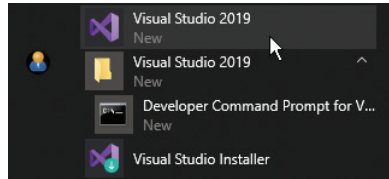




The first time Visual Studio starts it takes a few minutes as it performs configuration routines.

Exploring the IDE

- 1 Go to your apps menu, then select the Visual Studio 2019 menu item added there by the installer:

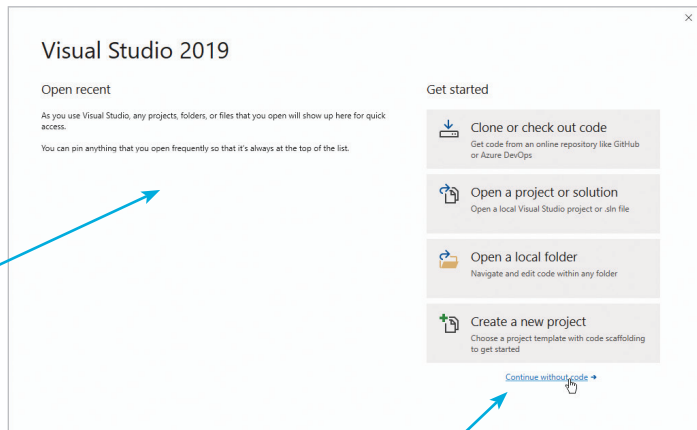


- 2 Sign in with your Microsoft account, or register an account then sign in, to continue

- 3 See a default **Start Page** appear where recent projects will be listed alongside several “Get started” options



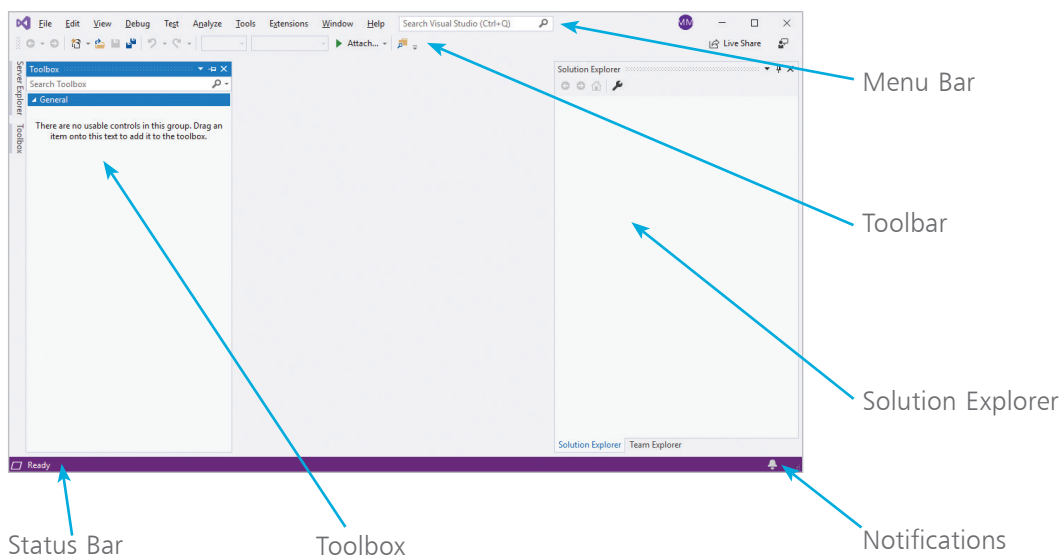
In the future your recent projects will be listed here so you can easily reopen them.



- 4 For now, just click the link to **Continue without code** to launch the Visual Studio application

The Visual Studio Integrated Development Environment (IDE) appears, from which you have instant access to everything needed to produce complete Windows applications – from here you can create exciting visual interfaces, enter code, compile and execute applications, debug errors, and much more.

...cont'd



Visual Studio IDE components

The Visual Studio IDE initially provides these standard features:

- **Menu Bar** – Where you can select actions to perform on all your project files and to access Help. When a project is open, extra menus of Project and Build are shown in addition to the default menu selection of File, Edit, View, Debug, Test, Analyze, Tools, Extensions, Window, and Help.
- **Toolbar** – Where you can perform the most popular menu actions with just a single click on their associated shortcut icons.
- **Toolbox** – Where you can select visual elements to add to a project. Click the Toolbox side bar button to see its contents. When a project is open, “controls” such as Button, Label, CheckBox, RadioButton, and TextBox are shown here.
- **Solution Explorer** – Where you can see at a glance all the files and resource components contained within an open project.
- **Status Bar** – Where you can read the state of the current activity being undertaken. When building an application, a “Build started” message is displayed here, changing to a “Build succeeded” or “Build failed” message upon completion.



To change the color, choose the **Tools, Options** menu then select **Environment, General, Color Theme**.