

Visual Studio Code Tutorial

Getting Started With VS Code

VS Code For Beginners - Programming For Beginners -
Learn To Code Using Visual Studio Code

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Getting started

Welcome

Welcome to the course. You are taking a great step by enrolling in this course. Better skills create a better life. **You are on your way to a better life.** As you learn new skills, you are building a better life. **I commend you for your efforts to improve your life.** As you improve your life, you are improving the world --- one person at a time. You are making the world better, and you are making your life better. This is a win-win for everybody. Great work! Also, **this is your course. Use it in the way which is best for you.** If you want to skip ahead, skip ahead. As your teacher, my job is to help you succeed. The content here is designed to help you succeed both with visual studio code, and also as a student and in life.

Video file: 01-welcome

Course resources

The course outline can be downloaded from Udemy.

- github
 - <https://github.com/GoesToEleven/vscode-tutorial>
 - <https://github.com/GoesToEleven/cit90fa2019>

Video file: 03-resources

Learning tools

Exercises

The exercises are for your benefit. The more you do something, the better you get at it. The exercises ***are not required.***

Sometimes my courses are used in classes at colleges, universities, high schools, and other schools. If this is the case and this course here is being used in a course you are taking at a school, your teacher there might require that you do the assignments. If that is your case, check with your teacher.

Video file: 09-exercises

Acceleration

You can change the speed of videos: either slow them down, or speed them up. Adjust the speed as necessary for your learning style. Fast-forward if you want to skim over material. Slow me down if you need me to go slower.

Video file: 05-accelerate-learning

Coding fundamentals

Introduction

This section will show you how to set up your development environment. If you are experienced with programming, you can skip this section and any other sections you want. This is ***your course*** after all. I am here to help you. As there are a variety of students who will take this course, I believe in providing a ***clear continuity of curriculum*** so that even those who are just getting started have a ***pathway to success.***

video: 11-intro

The terminal

- terminology
 - GUI = graphical user interface

- CLI = command line interface - **command line**
 - **terminal** = text input/output environment; console = physical terminal
 - unix / linux / mac
 - **shell / bash / terminal**
 - windows
 - **command prompt / windows command / cmd / dos prompt**

video: 12-terminal

Bash on Windows

- <https://git-scm.com/>
- linux on Windows
 - developer features
 - Linux subsystem for Windows
 - bash
 - [article with steps here](#) and [another article](#)

video: 13 bash on windows

Bash fundamentals

Working with directories

- shell / bash commands
 - **pwd**
 - **ls**
 - **cd <directory>**
 - **cd ../**
 - **cd** or **cd ~**
 - **mkdir <directory>**
 - **clear** or **command + k**

video: 14 Working With Directories

Viewing directory details

- shell / bash commands
 - **ls -la**
- | owner | group | bytes | last modification | hidden & name |
|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|---------------|
|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|---------------|

```
total 72
drwxr-xr-x+ 20 spockmcleod staff 680 Jul 31 15:44 .
drwxr-xr-x 5 root admin 170 Dec 30 2016 ..
-r----- 1 spockmcleod staff 7 Dec 30 2016 .CFUserTextEncoding
-rw-r--r--@ 1 spockmcleod staff 14340 Aug 1 06:52 .DS_Store
drwx----- 19 spockmcleod staff 646 Aug 1 07:07 .Trash
drwxr-xr-x 14 spockmcleod staff 476 Jul 26 13:56 .atom
-rw----- 1 spockmcleod staff 10321 Aug 1 07:16 .bash_history
drwx----- 41 spockmcleod staff 1394 Aug 1 07:16 .bash_sessions
drwx----- 3 spockmcleod staff 102 Aug 15 2016 .cups
-rw----- 1 spockmcleod staff 1024 Dec 30 2016 .rnd
drwx----- 4 spockmcleod staff 136 Feb 15 14:48 Applications
drwx-----+ 4 spockmcleod staff 136 Jul 26 13:16 Desktop
drwx-----+ 9 spockmcleod staff 306 Jul 31 16:43 Documents
drwx-----+ 4 spockmcleod staff 136 Jul 31 10:12 Downloads
```

d = directory r = read w = write x = execute

rw-rw-rw- = owner, group, world

video: 15 Viewing Directory Details

Working with files

- shell / bash commands
 - **touch <file name>**
 - example: touch temp.txt
 - **nano <file name>**
 - **cat <file name>**

video: 16 Working With Files

Removing items

- shell / bash commands
 - **rm <file name>**
 - **rm -rf <file or folder name>**

video: 17 Removing Items

Working with permissions

- shell / bash commands
 - **chmod <owner group world> <file or folder>**
 - example: chmod 764 temp.txt
 - **sudo**
 - super user do
- permissions
 - owner, group, world

- **r, w, x, no permission**
- **4, 2, 1, 0**

r = read w = write x = execute

rw-rw-rw = **owner, group, world**

video: 18 Working With Permissions

Environment variables

Review

video: 19 Review

Introduction

- Environment variables are a set of **variables on a computer**. They are part of the environment in which a process runs.
- shell / bash commands
 - **env**
- “path” environment variable
 - PATH is an environment variable on Unix-like operating systems, DOS, OS/2, and Microsoft Windows, specifying a set of directories where executable programs are located. In general, each executing process or user session has its own PATH setting.
 - often executable files will be in a “bin” folder which stands for *binary*.

video: 20 Introduction

Setting environment variables - mac, linux

- .bash_profile & .bashrc
 - **.bash_profile** is executed for login shells
 - When you login (type username and password) via console, either sitting at the machine, or remotely via ssh, .bash_profile is executed to configure your shell before the initial command prompt.
 - **.bashrc** is executed for interactive non-login shells
- shell / bash commands
 - **export <environment variable name>=<path>**
 - **\$<environment variable name>**

examples of setting environment variables:

- export GOPATH="/Users/toddmcleod/go"
- export PATH="\$PATH:/Users/toddmcleod/go/bin"

video: 21 Setting Env Var - Mac & Linux

Setting environment variables - windows

Search for “environment variables”

video: 22 env windows

Hands-on exercises - ninja level 1

Hands-on exercise #1

For this hands-on exercise, at the terminal:

- navigate to “Documents”
- create a folder “HappyDog”
- navigate to that folder
- look to see if there are any files or folders in that folder
- navigate back to documents

video: 23 Hands On 1

Hands-on exercise #2

For this hands-on exercise, at the terminal:

- navigate to the folder “HappyDog”
- create a file “be-happy.txt”
- edit this file to include items that make you happy
- show the contents of this file at the terminal
- navigate to “Documents”

video: 24 Hands On 2

Hands-on exercise #3

For this hands-on exercise:

- Navigate to “HappyDog”
- change the permissions on the file “be-happy.txt”
 - user: read, write
 - group: read
 - world: nothing
- confirm that the permissions are set that way
- navigate to “Documents”

video: 25 Hands On 3

Hands-on exercise #4

For this hands-on exercise:

- Navigate to “HappyDog”
- Delete “be-happy.txt”

video: 26 Hands On 4

Hands-on exercise #5

For this hands-on exercise:

- Navigate to “Documents”
- Delete “HappyDog”
- confirm this directory has been deleted
- navigate to your user’s folder

video: 27 Hands On 5

Getting started

Why VS Code?

There are **many reasons to use vs code**:

- Free
- Open source
- Extensible
- Cross platform
 - Files go back-and-forth between platforms seamlessly
- Powerful
- Popular
- Light weight
- Microsoft
- Supports many languages
- Great with Go
- More benefits:
 - <https://code.visualstudio.com/>
 - IntelliSense code completion
 - debugging
 - built-in git
 - extensions
 - <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/?dv=osx>
 - first steps
 - intro videos
 - settings
 - keyboard shortcuts
 - <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/whyvscode>
 - why did we build vs code

video: 28 Why VS Code

Downloading and installing - mac

Downloading and installing vs code is a straight-forward process:

- <https://code.visualstudio.com/>
- MAC
 - drag to applications directory
- Opening vs code
 - click it in applications
 - spotlight search
 - cmd + spacebar
 - type in “vs code”

video: 29 VS Setup - Mac

Downloading and installing - windows

Downloading and installing vs code is a straight-forward process:

- <https://code.visualstudio.com/>

video: 30 VS Setup - Windows

Exploring vs code

The welcome screen

The welcome screen has a lot of useful features. **Instead of dismissing the welcome screen, take a moment to look at it.** This video covers the features found on the welcome screen. To bring the welcome screen back up, use the menu option “HELP / WELCOME”

video: 31 welcome screen

Interface overview

The interface overview introduces the different areas of vs code. A lot of great shortcuts are shown in the interface overview:

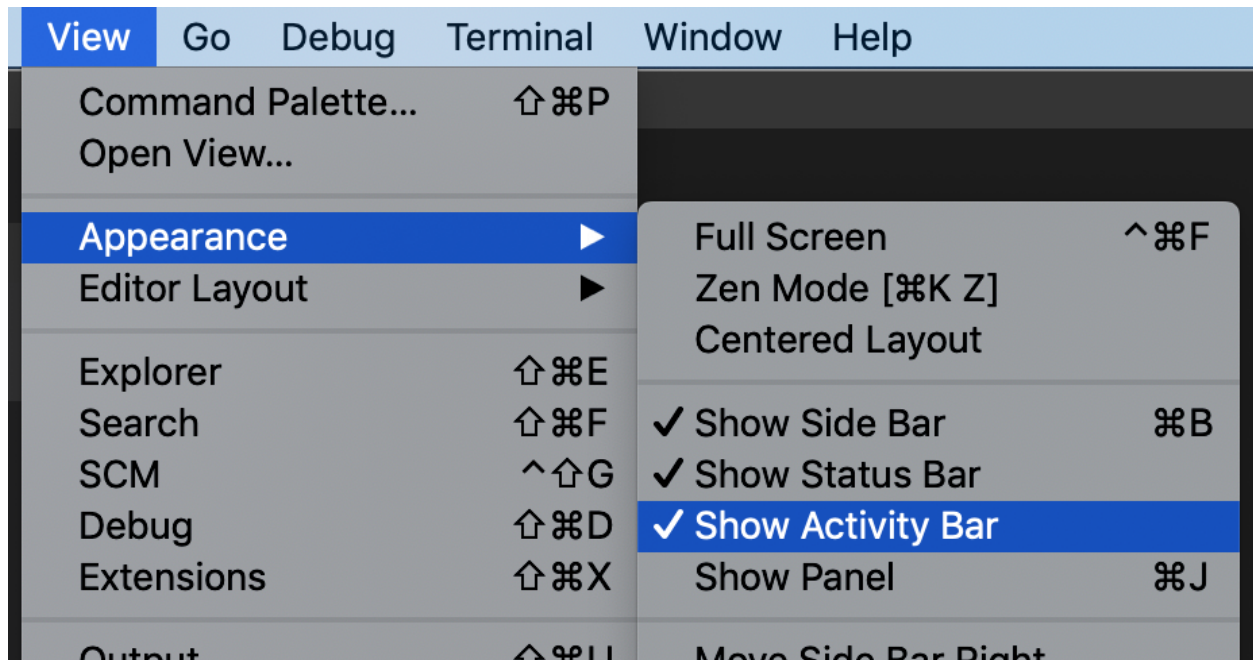
- file explorer
 - command + shift + E
- find / search across files
 - command + shift + F
- source code control
 - control + shift + G
- debug

- command + shift + D
- extensions
 - command + shift + E
- command palette
 - command + shift + P
- errors and warnings
 - command + shift + M
- terminal
 - control + back-tick

video: 32 interface overview

View menu

If at any time your vs code does not look like my vs code, go to the “view” dropdown menu and play with the options.



video: 33 view menu

Code menu

- Code
 - about
 - check for updates
 - preferences
 - quit

video 34 code menu

Files, folders, and workspaces

File menu

- new files
- auto save
 - saves changes as you work

video: 35 file menu

Getting started with git

- creating a github account
- creating a github repo
- the “git” story and Linus, The Patron Saint of Programming
- Nelson Mandela and Invictus

video 36 Getting Started With Git

Using SSH for authentication

- setting up SSH key using shell / bash / terminal
 - works on Mac, Linux, and Windows
 - `ssh-keygen -t rsa`
- Putting the SSH pub key on github
- Asymmetric public - private key encryption
- Symmetric key encryption

video 37 Using SSH

Cloning a repo using ssh

- Connecting a folder on our computer with github

video 38 Cloning Repo

Folders and workspaces

- We're actually going to start writing code.
- changing theme
- folder
 - open a folder
- workspaces
 - save as a workspace

- open a workspace

video: 39 Folders and Workspaces

Installing go

- <https://golang.org>
- adding the “go” extension to vs code
 - windows potential snafu: if you didn’t allow git-scm to use third-party software, then vs code will not be able to install the “go” extension. To solve this, reinstall git-scm and allow third-party software to use git

video 40 Installing Go

Git in vs code

- stage changes
- commit changes
- push changes

video 41 Git In VSCode

Hands-on exercises - ninja level 2

Hands-on exercise #1

For this hands-on exercise:

- change vs code’s theme to “high contrast” (or something else)
- enable auto save every 1000 ms
- check for updates for vs code

video: 42 Hands On 1

Hands-on exercise #2

This hands on exercise has been deleted.

video: 43 Hands On 2

Hands-on exercise #3

For this hands-on exercise:

- generate an SSH key at the terminal / bash / shell
- add the public key (.pub) to github

video: 44 Hands On 3

Hands-on exercise #4

For this hands-on exercise:

- clone a github repo using ssh

video: 45 Hands On 4

Hands-on exercise #5

For this hands-on exercise:

- in vs code, open the folder of the repo you cloned in “hands-on exercise #4”
- create a file
- save as a workspace
- close the workspace
- open the workspace

video: 46 Hands On 5

Hands-on exercise #6

For this hands-on exercise:

- in vs code, open the workspace you created in “hands-on exercise #5”
- in vs code, stage changes, commit changes, and push changes
- verify the file you created is on github

video: 47 Hands On 6

Editing code

Preview

Video:48 Preview

Find and replace

You can use find and replace in a single file or in multiple files

video: 49 Find and Replace

Toggle comments

You can toggle comments in vs code with these shortcuts:

- command + /
- alt + shift + A

video: 50 Toggle Comments

Emmet

Emmet allows you to use short-hand notation for HTML code.

video: 51 Emmet

Duplicating and moving lines

Use these shortcuts to duplicate and move lines:

- duplicate
 - alt + shift + up arrow
 - alt + shift + down arrow
- move
 - alt + up arrow
 - alt + down arrow
- delete line
 - cmd + delete
 - cmd + shift + k

video: 52 Dup & Move Lines

Keyboard shortcuts

You can find a keyboard shortcut map by either

- code / preferences / keyboard shortcuts
 - in here you can search for things
 - you can also add key bindings

... or by ...

- going to **“help / keyboard shortcuts”**

... or by ...

- searching google for “vs code keyboard shortcut reference” or by going here:
- <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/getstarted/keybindings>

The command palette also shows you keyboard shortcuts for some things, so you can search that for what you want to do, then look at the shortcut there. To get to the command palette:

- cmd + shift + P

video: 53 Key Shortcuts

Multiple cursors

You can select multiple items at once. Also, notice that vs code highlights curlyies.

- **select all of the same thing**
 - **cmd + shift + L**
- **put your cursor in different places manually**
 - **alt + click**

- **alt + click**
- **alt + click**
- **alt + click**
- **select next occurrence of word under cursor or of the current selection**
 - **cmd + d**
- **undo last cursor action**
 - **cmd + u**

hit escape to exit

video file: 54 Multi Cursor

Easily seeing documentation

You can use “command + click” to see the documentation for different items in your code. This feature is a little buggy in the go programming language.

video: 55

Ninja level skills

The command palette

The command palette is **where you enter commands in vs code**. You will want to command vs code to do things for you.

- **⇧P** will let you navigate to any file or symbol by typing its name
 - Type **?** into the input field to get a list of available commands you can execute
- **⇧O** will let you navigate to a specific symbol in a file
- **⇧G** will let you navigate to a specific line in a file
- **⇧Tab** will cycle you through the last set of files opened
- **⇧P** will bring you directly to the editor commands

Video file 56 Command Palette

Setting a path variable

Path variables are environment variables. You can set up variables that your computer can then use. This will make your life easier. Here is the first one we will set up:

- **In the command palette:**
 - **Shell command: install ‘code’ command in PATH**

Test it out

- In terminal:
 - navigate to dir where you want to work

- code .

Investigating

```
highlanders-MacBook-Pro:bin highlander$ echo $PATH
/Users/highlander/Documents/libwebp-1.0.2-rc1-mac-10.14/bin:/Users/highlander/go/bin:/Users/highlander/google-cloud-sdk/bin:/usr/local/
bin:/usr/bin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/sbin:/usr/local/go/bin
highlanders-MacBook-Pro:bin highlander$ pwd
/usr/local/bin
highlanders-MacBook-Pro:bin highlander$ ls -la
total 78024
drwxrwxrwx  9 root  wheel   288 Aug  9 13:53 .
drwxr-xr-x 16 root  wheel   512 Mar  4 11:05 ..
lrwxr-xr-x  1 highlander wheel    28 Mar  4 11:05 brew -> /usr/local/Homebrew/bin/brew
lrwxr-xr-x  1 highlander wheel    68 Aug  9 13:53 code -> /Applications/Visual Studio Code.app/Contents/Resources/app/bin/code
lrwxr-xr-x  1 highlander wheel    35 Mar  4 11:06 git-lfs -> ../Cellar/git-lfs/2.7.1/bin/git-lfs
lrwxr-xr-x  1 highlander wheel    36 Mar  4 11:12 gulp -> ../lib/node_modules/gulp/bin/gulp.js
-rwxr-xr-x  1 root    wheel 39945984 Feb 28 03:53 node
lrwxr-xr-x  1 root    wheel    38 Mar  4 10:54 npm -> ../lib/node_modules/npm/bin/npm-cli.js
lrwxr-xr-x  1 root    wheel    38 Mar  4 10:54 npx -> ../lib/node_modules/npm/bin/npx-cli.js
```

Video file: 57 Setting a Path Variable

Mini-map and breadcrumbs

A small version of your open file; allows you to see where you're at in the file.

Video file: 58 Minimap & Breadcrumbs

Customizing vs code

Adjusting preferences / settings

- **Code / preferences / settings**
- user settings vs workspace settings
 - workspace - vs code out of the box
 - user - your settings that override workspace settings
- searching
 - you can search for the item you want
- some suggestions
 - enable telemetry **UNCHECK**
 - **autosave: afterDelay**
 - **auto save delay: 1000 ms**
 - **format on save**

```
{
  "telemetry.enableTelemetry": false,
  "editor.fontLigatures": true,
  "editor.fontFamily": "'Fira Code', Consolas, 'Courier New', monospace",
  "terminal.integrated.shell.windows": "C:\\WINDOWS\\System32\\cmd.exe",
  "files.insertFinalNewline": true,
  "editor.fontSize": 12,
```

```

"window.restoreFullscreen": true,
"files.trimTrailingWhitespace": true,
"editor.formatOnPaste": true,
"editor.multiCursorModifier": "alt",
"editor.snippetSuggestions": "top",
"editor.formatOnSave": true,
"files.eol": "\n",
"explorer.autoReveal": false,
"editor.minimap.enabled": false
}

```

video: 59 Adjust Prefs & Settings

Snippets

Learn about snippets

- <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/userdefinedsnippets>

Find snippets in marketplace to install:

- https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/extension-gallery#_browse-and-install-extensions
 - @category:snippets

To create a snippet:

- command palette
 - snippets
 - follow the suggestions

To use a snippet:

- type in the keyword for the snippet, make sure the snippet is highlighted, then hit tab

Example Go snippets

```

"func": {
  "prefix": "func",
  "body": [
    "func ${1:identifier} (${2:params}) {",
    "${0:code}",
    "}"
  ],
  "description": "general function block"
},

```

```

"func return": {
  "prefix": "func return",
  "body": [
    "func ${1:identifier} (${2:params}) ${3:return} {",
    "${0:code}",
    "}"
  ],
  "description": "general function block with return"
},

"func returns": {
  "prefix": "func returns",
  "body": [
    "func ${1:identifier} (${2:params}) (${3:returns}) {",
    "${0:code}",
    "}"
  ],
  "description": "general function block with returns"
},

```

video file: 60 Snippets

Coding essentials

Errors

Errors are underlined. Code suggestions come up.

video file: 61 Errors

Debugging code

Click the bug icon in the tabs area. Here are the basics of debugging:

- set a breakpoint(s)
- start
 - continue
 - step over
 - step into
 - step out
 - restart

- stop
- watch
 - variable tracking by name
- call stack
- variables

Troubleshooting: if you are on mac and you get this error “developer tools access needs to take control of another process for debugging to continue” then enter this code at the terminal:

- `sudo /usr/sbin/DevToolsSecurity --enable`
- [source: stackoverflow](#)

video file: 62 Debugging

Markdown

Markdown is a lightweight markup language with plain text formatting syntax. Its design allows it to be converted to many output formats, but the original tool by the same name only supports HTML. Markdown is often used to format readme files, for writing messages in online discussion forums, and to create rich text using a plain text editor. (source: [wikipedia](#))

- <https://help.github.com/en/articles/basic-writing-and-formatting-syntax>
- <https://guides.github.com/features/mastering-markdown/>

video: 63 Markdown

Extensions

Here are some extensions:

- vs liveshare
- auto close tag and auto rename tag
- prettier for JS
- path intellisense

Video file: 64 Extensions

Hands-on exercises - ninja level 3

Hands-on exercise #1

Clone the codebase “cit90fa2019” from github. Find the file with the comment “I found this file”

Video file: 65 Hands On 1

Hands-on exercise #2

Open the file “main.go” in the folder “017-lotta-vars” and perform the following operations:

- using multiple cursors, change the variable “z” to “y”
- using “move line up” or “move line down” move the call to bar() above the call to foo().
- comment out the last line in main “Program about to end!” using the keyboard shortcut

Video file: 66 Hands On 2

Hands-on exercise #3

Open the file “index.html” in the folder “016-html” and add the following html using emmet:

```
<h1 title="item1">Header 1</h1>
<h2 title="item2">Header 2</h2>
<h3 title="item3">Header 3</h3>
```





Video file: 67 Hands On 3

Hands-on exercise #4

Using the command palette

- Open the file “zep.go”
- show all of the symbols / identifiers for funcs and variables
- move the call to bar() above the call to foo().

As a reminder, here are some of the command palette’s commands:

-  will let you navigate to any file or symbol by typing its name
 - Type  into the input field to get a list of available commands you can execute
-  will let you navigate to a specific symbol in a file
-  will bring you directly to the editor commands

Video: 68 Hands On 4

Hands-on exercise #5

Using the command palette

- Open the file “bugs.go”

Debug the code using debugging

video: 69 Hands On 5

Farewell

Congratulations!

- Great job completing the course. I am so proud of you.

Video file: 70 Congratulations

Bonus lecture