There are two main ways to code in JavaScript: using an online editor or using an IDE.

**Using an online editor**

Several online editors are available that allow you to write JavaScript. The one that will be explained here will be CodePen, follow the steps below to start coding in CodePen

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| 1. Visit <https://codepen.io/> to set up an account that will allow you to save programs online 2. Once you have an account, create a new pen using the button on the sidebar 3. Copy the code in the “HTML Code Setup” text file from the classroom and paste it into a pen **IN THE HTML SECTION!** 4. In the settings for the Pen, change the pen to be a Template 5. Now whenever you’d like to write a new program, just create a new Pen from the template you made     Note: You must write **in the HTML section** under the part where it says “JavaScript code goes here” |

Using an online editor is beneficial in that you can reuse templates easier and all your programs are backed up online. Also, all your programs run live right on the website while you code them.

**Using an IDE**

An IDE is an offline application on your computer that can edit code and save the files on your computer. This document will go over how to install and use Visual Studio Editor (compatible on Windows, Mac & Linux).

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| 1. Use [this link](https://code.visualstudio.com/download) to download the IDE (make sure you click on the right download based on your operating system) 2. Open the file downloaded to finish the setup for the IDE on your computer 3. Make a folder somewhere on your computer where you will save your programs, then open the folder in Visual Studio (see below) 4. Save a workspace in that same folder (File > Save Workspace As…)   Use this Workspace to write and save all your JavaScript programs. To create a file:   1. In the sidebar on the left, the name of the folder you created should be in the list somewhere. Right click on it and click “New File” 2. With the file open in the editor, copy and paste the code in the “HTML Code Setup” file on the classroom. ***You need to do this for every single new file you create.*** 3. At the bottom right of the screen on the blue bar, click on the part that says “Plain Text”. A menu will open up to show you the options you have for the type of file you want to save. From the menu, **CHOOSE “HTML”**, **DO NOT** choose JavaScript.      1. Write JavaScript code under the part “JavaScript code goes here” 2. Go to File > Save As… and save the file as a .html file     To run your code, simply open the file and it will run in a tab in your browser. |