

Deployment Step-by-Step Guide

Get your project live on the internet. Find your workspace below and follow the steps.

Replit (Recommended)

If you built your project in Replit, deployment is built right in. No extra tools needed.

1. Open your project in Replit and make sure it runs correctly in the preview panel.
2. Click the **"Deploy"** button in the top toolbar.
3. Choose **"Static Deployment"** (for HTML/CSS/JS projects) or **"Reserved VM"** if prompted.
4. Follow the prompts. Replit will build and deploy your project.
5. You'll get a live URL like **your-project.repl.co** — copy and share it!
6. **To update:** Edit your project in Replit and redeploy. Changes go live in seconds.
7. **Optional:** In Deploy settings, you can connect a custom domain if you have one.

Bolt.new

Bolt also has built-in deployment. Similar to Replit — the platform handles hosting for you.

1. Make sure your project preview is working correctly in Bolt.
2. Click the **"Deploy"** button.
3. Bolt will build and host your project automatically.
4. You'll receive a shareable URL for your live project.
5. **To update:** Make changes in Bolt and redeploy. Updates are instant.

Netlify (For File-Based Projects)

If you built your project as files on your computer (VS Code + AI assistant), Netlify is the easiest way to get it online. Free, fast, and no account linking required.

1. Go to **netlify.com** and click "Sign up." Use your email or a GitHub account.
2. Once logged in, look for **"Add new site"** then click **"Deploy manually."**
3. Open your project folder on your computer. Make sure all files are there (index.html, any CSS/JS files, images).
4. **Drag your entire project folder** onto the Netlify upload area.
5. Wait about 30 seconds. Netlify gives you a live URL like **random-name-12345.netlify.app**.
6. Click the URL — your project is live on the internet!
7. **Optional:** Click "Site settings" then "Change site name" to pick a better URL (like **your-project-name.netlify.app**).
8. **To update:** Drag the updated folder to Netlify again. Redeploys in seconds.

Common Deployment Issues

Site shows blank page: Make sure your main file is named **index.html** (lowercase). Hosting platforms look for this file first.

Images or styles not loading: Check your file paths. Use **relative paths** (like "images/photo.jpg") not absolute paths (like "C:/Users/..."). Also check that capitalization matches exactly.

Works on computer, broken online: Your browser may be caching old files. Try a hard refresh (Ctrl+Shift+R or Cmd+Shift+R). Also check the browser console (F12) for error messages.

Charts not showing up: If you're using Chart.js or other libraries loaded from a CDN, make sure the CDN links use **https://** not **http://**.

Post-Deployment Checklist

- Test on your phone (not just resized browser — actual phone)
- Test on a desktop/laptop computer
- Click every link and button
- Check that all images and styles load
- Try adding data or interacting with features
- Share the link with 2-3 testers and ask for feedback

Remember: Your first deployment is your MVP (Minimum Viable Product). It doesn't have to be perfect — it just has to work. You'll improve it based on feedback in Lesson 5.8.