Importance of .gitignore in Django Projects

What is .gitignore?

.gitignore tells Git which files and folders should NOT be tracked.

Why is .gitignore Important?

1. To Avoid Uploading Sensitive Information

   - Secret keys, environment variables, database credentials.

   Example: .env

2. To Prevent Uploading Auto-Generated or Unnecessary Files

   - __pycache__/, *.pyc

3. To Avoid Uploading the Virtual Environment

   - venv/, env/

4. To Avoid Uploading Media Files

   - media/

5. To Keep the Repository Clean

   - *.log, .vscode/, .idea/

Sample .gitignore for Django

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# Virtual environment

venv/

env/


# Python cache

__pycache__/

*.pyc


# Django folders

media/

staticfiles/


# Environment variables

.env


# SQLite database

db.sqlite3


# Editor files

.vscode/

.idea/


# Log files

*.log
```