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Pietro Colombo
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Visual Studio Code - Arduino, configuration and import solution

Photo by Harrison Broadbent on Unsplash

I have noticed that Arduino IDE is not very stable and often crashes! So I decided to make a guide on how to configure Visual Studio Code for Arduino.

Furthermore, Arduino IDE is not the best as an IDE for programming.

To use Visual Studio Code as an IDE for Arduino, however, you must have installed the Arduino IDE, then in Visual Studio Code download the Arduino extension, going to the tab for extensions and looking for **Arduino**:

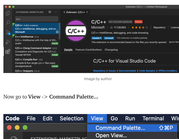
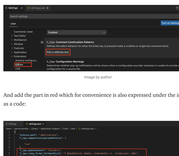


Image by author

Now install the **c/c++** extension in the same way:

Image by author

Now go to **View** -> **Command Palette...**



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Look for **Open Settings (UI)**:

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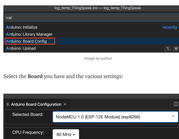
Then go to **Extensions** -> **C/C++** and click on **Edit in settings.json**



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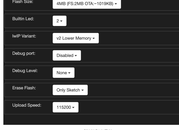
And add the part in red which for convenience is also expressed under the image as a code:



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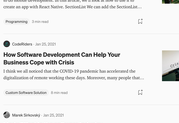
The only thing is to check that the paths are correct and replace **your_user** with your Mac user:

```
"C_Cpp.updateChannel": "Insiders",
"C_Cpp.clang_format_fallbackStyle": "{ BasedOnStyle: WebKit,
IndentWidth: 4, ColumnLimit: 120}",
"C_Cpp.intelliSenseEngine": "Tag Parser",
"C_Cpp.autocomplete": "Default",
    "/Applications/Arduino.app/Contents/Java/tools/**",
    "/Applications/Arduino.app/Contents/Java/hardware/arduino/**",
    "/Applications/Arduino.app/Contents/Java/libraries",
    "${workspaceRoot}",
    "/Users/your_user/Documents/Arduino/libraries"
}
```

Now you can open a folder with a **.ino file** or create a new one inside the folder you opened (the folder name must be the same as the file name). Once this is done, go to **View** -> **Command Palette...** as seen previously and write **Arduino: Initialize**

Image by author

Once this is done, it will create a **.vscode folder**, with an **arduino.json** file inside. Always with the **View** -> **Command Palette...** look for **Arduino: Board Config**



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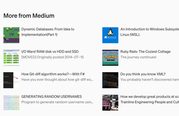
Select the **Board** you have and the various settings:



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Now the last thing to solve the **import problems** I found is to add this line in the **.vscode/c_cpp_properties.json** file by putting your username:

```
"/Users/your_username/Documents/Arduino/**"
```


Image by author

Once all this is done, you should be able to use IDE by directly loading your projects on the board, I have tried it with an ESP8266 board.

If you have Windows the guide is similar change the path:

```
"C_Cpp.updateChannel": "Insiders",
"C_Cpp.clang_format_fallbackStyle": "{ BasedOnStyle: WebKit,
IndentWidth: 4, ColumnLimit: 120}",
"C_Cpp.intelliSenseEngine": "Tag Parser",
"C_Cpp.autocomplete": "Default",
    "${ProgramFiles(x86)}/Arduino/**",
    "${ProgramFiles}/Arduino/hardware/arduino/avr/**",
    "${ProgramFiles(x86)}/Arduino/libraries",
    "${workspaceRoot}",
    "${Users\Dahmh\Documents\Arduino\libraries"
}
```

If you have any problems or if you have solved them in any other way do not hesitate to write them in the comments!

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