

# Flask Starter Code Setup

Open the project and add a new Python Virtual Environment:

1. Unzip the `datatracker_starter_code` file.
2. If you plan to re-name the project folder, this is your only chance!
3. Ensure you have no open PyCharm windows before the next step.
4. Right click on the extracted folder and choose Open Folder as a Pycharm Community Edition Project. (If this option is not present, you can open the folder through PyCharm's Open > File menu option.)
5. Once opened in PyCharm, go to File > Setting > Project:datatracker\_starter\_code > Python Interpreter.
6. Click the Gear icon to the right of the Python Interpreter box and select Add.
7. In the Virtualenv Environment option, select New environment and hit Ok. This will create a 'venv' folder in your project. You will not need to actually explore or change anything in this folder.
8. After the installation completes, ensure the Python Interpreter box is now displaying the address to the VirtualEnvironment you just created, rather than your global version of Python.
9. Open a terminal window in PyCharm. (Terminal, NOT Python Console.) Your terminal prompt should now be preceded by (venv).

Install Flask and run the application

10. From your new (venv) prompt, enter 'pip install flask'
11. Click the 'Add Configuration' button in the top right corner
12. Hit the Plus sign "Add New Configuration" in the top left corner of the window that pops up.
13. Name the Configuration
14. Change Script path to Module name and enter 'flask'
15. Add 'run' into Parameters field
16. Hit the Browse icon in the Environment variables field
17. Hit the Plus sign and add 2 new variables: Name: FLASK\_APP, Value: datatracker, and Name: FLASK\_ENV, Value: development. Then hit OK on Environment Variables window.
18. In Python Interpreter field, change this to the version of python.exe in the venv folder you just created.
19. In the 'Working directory' field, hit the Browse icon and select the highest level project folder, 'datatracker\_starter\_code-main' unless you changed it.
20. Your configuration is now complete! You can start and debug the App using the bug icon in the top right of PyCharm!
21. With the app running, navigate to <http://127.0.0.1:5000/test> to test the app is running, or <http://127.0.0.1:5000/sample> for the sample page.