

VS Code Settings

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VS Code is highly customizable due to the extent of changeable settings. Settings in VS Code allow you to modify almost all aspects, including the editor’s appearance, code formatting, and other behaviors. There are two different scopes for settings:

- User settings apply to all your VS Code sessions.
- Workspace settings are stored inside a workspace (folder) and are only active when the Workspace is open.

i Note

This page focuses on the types of settings in VS Code and how to edit them. For setting recommendations please refer to [Recommended Settings and Extensions](#).

Users can modify settings from the UI editor or edit `settings.json` files directly. Please refer to the screenshots below to access the UI editor. Further details on the contents of User and Workspace settings are in the following sections.

User Settings

All VS Code user settings are specified in a `settings.json` file. You can customize these settings by editing the `settings.json` file directly or using the settings UI editor. To edit `settings.json`, utilize the Command Palette **Cmd + Shift + P** for macOS or **Ctrl + Shift + P** for Windows and then type “Preferences: Open Settings (JSON)”.

When utilizing the settings UI editor, either of the first two tabs, **User** or **Remote** [`{SERVER_ADDRESS}`], will work to change User settings.

`{SERVER_ADDRESS}` is your actual Posit Workbench server address.

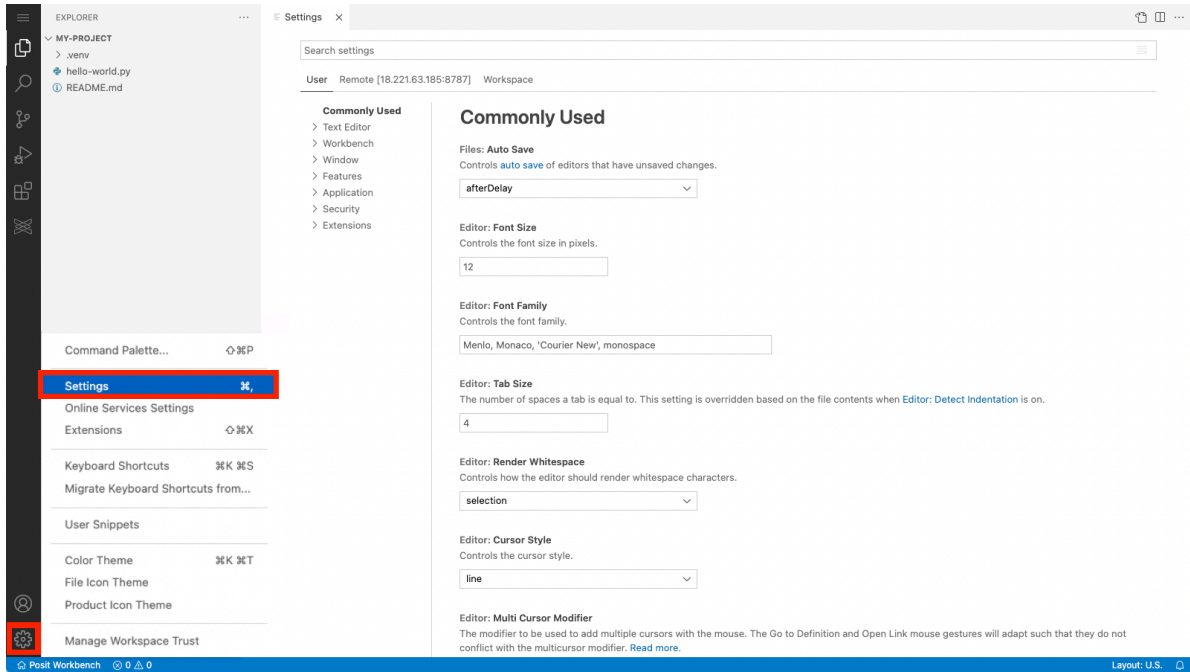


Figure 1: Access settings UI editor from the **Manage** icon

Workspace Settings

Each Workspace setting is specified in `.vscode/settings.json` within the workspace folder. The same settings may be set in Workspace settings as in User settings and will override the User settings when opening a Workspace. Settings may be changed by editing the `.vscode/settings.json` file directly or using the settings UI editor and clicking the **Workspace** tab.

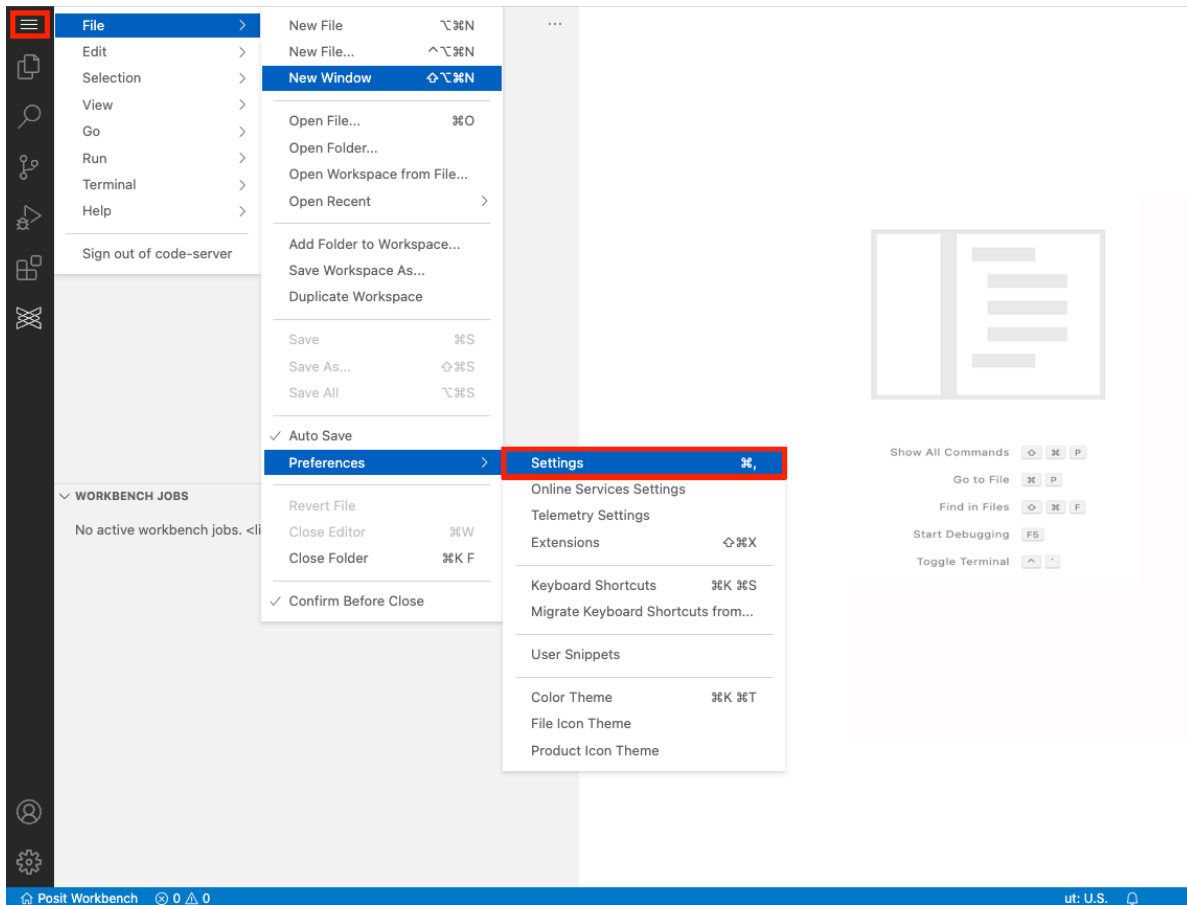


Figure 2: Access settings UI editor from the **File** menu

The screenshot shows the VS Code Explorer on the left with a project structure: MY-PROJECT, .venv, hello-world.py, and README.md. The main editor displays the contents of settings.json:

```
1 {
2   "[python]": {
3     "editor.rulers": [
4       80
5     ],
6     "editor.tabSize": 4
7   },
8   "[r]": {
9     "editor.rulers": [
10      80
11    ],
12    "editor.tabSize": 2
13  },
14  "jupyter.sendSelectionToInteractiveWindow": true
15 }
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates: Posit Workbench, 0 0 0, Ln 15, Col 4, Spaces: 4, UTF-8, LF, JSON with Comments, Layout: U.S.

Figure 3: Example of settings.json contents

The screenshot shows the VS Code Settings interface. The Explorer on the left shows the same project structure as Figure 3. The Settings view is open, showing a search bar and a list of settings categories. The 'User' setting is highlighted with a red box. The 'Commonly Used' section is expanded, showing the following settings:

- Files: Auto Save**: Controls auto save of editors that have unsaved changes. Set to `afterDelay`.
- Editor: Font Size**: Controls the font size in pixels. Set to `12`.
- Editor: Font Family**: Controls the font family. Set to `Menlo, Monaco, 'Courier New', monospace`.
- Editor: Tab Size**: The number of spaces a tab is equal to. This setting is overridden based on the file contents when Editor: Detect Indentation is on. Set to `4`.

The status bar at the bottom indicates: Posit Workbench, 0 0 0, Layout: U.S.