

# GitHub Copilot VS Code Settings Quick Guide

Essential settings to configure GitHub Copilot in VS Code. For comprehensive settings reference, see the detailed documentation.

## Accessing Copilot Settings

1. **Open Settings:** `Cmd+,` (Mac) / `Ctrl+,` (Windows/Linux)
2. **Search:** Type "copilot" to filter settings
3. **JSON Edit:** Click `{}` icon to edit `settings.json` directly

## Essential Settings

### Enable/Disable Copilot by Language

```
{
  "github.copilot.enable": {
    "*": true,
    "plaintext": false,
    "markdown": false,
    "yaml": false
  }
}
```

### Auto-Completions

```
{
  "github.copilot.editor.enableAutoCompletions": true,
  "github.copilot.editor.enableCodeActions": true
}
```

### Chat Follow-ups

```
{  
  "github.copilot.chat.followUps": "always"  
}
```

### Custom Instructions (Key Settings)

#### Code Generation Style

```
{  
  "github.copilot.chat.codeGeneration.instructions": "Use TypeScript  
strict mode. Include error handling. Add JSDoc comments.",  
  "github.copilot.chat.codeGeneration.useInstructionFiles": true  
}
```

#### Test Generation

```
{  
  "github.copilot.chat.testGeneration.instructions": "Use Jest. Follow AAA  
pattern. Include edge cases."  
}
```

#### Commit Messages

```
{  
  "github.copilot.chat.commitMessageGeneration.instructions": "Use  
Conventional Commits format."  
}
```

### Editing Session Settings

```
{  
  "chat.editing.workingSet.maxFiles": 20,  
  "chat.editing.alwaysSaveWithGeneratedChanges": false  
}
```

## Where to Configure

Scope	Location	Use Case
User	Cmd+, → Settings	Personal preferences
Workspace	.vscode/settings.json	Project-specific
Repository	.github/copilot-instructions.md	Team-wide instructions

## Quick Tips

- **Disable for sensitive files:** Set specific languages to `false`
- **Use instruction files:** Create `.github/copilot-instructions.md` for project-wide rules
- **Workspace settings override user settings**