Here is a complete checklist to get your entire development environment up and running from a fresh start.

**Step 1: Start the Database Container**

Your PostgreSQL database runs in Docker and needs to be started first.

1. Open a new terminal (PowerShell is fine).
2. Run the following command to start your database container in the background:

Bash

docker start my-printvault-db

You only need to do this once. You can now use this same terminal for the backend server.

**Step 2: Start the Backend Server**

The backend requires its Python virtual environment to be active.

1. In the same terminal, navigate to your main project directory:

Bash

cd C:\Users\jason\projects\printvault

1. Activate the virtual environment. You'll see (venv) appear in your prompt.

PowerShell

.\venv\Scripts\activate

1. Start the Django server, telling it to be accessible on your network:

Bash

python manage.py runserver 0.0.0.0:8000

Keep this terminal running.

**Step 3: Start the Frontend Server**

The frontend runs on a separate Node.js server.

1. **Open a second, new terminal.**
2. Navigate to your frontend project directory:

Bash

cd C:\Users\jason\projects\printvault\frontend

1. Start the Vite development server:

Bash

npm run dev

This terminal will show you the Local and Network URLs for your application. Keep this terminal running as well.

After completing these three steps, your application will be fully running and accessible from both your desktop and your mobile devices.