



# INTRODUCTION TO **PYTHON** IN 14 DAYS

DRONEBLOCKS PRESENTS



# Introduction - Welcome to the jungle



Dear DroneBlocks Coder,

I'm so excited that you're reading this. You are about to step into the wonderful jungle that known as Python. Python is one of the most popular and powerful languages in the world today.

Over the next 14 days you're going from setting up your computers for python right through to building classroom apps and ultimately creating an amazing DroneBlocks - "Choose Your Own Adventure Game"

All you need to do is stick with it and give yourself 2 hours over the next two weeks. The great news is that just by reading this PDF it shows you're ready and committed!

Day 01 is really easy. We are going to be install Python and Visual Studio Code. These are going to your main two toolkits on this amazing adventure!

Let's jump into it!

What is Python?

Python is a programming language that is known to be easy for beginners to learn. It is very versatile and can be for doing basic math, to data analysis, to making games and even flying drones!

Where is Python used?

Python is used in one way or another by many big companies you might have heard of. Some of these companies are:

1. Dropbox
2. Spotify
3. Pinterest
4. Uber
5. Meta (Facebook / Instagram)
6. Quora

How cool is that?!

Now grab your keyboard and mouse and let's go explore Python.



# Day 01 - Survival guide



Let's begin with the basics.

Go to your user folder and create a new folder called "14 Days of Py".

Jump inside that folder and create another new folder called : "Day 01". Each day you begin you will create a folder matching that day. This will also help you keep track of your progress.

The screenshot shows the Python.org homepage. The 'Downloads' menu is open, showing options like All releases, Source code, Windows, macOS, Other Platforms, License, and Alternative Implementations. A mouse cursor is hovering over the 'macOS' link. To the right, a 'Download for macOS' section is displayed, featuring a prominent button for 'Python 3.11.1'. Below the button, text says 'Not the version you are looking for? Python can be used on many operating systems and environments.' and a link to 'View the full list of downloads.' At the bottom right of the page, a 'Install Python' window is shown, titled 'Welcome to the Python Installer'.

For today, we are going to be downloading Python and Visual Studio Code

Go to <https://python.org>

Click on Download

Click on Python 3.x.x

Download and install update

Click Continue and follow the prompts

Windows Users:

Make sure ADD TO PATH is selected.

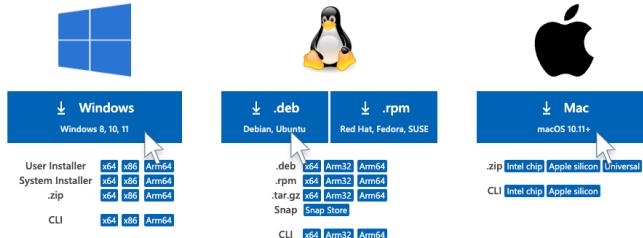
Well done on installing Python. Let's get Visual Studio Code.



# Day 01 - VS Code Installation

Head on over to <https://code.visualstudio.com/download>

Click on the icon that matches your computer.



Open the downloaded file and follow the installer.  
On a Mac, unzip the download and drag the file  
to your Applications folder.

On PC, download the installer.

Launch the installer

Accept User License

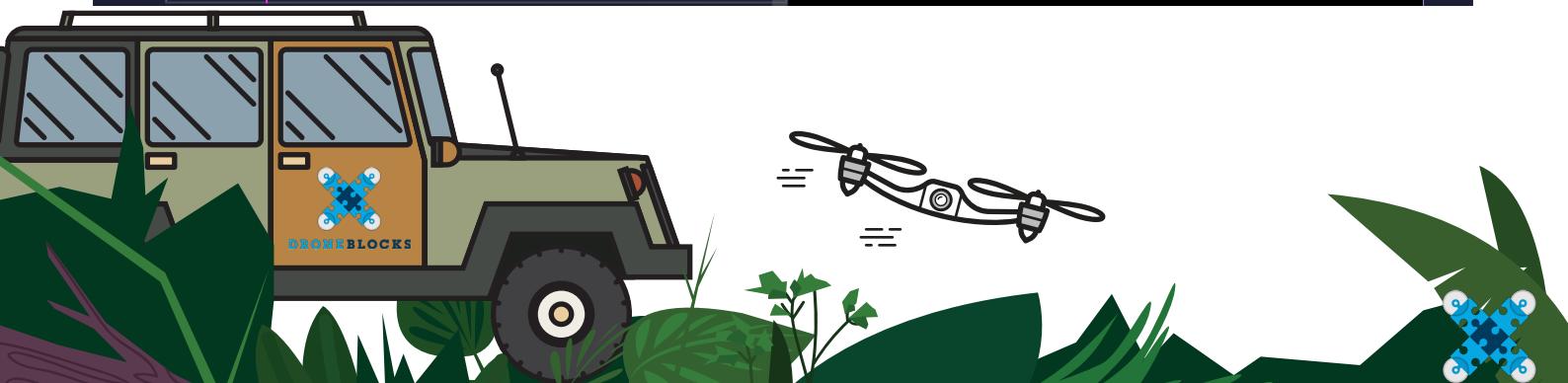
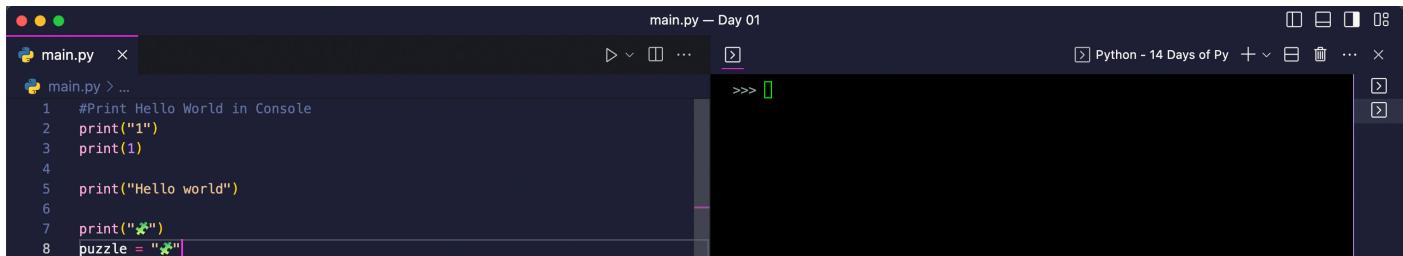
Click Next

Follow prompts to complete installation.

Once you have successfully installed  
Visual Studio Code and Python, you will be able  
to use the two hand in hand.

This is amazing because you will learn to write  
your code on the left hand side (see below) with  
colorized text and line numbers, while seeing your  
results on the right (see below).

Now let's customize VSCode... Power up to so  
speak.



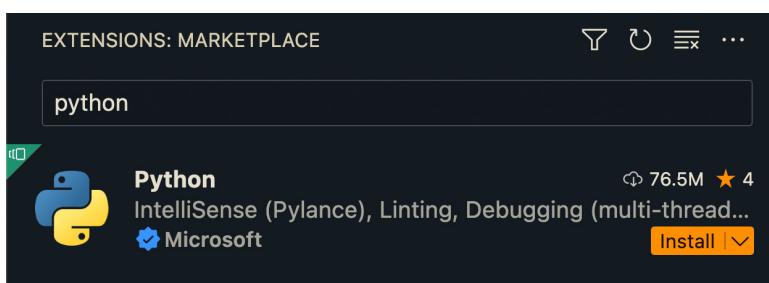
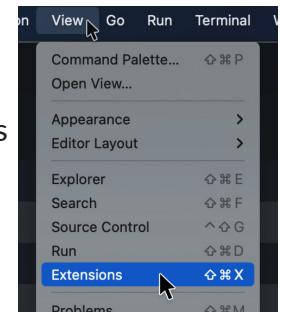
# Day 01 - VS Code Extensions

One of the reason VS Code is such an amazing tool is that it has so many plugins. This makes it the perfect Swiss Army Knife tool.

We are going to install a couple extensions for VS Code.  
Open VS Code and go to View -> Extensions.

The Extensions sidebar is amazing. There are thousand of plugins and extensions you can download to customize your VSCode experience.

I will show you how to download one extension and then you can follow your nose for the rest of the recommended extensions:

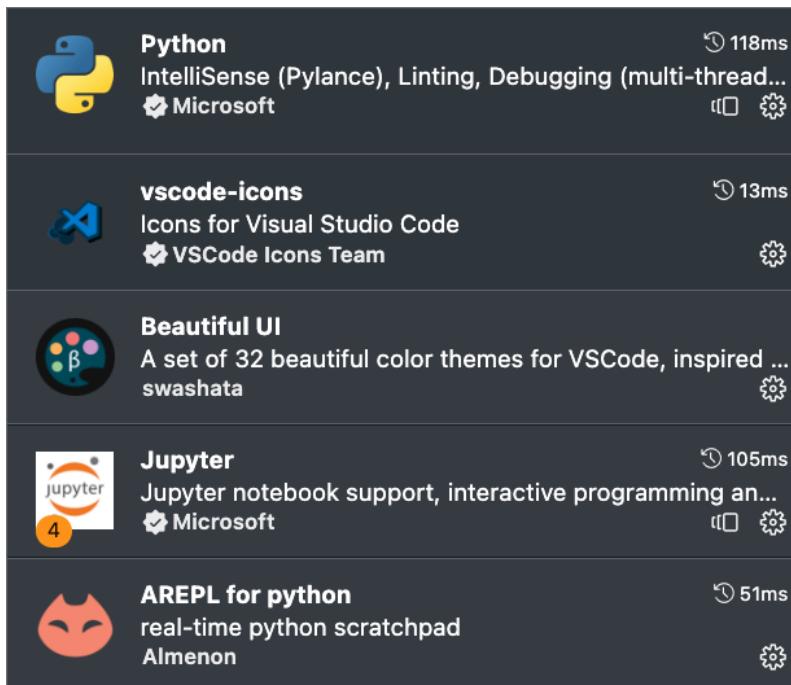


In the search box type in:  
“python” and press Enter / Return  
Click on the orange “Install” button

Restart VS Code (if required)

That's how easy it is to install extensions.

Now let's customize VSCode... Power up to so speak. Download the following plugins:



1. Python (see above)  
A must for coding Python in VS Code
2. vscode-icons  
This adds pretty icons next to file names
3. Beautiful UI  
Allows you to select a very nice theme for your code window and font colors
4. Jupyter  
This gives you a great interactive programming notebook. Great for learning
5. AREPL  
Real time python interpreter

Well done! Day 1 was exciting! I can't wait to see you tomorrow on day 2! See you soon.

