



# External formatters

Stefan van der Haven | 12,406 installs | ★★★★★ (1) | Free

Use any program as formatter for your source files

## Installation

Launch VS Code Quick Open (Ctrl+P), paste the following command, and press enter.

```
ext install SteefH.external-formatters
```

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### Overview

### Version History

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## External Formatters

This extension lets you use an external command as formatter for your code. The command should take a document's content at stdin and return the formatted code at stdout.

## Formatting trigger

When a formatter for a language or a glob pattern is configured, it will be used when the Format Document command is run from the command palette, or when the document is saved while the editor.formatOnSave setting is set to true.

## Working directory

- When formatting an existing file, the command is run from the directory where the file resides.
- When the file is not saved yet, the command is run from the root directory of your workspace.
- When neither directory is available, the command will use the directory where Visual Studio Code is running.

## Configuration

### Formatting based on language ID

In your settings.json, add the following setting:

## Categories

[Formatters](#)

## Works with

Universal

## Resources

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## Project Details

[SteefH/vscode-external-formatters](#)

Last Commit: 4 years ago

3 Pull Requests

2 Open Issues

## More Info

Version	0.2.0
Released on	23.12.2019, 17:23:22
Last updated	10.01.2020, 22:07:32
Publisher	Stefan van der Haven
Unique Identifier	SteefH.external-formatters
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```
"externalFormatters.languages": {
  "<language id>": {
    "command": "<command to run>",
    "arguments": [
      "<first argument>",
      "<second argument>",
      ...
    ]
  },
  ...
}
```

arguments key is optional.

So, for instance, for Terraform code, you can use these settings:

```
"externalFormatters.languages": {
  "terraform": {
    "command": "terraform",
    "arguments": [
      "fmt",
      "-"
    ]
  }
}
```

You can define formatters for multiple languages, just add multiple entries under the `externalFormatters.languages` configuration key:

```
"externalFormatters.languages": {
  "foolang": {
    "command": "foofmt",
    "arguments": [
      "arg1",
      "arg2",
      "arg3"
    ]
  },
  "barlang": {
    "command": "format-bar"
  }
}
```

## Formatting based on glob patterns

In your `settings.json`, add the following setting:

```
"externalFormatters.globPatterns": {
  "<glob pattern>": {
    "command": "<command to run>",
    "arguments": [
      "<first argument>",
      "<second argument>",
      ...
    ]
  },
  ...
}
```

```
} ...
```

<glob pattern> should be a valid glob pattern, with the following syntax:

- `*` to match one or more characters in a path segment
- `?` to match on one character in a path segment
- `**` to match any number of path segments, including none
- `{}` to group conditions (e.g. `**/*.ts,js` matches all TypeScript and JavaScript files)
- `[]` to declare a range of characters to match in a path segment (e.g., `example.[0-9]` to match on `example.0`, `example.1`, ...)
- `[!...]` to negate a range of characters to match in a path segment (e.g., `example.[!0-9]` to match on `example.a`, `example.b`, but not `example.0`)

Note: a backslash (`\`) is not valid within a glob pattern, make sure to convert any backslash to slash when creating the glob pattern.

Here, The arguments key is optional as well, and multiple glob patterns are also supported.

## TODO

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- Formatter-specific working directory override
- Variable substitution in formatter settings (for instance: `"${workspaceFolder}/tools/format-my-blub-file.sh"`)

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