**How to Add Tailwind CSS 4 in Django 5 using Tailwind CLI**

**1. Create a Development Folder**

Inside your Django project root (same level as manage.py), create a folder for Tailwind development files:

mkdir z\_dev

cd z\_dev

**2. Initialize npm in z\_dev**

npm init -y

This will create a package.json file inside z\_dev.

**3. Install Tailwind CSS CLI**

Run:

npm install tailwindcss @tailwindcss/cli

**4. Create an input.css File**

Inside z\_dev, create a file named **input.css** and add:

@import "tailwindcss";

@source "./templates/\*\*/\*.html";

@source "../\*\*/templates/\*\*/\*.html";

**Note:**

* The @source lines tell Tailwind where to look for classes (Django HTML templates).
* Adjust paths if your templates are in a different location.

**5. Update package.json Scripts**

Open package.json in z\_dev and modify the "scripts" section:

"scripts": {

"dev": "npx @tailwindcss/cli -i ./input.css -o ../core/static/core/css/main.css --watch",

"prod": "npx @tailwindcss/cli -i ./input.css -o ../core/static/core/css/main.css --minify"

}

**6. Start Tailwind in Development Mode**

From inside z\_dev:

npm run dev

This will:

* Take input.css
* Generate main.css inside core/static/core/css/
* Watch for changes

**7. Run Django Server in Another Terminal**

In a new terminal (while Tailwind is still watching):

python manage.py runserver

**8. Add Tailwind CSS to Your Base Template**

In base.html (or your main template), load the Tailwind-generated CSS:

{% load static %}

<link rel="stylesheet" href="{% static 'core/css/main.css' %}">

**9. Production Build (Optional)**

When ready for production, run:

npm run prod

This will minify and optimize your CSS.

**Final Folder Structure Example**

myproject/

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├── core/

│ ├── static/

│ │ └── core/

│ │ └── css/

│ │ └── main.css

│ ├── templates/

│

├── z\_dev/

│ ├── input.css

│ ├── package.json

│

├── manage.py

✅ **Now Tailwind CSS 4 is working in Django 5** using Tailwind CLI.  
You can add Tailwind classes in your HTML templates, and they will be compiled into main.css automatically.