

yimatt/resources · VS Code

Getting started with VS Code

by yimatt.com · 2 min · updated 2026-10-28 · beginner

What you'll do

In this guide you will set up a clean, reproducible VS Code workflow from the official documentation, verify your local configuration, and run a minimal working check so you can build with confidence.

Prerequisites

- Access to the official documentation at [VS Code](https://code.visualstudio.com) (<https://code.visualstudio.com>).
- A terminal and a modern code editor such as [VS Code](#) or [Neovim](#).
- Basic familiarity with command-line navigation and version control with [Git](#).

Step-by-step setup

1. Verify the official source and release channel. Open [VS Code User Guide](#) and confirm you are reading the current stable release notes rather than outdated third-party blog posts.
2. Initialize a minimal workspace. Create a dedicated directory for testing VS Code in isolation before integrating it into a larger repository:

```
code
```

```
mkdir -p ~/projects/vscode-starter
cd ~/projects/vscode-starter
git init
```

TIP

Keep a small `README.md` in your starter folder recording the exact version and flags you used so future projects can copy a known-good baseline.

3. Configure strict defaults early. Create your baseline configuration file and commit it before adding optional plugins or third-party dependencies:

code

```
{
  "resource": "vscode",
  "type": "editor",
  "strict": true,
  "verified": "2026-10-28"
}
```

4. Run a smoke check. Execute the minimal build, query, or verification step described in [VS Code User Guide](#) and confirm zero warnings in your terminal output.

NOTE

The safest default recommendation for almost any developer. Keep your installed extensions under ten so startup stays instant.

Common mistakes

COMMON MISTAKE

Copy-pasting unpinned snippets from older tutorials. Always check the version selector in [VS Code User Guide](#) first. Major releases frequently simplify configuration and deprecate legacy flags.

WARNING

Avoid installing five companion libraries or extensions on day one. Run VS Code with its built-in defaults for a full day before adding abstractions.

Next steps

- Bookmark [VS Code User Guide](#) for daily API lookups.
- Return to the [VS Code resource page](#) to watch the curated explainers or explore paired tools.

A note from yimatt.com

Field notes from using VS Code in production projects.

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<https://resources.yimatt.com/r/vscode/guides/getting-started/>