# Step 1: Installing Python

**Windows / macOS / Linux**

1. Go to the official site: https://www.python.org/downloads/
2. Click **Download Python 3.x.x** (the latest version)
3. Run the installer:
   - ✔ Check **"Add Python to PATH"** before clicking **Install Now**
4. After installation, open a terminal/command prompt:

   ```
   python --version
   ```

   You should see something like:

   ```
   Python 3.12.3
   ```

---

# Step 2: Installing an IDE (Optional but Recommended)

**Options:**

- **VS Code (Recommended):** Lightweight and popular
  - https://code.visualstudio.com/
  - Install **Python extension** from the Extensions tab
- **PyCharm:** Full-featured Python IDE
- **Jupyter Notebook:** Good for data science

---

# Step 3: Writing Your First Python Program

**Option A: Using a `.py` file (VS Code / PyCharm)**

1. Open VS Code
2. Create a new file: `hello.py`
3. Type the following code:
4. `print("Hello, World!")`
5. Run it:
   - Right-click → Run Python File in Terminal
   - OR open terminal and type:
   - `python hello.py`