# List of software to install before the class

*We highly recommend you prepare your laptop per below. If you wait until the day of the class to do this, you may find your downloads will be slow due to others who did not prepare, and you will get overwhelmed with installation tasks while trying to learn. You risk not being able to complete some of the hands-on-lab exercises. Preparation will help you get the best from the class and reduce the load on technical support. Thank you for good preparation!*

## Supported OS:

Microsoft Windows 7, 8, 8.1, Linux, or OSX – with modern HTML5 browsers.

## Software on Windows:

1. Editor such as Sublime <http://www.sublimetext.com/>
2. Python For Windows <http://www.python.org/ftp/python/2.7.5/python-2.7.5.msi>
3. Install [Microsoft WebPI](http://www.microsoft.com/web/downloads/platform.aspx) (Web Platform Installer) to install related Azure Developer Tools:
   1. Windows Azure Libraries for .NET – 2.1 or better
   2. Windows Azure SDK for .NET – 2.1 or better (matching Visual Studio Version if installed)
   3. Windows Azure Cross-platform Command Line Tools
   4. Windows Azure PowerShell [Optional]
   5. Python Tools for Visual Studio 2.0RC or better (matching VS version) [Optional]
4. Visual Studio 2012, or 2013 RC, or better [Optional]
5. LayerScape <http://go.microsoft.com/?linkid=9788727> [Optional]
6. Another browser that supports HTML5, e.g., Chrome or Firefox [Optional]

## Storage tools on Windows:

1. Azure Storage Explorer 5 Preview or better <http://azurestorageexplorer.codeplex.com/>
2. AzCopy <http://blogs.msdn.com/b/windowsazurestorage/archive/2013/09/07/azcopy-transfer-data-with-re-startable-mode-and-sas-token.aspx>
3. FTP client such as FileZilla <https://filezilla-project.org/>
4. Azure Management Studio <http://www.cerebrata.com/products/overview> (free for this class).

Email: [msr@cerebrata.com](mailto:msr@cerebrata.com) to receive a free license, mentioning the **Location** of your Microsoft Research Azure for Research class, and the **instructor** **Name**. [Optional]

1. Azure explorer <http://www.cerebrata.com/labs/azure-explorer> [Optional]

## Cygwin Unix tools on Windows:

1. Install Cygwin first: <http://www.cygwin.com/>
   1. Git, ssh, openssl, wget, curl, perl, python, and other normal useful tools.

## Microsoft Excel tools on Windows to support some exercises:

1. [Power Query](http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/excel/download-microsoft-power-query-for-excel-FX104018616.aspx) and [PowerPivot](http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/bi/powerpivot.aspx) will work with Office 2010 or later, but [Power Map](http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=38395) only works with Excel 2013 or Office 365. Recommend: [Office 365 for Education](http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/academic/) (free trial).

## Software on Linux and Mac:

1. Python and Windows Azure Python SDK   
   <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/develop/python/common-tasks/install-python/>
2. Windows Azure Cross Platform Command Line Interface   
   <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/manage/install-and-configure-cli/>
3. Editor such as Sublime <http://www.sublimetext.com/>
4. Git, ssh and other normal useful Unix tools.

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