

# Software Installation (for setting up your home computer)

## Installing Python

This is needed

- Download Python from [this link](#). If you are on Windows, [this is a direct link to an appropriate version](#).
- Install Python. **MAKE SURE YOU CHOOSE THE ADD TO PATH OPTION!**



## Installing VS Code (the IDE)

- Download and install from [this link](#).

## Installing Git

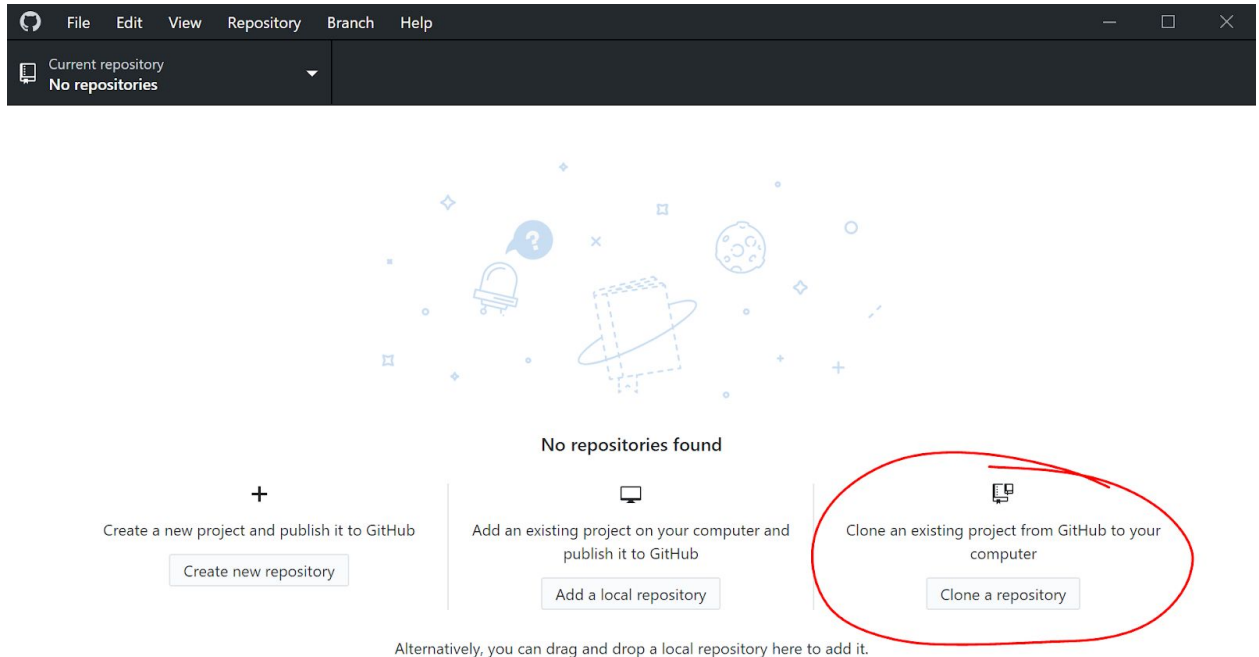
- Download and install from [this link](#). This will get you both traditional Git and GitHub Desktop, which means you can use Git from the command line, but you can also use GitHub's app for working with Git.

# Configuration (for both home computers and the Windows server)

## Accessing Your Code

Clone from your Git repository. This can be done from the command line. Alternatively:

- Use the “Clone a repository” button in GitHub Desktop. Follow the directions on the screen.



## Configuring VS Code

- Open the command palette (**ctrl + shift + p**) and go to “install extensions”. You can start typing to bring it up
- Install the Python extension. If you get a message telling you the linter is not installed, install that too.
- Go to the “File” menu. From there, choose “Open Folder” and choose the folder for your repository. This will open up your folder in the sidebar of VS code and make it easy to access

## Installing Python Modules (if needed)

- Open up a terminal window in VS code by typing `ctrl + ``, and click into the terminal window
- At the command prompt, type in the following to install a module:  
`python -m pip install --user <modulename>`
- So for example, to install Pygame, you would use:  
`python -m pip install --user pygame`

## How to Use

- When you start working, use `git pull`, either at the command line or in GitHub Desktop, to ensure you have the most recent version of your code
- Edit your code in VS Code
- Run your code in VS Code by using `ctrl + shift + p` to pull up the command palette, and selecting "Run Python File in Terminal" to run it. You can start typing the name of the command to bring it up.
- Stage, commit, push, and pull from the command line or from GitHub Desktop
- If you're using GitHub desktop, you don't need to manually stage files