

Publishing Your VS Code Extension to the Marketplace

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1. Install VSCE (VS Code Extension Manager)

You need `vsce` to package and publish.

```
npm install -g vsce
```

2. Create a Publisher

Extensions must belong to a ****publisher account****.

1. Go to ■ <https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/manage>

2. Sign in with your GitHub or Microsoft account.

3. Click ****Publishers → New Publisher****.

- Example: `thinakaran`

- Keep it short & unique.

Update your `package.json` with:

```
"publisher": "thinakaran"
```

3. Create a Personal Access Token (PAT)

This token allows `vsce` to upload.

1. Go to ■ <https://dev.azure.com>

2. Create a new ****Personal Access Token**** with scope:

- ■ Marketplace (Publish)

3. Copy the token (keep it safe!).

Login with it:

```
vsce login thinakaran
```

4. Package Your Extension

Run inside your project root:

vsce package

This creates a `.vsix` file, e.g.:

code-comment-generator-ai-0.0.1.vsix

5. Publish to Marketplace

To publish latest version:

vsce publish

Or specify version bump:

vsce publish patch # 0.0.1 → 0.0.2

vsce publish minor # 0.1.0

vsce publish major # 1.0.0

6. Test Locally (Optional)

Before publishing, test the `.vsix`:

code --install-extension code-comment-generator-ai-0.0.1.vsix

7. Add SEO & Preview

■ Already set in `package.json`:

- displayName, description, keywords, categories, galleryBanner, icon.

■ Add README.md with screenshots & GIFs.

Once published, Marketplace will automatically index these for SEO.

■ Pro Tips

- Keep CHANGELOG.md updated → Marketplace shows release notes.

- Use semantic versioning strictly (0.0.x → 0.1.0 → 1.0.0).

- Monitor installs & ratings from your publisher dashboard.

■ After you publish, your extension will be live at:

<https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=thinakaran.code-comment-generator-ai>