**✅ Step 1: Install Node.js**

1. Go to the official Node.js website:  
   👉 <https://nodejs.org>
2. Download the **LTS (Long-Term Support)** version for your operating system.
3. Run the installer and follow the steps:
   * Accept the license agreement.
   * Keep default settings.
   * Ensure "Add to PATH" is checked.

**✅ Step 2: Verify Node.js Installation in VS Code**

1. Open **Visual Studio Code**.
2. Open the **Terminal** inside VS Code:
   * Menu: Terminal → New Terminal
   * Or shortcut: Ctrl + ` (backtick)
3. Run these commands to check versions:

node -v # Check Node.js version

npm -v # Check npm (Node package manager) version

If both show version numbers, your installation is successful.

**✅ Step 3: Create and Run a Sample .js File**

1. In VS Code, create a new file named:  
   hello.js
2. Add the following code:

console.log("Hello from Node.js!");

1. Save the file.
2. Run it from the terminal:

node hello.js

✅ Output should be:

Hello from Node.js!