Basic Steps to Install Python for Chartered Accountants

Python is a powerful programming language that Chartered Accountants can use for automation, data analysis, financial modeling, and integration with Tally, Excel, and ERP systems. Below are the basic steps to install Python on a Windows system.

## Download Python Installer

* Go to the official Python website:https://www.python.org/downloads/
* [Link to Download](https://www.python.org/downloads/)
* Click on the latest version of Python (e.g., Python 3.12.x)
* Download the Windows installer ("Windows installer (64-bit)")

## Run the Installer

* Locate the downloaded `.exe` file and double-click to run it.
* In the first screen:  
   - Check the box: "Add Python to PATH"  
   - Click on "Customize installation"

## Customize Installation (Recommended)

* Keep all default options checked (pip, IDLE, documentation, etc.)
* Click "Next"

## Advanced Options Setup (Environment Variables)

* In the "Advanced Options" screen:  
   - Check the box: "Install for all users"  
   - Check the box: "Add Python to environment variables"
* Optional: Customize the install location, e.g., C:\Python312
* Click "Install" to proceed

## Wait for Installation to Complete

* Once installed, click "Close"

## Verify Installation

* Open Command Prompt (type `cmd` in search)
* Type `python --version` and press Enter
* You should see something like: Python 3.12.3
* Then Type “pip list”
* You should see something like: pip version 2.##.##

(If you do not get anything then uninstall python and recheck whether you followed all of the steps as mentioned else redo it)

## Install Common Packages for Accountants

* Open Command Prompt and run:  
   pip install pandas openpyxl xlrd matplotlib jupyter
* These packages help in Excel automation, data analysis, and reporting.

## Optional: Install Visual Studio Code (VS Code)

* Download from: https://code.visualstudio.com/
* Install Python extension inside VS Code for script editing and debugging.

## Example Use Cases for CAs

* Automate bank statement reconciliation
* Extract data from Tally using ODBC
* Create Excel reports with pandas and openpyxl
* Analyze GSTR, 26AS, AIS data
* Visualize financial ratios with charts

## Image Illustration

A screenshot of a computer

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A screenshot of a computer program

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