

1. Create Project Directory

First, create a folder for your project and move into it. Open your terminal (like Command Prompt, PowerShell, or Terminal on Mac/Linux) and run these commands.

Bash

Creates a new folder named 'SalesForecasting'

```
mkdir SalesForecasting
```

Moves you inside that new folder

```
cd SalesForecasting
```

2. Set Up a Virtual Environment

This creates an isolated environment for your project's Python packages.

Bash

Creates a virtual environment folder named 'venv'

```
python -m venv venv
```

Next, you must **activate** it. The command is different for each operating system.

- **On Windows (PowerShell or Command Prompt):**

PowerShell

```
.\venv\Scripts\activate
```

- **On macOS / Linux:**

Bash

```
source venv/bin/activate
```

Your terminal prompt should now show (venv) at the beginning, indicating it's active.

3. Install All Required Libraries

With the virtual environment active, install all the necessary Python libraries with one command.

Bash

```
pip install pandas numpy xgboost scikit-learn matplotlib seaborn
```

4. Run the Python Script

At this point, you should have your Python code saved in a file named `advanced_predict.py` inside your `SalesForecasting` folder.

To run the script, execute the following command:

Bash

```
python advanced_predict.py
```

After running this, you'll see the text output printed directly in your terminal, and a separate window will pop up to display the feature importance chart.