

# 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

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```
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 [Settings Sync](#) that does all those things in just command.

edited Mar 29 at 12:54



**powerzone3000**  
2,723 1 8 19

answered Mar 21 '18 at 4:54



**Benny**  
4,579 1 13 6

- 
- 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
- 
- 7 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.

171



[https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/extension-gallery#\\_common-questions](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:

Windows: `%USERPROFILE%\vscode\extensions`

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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 latest 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



MarkP

3,108

3 18 17

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.

42

## 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

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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



[Shan Khan](#)

3,740 5 38 80

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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

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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

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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:

17

```
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](#)

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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

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Machine A:

In VSCode Powershell terminal :

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

Machine B:

1. Copy `extensions.list` to the machine B
2. In VSCode Powershell terminal :

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

answered Apr 20 '18 at 7:51



[milanio](#)

2,692 15 28

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.

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edited Jun 6 '17 at 15:44



José Fonte

3,367 2 12 24

answered Jun 6 '17 at 13:04



sadisaks

101 1 2

▲ Open VScode console and write:

7

`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 45

▲ 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`

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708 7 24

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



3



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](#)

21.8k 12 49 79

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

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



2



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

[Juli](#)

22.6k 15 91 128



2



[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

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[https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/extension-gallery#\\_workspace-recommended-extensions](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 colleagues

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 [Recommended Extensions](#) feature of VSCode.

0 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.

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

0

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

answered Oct 11 '18 at 12:52

 Erik  
21 2

0

1. `code --list-extensions > list`
2. `sed -i 's/.*/\"&\"/' list`
3. copy contents of file `list` and add to `.vscode/extensions.json` in "recommendations" section.
4. If `extensions.json` doesn't exist then create file with following contents

```
{
  "recommendations": [
    //add content of file list here
  ]
}
```

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

 codescope  
154 9

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.

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edited Nov 5 '18 at 15:38



Alejandro

4,482 2 24 39

answered Mar 4 '18 at 16:11



Vlad Zamskoi

108 1 4