Vite Frontend build tool

CONCEPTS

Dev serves your source as native ES modules with no bundling; build bundles for production. Use preview only to check the build locally, not to host it.

index.html entry point
↓ vite
Dev server localhost:5173, HMR
↓ vite build
dist/ bundled assets
↓ vite preview
Local check not for production

Only variables prefixed VITE_ reach client code, and their values are baked into the bundle. Never put secrets in them.

DEV SERVER

vite
Start the dev server (aliases: dev, serve)

vite --port *<port>*
Set the port (default 5173)

vite --host [host]
Listen on all addresses or a given host

vite --open [path]
Open the browser on start

vite --force
Ignore the optimizer cache

vite --mode *<mode>*
Set the env mode (default development)

vite --config *<file>*
Use a specific config file

BUILD

vite build
Production build into dist/

vite build --outDir *<dir>*
Change the output directory

vite build --sourcemap [output]
Emit source maps (true, inline, hidden)

vite build --mode *<mode>*
Build with another env mode

vite build --watch
Rebuild when files change

BUILD (cont.)

vite build --base *<path>*
Build for a sub-path deployment

PREVIEW

vite preview
Serve the built dist/ locally

vite preview --port *<port>*
Set the preview port

vite preview --outDir *<dir>*
Serve a non-default build folder

DEV SERVER KEYS

Type the key in the terminal running the dev server, then press Enter.

h
Show the shortcut list

r
Restart the server

q
Quit the server

SCAFFOLDING

npm create vite@latest *<name>*
Create a project interactively

npm create vite@latest *<name>* **-- --template** *<tpl>*
Scaffold a template (npm 7+ needs --)

ENV AND DEBUGGING

Env files (later rows win)

File	Loaded	Git
`.env`	always	commit
`.env.local`	always	ignored
`.env.<mode>`	that mode only	commit
`.env.<mode>.local`	that mode only	ignored

Read values with import.meta.env.VITE_NAME. Built-ins: MODE, BASE_URL, PROD, DEV, SSR. Shell variables beat env files; restart after editing them.

vite --version
Print the Vite version