Following are the steps:

**Step 1: Open Visual Studio Code**

1. Open **Visual Studio Code**.
2. Python installation is mandatory.

**Step 2: Open the Project Folder**

1. Open the folder where your Flask project will be located or create a new folder for your project:
   * Click **File > Open Folder** to open the project folder.

**Step 3: Open the Integrated Terminal**

1. Open the VS Code integrated terminal:
   * Click **Terminal > New Terminal** to open a new terminal in VS Code.

**Step 4: Create a Virtual Environment**

1. In the terminal, navigate to the C:\Users\svarn\PythonWorkSpace\LoanPredictionApp where the virtual environment should be created.
2. Run the following command to create a virtual environment:

python -m venv venv

Here, venv is the name of the virtual environment folder (one can use any name, but venv is common).

1. After the command runs, a folder named venv will be created in the project directory.

**Step 5: Activate the Virtual Environment**

1. Run the following command to create a virtual environment:

venv\Scripts\activate

Once activated, terminal prompt will show (venv) or similar, indicating usage of the virtual environment.

**Step 7: Install Flask and Other Required Packages[[1]](#endnote-1)**

1. Run the following commands for installation:
   * 1. pip install flask
     2. pip install joblib
     3. pip install mysql-connector-python
     4. pip install numpy
     5. pip install pandas
     6. pip install scikit-learn

**Step 8: Run Flask App**

1. Run the command app.py

**Step 9: Deactivate the Virtual Environment (When Done)**

1. Once done working, deactivate the virtual environment by running:

deactivate

**Optional but Recommended Step: Freeze Requirements**

Once all the necessary packages are installed, one can freeze the package list into a requirements.txt file to keep track of dependencies:

1. Run the command: pip freeze > requirements.txt
2. The requirement.txt will look like below after installing the necessary packages:

Flask==2.1.1

joblib==1.1.0

mysql-connector-python==8.0.28

numpy==1.22.3

pandas==1.4.2

scikit-learn==1.0.2

1. Found this to be done, while running and debugging app.py. Example Error: “ModuleNotFoundError:” [↑](#endnote-ref-1)