Django App Creation and Installation Notes

# 1. What is a Django App?

A Django App is a modular part of a Django project. Each app performs a specific function (e.g., blog, authentication, products). A Django project can have multiple apps.

# 2. Create an App

Use the startapp command:

python manage.py startapp app\_name

Example:

python manage.py startapp blog

This will create a folder structure like this:

blog/  
 \_\_init\_\_.py  
 admin.py  
 apps.py  
 migrations/  
 \_\_init\_\_.py  
 models.py  
 tests.py  
 views.py

# 3. What’s inside the App?

- apps.py – App configuration file.  
- models.py – Database models for the app.  
- views.py – Business logic & request handling.  
- urls.py (you create it manually) – URL patterns for the app.  
- admin.py – Register models in Django admin panel.  
- migrations/ – Database migration files.

# 4. Install the App in Django Project

After creating the app, you must add it to the INSTALLED\_APPS list in settings.py.

Steps:  
1. Open myproject/settings.py.  
2. Find the INSTALLED\_APPS list.  
3. Add your app name inside the list.

INSTALLED\_APPS = [  
 'django.contrib.admin',  
 'django.contrib.auth',  
 'django.contrib.contenttypes',  
 'django.contrib.sessions',  
 'django.contrib.messages',  
 'django.contrib.staticfiles',  
 # Your custom apps  
 'blog', # <--- Add your app here  
]

# 5. Run the Server

After adding the app, run the server:

python manage.py runserver

# 6. Optional: Create urls.py in App

Inside your app folder (e.g., blog), create a urls.py:

from django.urls import path  
from . import views  
  
urlpatterns = [  
 path('', views.home, name='home'),  
]

Then connect it to the main project urls.py:

from django.urls import path, include  
  
urlpatterns = [  
 path('admin/', admin.site.urls),  
 path('blog/', include('blog.urls')), # <--- include the app urls  
]

# Summary

1. python manage.py startapp app\_name  
2. Add app\_name to INSTALLED\_APPS in settings.py.  
3. (Optional) Create urls.py inside app and connect in the project’s urls.py.