

Top VS Code Extensions Every Developer Must Use

Boost Productivity, Debugging, and Workflow Efficiency

Website Name: haas.dev

Website Link: <https://dev-roast-app.vercel.app>

Introduction

Visual Studio Code (VS Code) is a versatile code editor.

Using the **right extensions** can significantly improve coding speed, debugging, and project management.

1. Productivity Extensions

- **Prettier – Code Formatter**
 - Auto-formats code for consistency
 - Supports JavaScript, Python, HTML, CSS
 - **Bracket Pair Colorizer 2**
 - Colors matching brackets
 - Makes reading nested code easier
 - **Path Intellisense**
 - Auto-completes file paths while importing
 - Reduces errors in large projects
 - **Todo Tree**
 - Highlights TODO/FIXME comments in code
 - Helps track pending tasks
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2. Git & Version Control Extensions

- **GitLens**
 - Visualize Git history

- Shows who changed what and when
 - **Git Graph**
 - Interactive commit graph
 - Makes branching and merging easier
 - **GitHub Pull Requests and Issues**
 - Manage PRs and issues directly from VS Code
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3. Language-Specific Extensions

- **Python** – Linting, IntelliSense, testing, debugging
 - **ES7+ React/Redux/React-Native/JS** – Snippets for React and JS development
 - **Flutter & Dart** – Full support for Flutter projects
 - **Java Extension Pack** – Includes Maven, Spring Boot, and debugging tools
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4. Debugging & Testing Extensions

- **Debugger for Chrome** – Debug JavaScript apps in Chrome
 - **Jest** – Run and debug unit tests for JS/React projects
 - **Python Test Explorer** – Test Python code with unittest, pytest
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5. UI & Theme Extensions

- **Material Icon Theme** – Makes file icons recognizable
 - **One Dark Pro** – Popular dark theme for coding
 - **Peacock** – Color-code VS Code workspace for multiple projects
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6. Workflow & Automation Extensions

- **Live Server** – Launch a development server with live reload
- **REST Client** – Test API endpoints without Postman
- **Settings Sync** – Sync extensions, themes, and settings across devices
- **Auto Import** – Automatically import modules in JavaScript/TypeScript

7. Best Practices

- Only install extensions relevant to your workflow
- Keep extensions updated to avoid conflicts
- Use keyboard shortcuts to speed up workflow
- Regularly review and disable unused extensions

8. Mini Project Ideas to Practice Extensions

1. **React Portfolio Website** – Use Prettier, Path Intellisense, GitLens
2. **Python CLI Tool** – Python extension, debugger, test explorer
3. **Flutter Mobile App** – Flutter & Dart, Live Server, Git Graph

Key Takeaways

- VS Code extensions **enhance coding efficiency and workflow**
- Productivity, Git, debugging, and language-specific extensions are essential
- Practicing mini-projects helps integrate extensions into real development
- Maintaining a clean and organized VS Code setup boosts long-term productivity

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