Beginner Coding Workflow Cheatsheet

For Flask backend + JavaScript frontend in VS Code using Git + GitHub + Claude AI

1. Your Project Setup

- Use VS Code to open and edit files

- Ask Claude AI for help with logic, UI, or bug fixes

- Use Git to track changes and undo mistakes

- Push changes to GitHub for backup + versioning

2. Edit Files with Claude's Help

Example Claude Prompt:

"I have a Flask project in VS Code and GitHub. I want to change the UI so that the "Start" button turns green and aligns right. Can you show me the updated HTML/CSS and tell me what to replace?"

Steps:

1. Open the correct file in VS Code

2. Paste the updated code (fix indentation)

3. Press Shift + Alt + F (or Shift + Option + F on Mac) to auto-format

3. Version Control with Git

- Save changes:

    git add .

    git commit -m "Short message"

    git push

- Undo mistakes or roll back:

git status

git log --oneline

git checkout <hash>

4. Fix Indentation + Formatting

- Use Shift + Alt + F in VS Code

- Recommended Extensions:

    Python (for .py files)

    Prettier (for JS/CSS/HTML)

- Enable Format on Save in settings

5. GitHub Tips

- git status = see changes

- git add . = stage files

- git commit -m "..." = save snapshot

- git push = upload to GitHub

- Avoid copying .git folders; start fresh if needed

6. Claude Prompt Examples

- "What does this function do in my Flask app?"

- "Can you make this button cleaner and align it to the right?"

- "Here's a traceback error, help me fix it?"

Keep this sheet handy while building and debugging!