a directory with a `pyproject.toml`, optionally `build-system`, dependencies etc. You develop your application or library here. uv manages its environment, version, building/publishing.
 - A **script** is a single file (or small set of files) you want to run quickly without necessarily building a full package. uv still manages dependencies/env for you, making it reproducible.
 - The educator in the video probably meant that when you are inside a “project” uv may treat things differently (for example, `uv run` may install your current project by default) vs when you run just a “script” you might use `--no-project` or inline metadata.
Example: In script guide: “If you use `uv run` in a project ... it will install the current project before running the script. If your script does not depend on the project, use the `--no-project` flag.” ([docs.astral.sh](#))
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