How to Start the PHP Server

1. Open Visual Studio Code (VS Code)

This is the program where you'll run your code.

2. Open the Terminal

In VS Code, go to the top menu and click:

Terminal -> New Terminal

This opens a black box at the bottom where you can type commands.

3. Go to Your Project Folder

If you're not already in the folder where your project files are, type:

cd folder-name

Replace 'folder-name' with the name of your folder. Example:

cd energy-dashboard

4. Start the PHP Server

Type this command in the terminal and press Enter:

php -S 127.0.0.1:8000

This launches a temporary web server on your computer.

Tip: If port 8000 doesn't work (you get an error), try changing it to 8080 or 3000, like this:

php -S 127.0.0.1:8080

5. Open Your Browser

Now open Google Chrome (or any browser) and type this into the address bar:

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http://127.0.0.1:8000

You should now see your project running!