

Part 0: Setup

Initial setup for our Data Visualization tutorial.

Within your terminal/command line (note: if using Windows, your prompt will look like `C:\` rather than `$`)

- To get to your “Home” directory:

```
$ cd
```

- To create a new `Projects` folder and move to that directory. You can name it whatever you want, just remember what you named it, and where it is:

```
$ mkdir Projects && cd Projects
```

- Clone the New Coder project into the directory you’re currently in, which is `Projects` (unless you named it something else):

```
$ git clone https://github.com/econchick/new-coder.git
```

- Change into the Data Viz project:

```
$ cd new-coder/dataviz
```

- To make a virtual environment specific to your Data Viz project, run the following command. You should see `(DataVizProject)` before your prompt.

```
# for Linux/Mac OS X
$ mkvirtualenv DataVizProj
(DataVizProj)$
# for Windows
C:\Projects\new-coder\dataviz\virtualenv.py DataVizProj
(DataVizProj) C:\
```

- Now we will install the package requirements for this project. Your virtual environment will store the required packages in a self-contained area to not mess up with other Python projects.

```
(DataVizProject) $ pip install -r requirements.txt
```

- **NOTE** Sometimes, NumPy is finicky. If the previous step returns errors, try:

```
(DataVizProj)$ pip install numpy
(DataVizProj)$ pip install matplotlib
```

- Test the installation real quick by starting up the Python interpreter:

```
(DataVizProj)$ python
>>> import numpy
>>> import matplotlib
```

- If you have no errors (you would just see the `>>>` prompt), then you're good to go. You can close out of the Python interpreter by pressing `CTRL+D`. If you do have errors, I'd try downloading numpy and matplotlib manually from <http://scipy.org/Download> and <http://matplotlib.org/downloads.html>, respectively.

Continue on to Part 1: Parsing our Data →