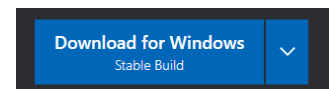# Starting out [... TODO]

Before you can begin your web development adventure, you should install some software to make your life easier. Code is really just text, and you can write a website in Notepad, but perhaps you shouldn't. If the name 'VS code' is unfamiliar to you, please take time to install it and familiarize yourself a bit with how this program allows you to quickly and easily write code. After installing VS code you will find below a few extensions for you to install.
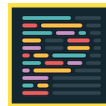
Required Software:

Download and install the "Stable Build" VS Code IDE for your OS:

[Visual Studio Code](#)

You can use any IDE or text editor you like, but the golden standard these days is VS code, and the TID course will assume you use this. If you do not, you are on your own IDE-wise.

Install the extension Prettier in Visual Studio Code:

[Prettier - Code formatter - Visual Studio Marketplace](#)

Standardizing code format is not just for fun. You will do yourselves and us a favour by getting used to this tool when working in a team. Find it by clicking the link, or in VS code under extensions (search for "Prettier - Code formatter").

Useful tools:

Live server

[Live Server - Visual Studio Marketplace](#)

This tool lets you create a constantly updating instance of a website during development. It will not be used during the course, as we will be using a framework that takes care of this. For practice of web technologies until then, this is a very useful tool.

Bracket colorisation

After installing VS Code, find the settings menu in the far lower left side corner. Select Settings. On the seach bar in the top of the settings menu, search for:

Bracket Pair Colorization

Click the checkbox and rejoice. Which opening and closing brackets are matching is now visualised.

Online courses

Scrimba is a great platform where you can sort of "dualcode" with the instructor. The platform offers an in-browser IDE where you can pause the video and change the instructor's code at any point in order to understand through experimentation. We suggest that you do the challenges as much as possible. Learning is repeating. It is recommended to utilize the microlearning app described below to bolster what you learn during these lessons. Though Scrimba also have paid content, all courses linked below are free.

HTML & CSS intro:

[Learn HTML and CSS for free](#) : 4-5 hours

An introductory course on HTML and CSS, the building blocks of the web

JavaScript:

[Learn JavaScript for free - 7-hour interactive tutorial](#) : 6-8 hours

The fundamentals of the Javascript language. Learning a language allows you to communicate. Mastering one allows for the blossoming of poetry.

[ES6 Tutorial - Learn ES6+ with interactive screencasts | Scrimba](#) : 1 hour

Most courses and material was made before the most recent update to Javascript, and as such most courses on the new and shiny stuff are separate courses. Knowing modern Javascript will make your life as a web developer easier.
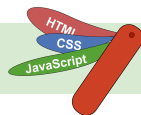
Microlearning

sololearn is a microlearning app you can install on your phone. You can also use the wep app on your computer, but if you dedicate time to learning the material it is recommended to utilize an online course instead. What microlearning does well is teaching one thing at a time in small doses. Microlearning utilizes those moments when you are on the train or using the restroom where you would otherwise check your messages or play a mobile game. Microlearning is learning through small but rapid repetition and does not yield usable skills on its own unless you *keep doing it* over a longer period. Should be combined with practice either of your own volition or in concert with for instance an online course.

HTML: [Learn HTML | Sololearn](#)

CSS: [Learn CSS | Sololearn](#)

JavaScript: [Learn JavaScript | Sololearn](#)

Nice to know section

Below are suggestions for extra technologies and tools you can learn. Starting out you should focus on everything above, but if you have extra energy or if you are excited about web technologies you might want to find the time to give these a look.

CSS

[Learn Flexbox for free](#) : 1 hour

An important tool when making web apps: Flexbox

[Learn CSS variables for free | Scrimba](#) : 30 min

CSS variables are very useful knowledge when making projects larger than a basic TODO list.

[Learn CSS Grid for free | Scrimba](#) : 1 hour

CSS grid is a powerful tool to supplement flexbox.

Responsive Web Design:

[Learn Responsive Web Design | Sololearn](#)

A good resource on responsive design, but please ignore anything about jQuery, as this is a deprecated technology.