How can you export VS Code extension list

Asked 3 years, 5 months ago Active 5 months ago Viewed 78k times



I need to send all my installed extensions to my colleagues, how can I export them?

258

Extension manager seems to do nothing... It won't install any extension.



visual-studio-code



107

edited Sep 14 '17 at 15:03

wrager

542 1 4 21

asked Mar 3 '16 at 13:18

Andrew
1,593 3 11 27

16 Answers



Manual - By script

385

1. In machine A,



UNIX:



```
code --list-extensions | xargs -L 1 echo code --install-extension
```

Windows (PowerShell, e. g. using VSCode's integrated Terminal):

```
code --list-extensions | % { "code --install-extension $_" }
```

2. copy and paste the echo output to machine B

sample output

```
code --install-extension EditorConfig.EditorConfig
code --install-extension HookyQR.beautify
```

Please make sure you have code command line installed. For more information, please visit https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/command-line

Automatic: - Using Extension

If you are looking for the extension from which you can export the list, update and share with coworkers.

These is an extension called <u>Settings Sync</u> that does all those things in just command.

edited Mar 29 at 12:54

powerzone3000

2,723 1 8 1

answered Mar 21 '18 at 4:54



- 8 Can someone provide a Windows friendly version of this command? xargs seems to be unique to UNIX. damanptyltd Apr 17 '18 at 3:32
- 10 @damanptyltd If you use GitHub, you probably have Git Bash installed on your Windows laptop/pc. You can use Unix/Mac commands in that that how i got it working Drenai Apr 17 '18 at 17:41
- for anybody who thinks they need a windows version, please note, you are supposed to run this from the vscode command line, you can get it by hitting Ctrl+`, then just paste it in! Jared May 23 '18 at 17:43
- 1 I used the Ctrl+` with --list-extensions command above to get my settings out of my windows vscode and then used Ctrl+` to paste in the code --install results into my vscode instance on Linux (over RDP). It just worked. Downloaded and installed all of them. Awesome Dean Jul 4 '18 at 5:16
- 4 This should work under Windows PowerShell: code --list-extensions | % { "code --install-extension \$_" } (I also edited this into the answer) powerzone3000 Mar 29 at 12:57



I've need to do this myself a few times - especially when installing on another machine.

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https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/extension-gallery#_common-questions will give you the location of your folder



VS Code looks for extensions under your extensions folder .vscode/extensions. Depending on your platform it is located:

Hindous VICEDDDOETLEY\ vecodo\ ovtonsions

That should show you a list of the extensions

I've also had success using Visual Studio Code Settings Sync Extension to sync settings to GitHub gist

EDIT: In the lastest release of VSCode (May 2016) it is now possible to list the installed extension in the command line

code --list-extensions

edited Aug 23 '17 at 11:29

answered May 12 '16 at 13:52



12 code --list-extensions work! +1 – Illuminator Aug 5 '16 at 4:40

5 For me (linux, code Version 1.7.1) it does not work... it just starts VS Code. – vanthome Dec 2 '16 at 11:38

@vanthome I never tried on Linux but I think this is the same: I first had the same issue you had, until I realized the command line utility is in fact under the bin folder of the application installation. If you look at its content you will see it calls the main executable but telling it to execute the CLI instead. – Yannick Meine Oct 9 '17 at 9:42

FYI you'll need to run 'Shell command: Install 'code' command in PATH' from the command palette (cmd/ctrl-shift-p) within VS Code and then run the above code in your terminal to allow this to work. – Carlin Jan 9 '18 at 17:21

The code settings sync works fine. – Ru Chern Chong Apr 22 '18 at 2:17



I have developed an extension which will sync your all Visual Studio Code Settings Across multiple instances.

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Key Features



- 1. Use your github account token.
- 2. Easy to Upload and Download on one click.
- 3. Saves all settings and snippets files.
- 4. Upload Key: Shift + Alt + u
- 5. Download Key: Shift + Alt + d

- 1. Settings File
- 2. Keybinding File
- 3. Launch File
- 4. Snippets Folder
- 5. VSCode Extensions

Detail Documentation Source

VSCode Sync ReadMe

Download here: VS Code Settings Sync

answered May 30 '17 at 6:37



does this automatically installs synced extensions? - Raghavendra Jun 13 '17 at 14:21

Yes! Try that and let me know – Shan Khan Jun 13 '17 at 16:26

its not working for me – Raghavendra Jun 14 '17 at 6:08

what exception you are getting in the developer console? open a github issue in the repo and we will see - Shan Khan Jun 14 '17 at 7:28

Hey, i used your extension, it is great, but i dont know how to share my extensions list with my friend. - vanduc1102 Aug 11 '17 at 2:36



I used the following command to copy my extensions from vscode to vscode insiders:



code --list-extensions | xargs -L 1 code-insiders --install-extension



The argument -L 1 allows us to execute the command code-insiders --install-extension once for each input line generated by code --list-extensions

edited Dec 28 '17 at 15:58

answered Dec 28 '17 at 15:36

This is very useful for the init.sh in my dotfiles repo. I first install extensions from a file and then write all currently installed extensions to the file. Only downside is I would have to delete the file if I want to remove an extension but it should work if I add one. – ThaJay Nov 13 '18 at 13:15



Windows (Powershell) version of @Benny's answer



Machine A:



In VSCode Powershell terminal:

```
code --list-extensions > extensions.list
```

Machine B:

- 1. Copy extension.list to the machine B
- 2. In VSCode Powershell terminal:

```
cat extensions.list |% { code --install-extension $ }
```

answered Apr 20 '18 at 7:51



- 1 This just launches a new code window with the Welcome tab for me. Gandalf Saxe Jul 18 '18 at 21:21
- 1 This answer works perfectly for me -- I had no issues at all getting everything installed. Paul Beverage Sep 19 '18 at 19:59

This is my preferred answer, because it doesn't rely on xargs (compared with the higher rated answer). Now if only "code" were recognized as a command ... sigh (it's always something) – GG2 Feb 12 at 1:05

This worked perfectly in creating my .list file and showing me what extensions I currently have rocking. I just needed the list as a reference. Didn't need to do the copy process. Many thanks. – klewis Mar 19 at 18:02 /



Generate windows command for install extensions.







Open VScode console and write:

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code --list-extensions (Or code-insiders --list-extensions if vscode insider is installed)



Then share with colleagues the commande line:

code --install-extension {ext1} --install-extension {ext2} --install-extension {extN} replacing {ext1}, {ext2}, ..., {extN} with the extention tou listed

For vscode insider: code-insiders --install-extension {ext1} ...

If they copy/paste it in vscode commande line terminal, they'll install the shared extensions

More information on command-line-extension-management

answered Jul 20 '17 at 8:37



Damien Leroux **6,404** 4 26 4



For Linux

5

In OLD_MACHINE



code --list-extensions > vscode-extensions.list

IN NEW_MACHINE

cat vscode-extensions.list | xargs -L 1 code --install-extension



cat: vscode-extensions.list: No such file or directory - vsync Aug 15 at 8:26



There is an Extension Manager extension, that may help. It seems to allow to install a set of extensions specified in the settings.json.



answered Mar 3 '16 at 14:31



Michael Scharf

I tried it but that plugin won't install jshint that I tried to add to my settings file... - Andrew Mar 3 '16 at 19:12

Got an extension to extend your extension manager dawg - ripper234 Feb 20 '17 at 7:41



I opened the VSCode extensions folder and executed

find * -maxdepth 2 -name "package.json" | xargs grep "name"



That gives you a list from which you can extract the extension names.

answered Feb 3 '17 at 21:53



22.6k 15 91 128



Benny's answer on Windows with Linux subsystem:

C:\> code --list-extensions | wsl xargs -L 1 echo code --install-extension



answered Jun 1 '18 at 7:25



https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/extension-gallery# workspace-recommended-extensions

1

better way to share extension list is to create workspace-based extension set for your collegues



after generating list of extension via code --list-extensions | xargs -L 1 echo code --install-extension (check your \$PATH contains vscode entry c:\Program Files\Microsoft VS Code\bin\ before running code commands)

run Extensions: Configure Recommended Extensions (Workspace Folder) VsCode command (Ctrl+Shift+P) and put extensions into generated .vscode/extensions.json:

```
{
    "recommendations": [
        "eg2.tslint",
        "dbaeumer.vscode-eslint",
        "msjsdiag.debugger-for-chrome"
    ]
}
```

edited Oct 8 '18 at 14:28

answered Aug 28 '18 at 10:28



godblessstrawberry 1,472 11 23



If you intend to share workspace extensions config across a team, you should look into the <u>Recommended Extensions</u> feature of VSCode.





To generate this file open the command pallet > Configure Recommended Extensions (Workspace Folder). From there if you wanted to get all of your current extensions and put them in here you could use the --list-extensions stuff mentioned in other answers, but add some awk to make it paste-able into a json array (you can get more or less advanced with this as you please, this is just a quick example):

```
code --list-extensions | awk '{ print "\""$0"\"\,"}'
```

The advantage of this method is that your team-wide workspace config can be checked into source control. With this file present in a project, when the project is opened VSCode will notify the user there are recommended extensions to install (if they don't already have them) and can install them all with a single button press.

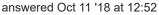




For those that are wondering how to copy your extensions from vs code to vs code insiders, use this modification of Benny's answer:



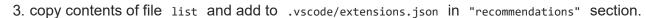
code --list-extensions | xargs -L 1 echo code-insiders --install-extension

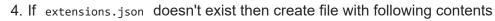






- 1. code --list-extensions > list
- 2. sed -i 's/.*/\"&\",/' list





5. share extensions.json file and ask another user to add to .vscode folder. vscode will prompt for installation of extensions.

edited Feb 7 at 9:03

answered Jan 31 at 12:31





For Linux/Mac only, export installed Visual Studio Code extensions in a Form of installation Script. It's Zsh script, but may run in bash as well.

edited Nov 5 '18 at 15:38

Alejandro 4,482 2 24 39

answered Mar 4 '18 at 16:11

