

Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for PC, Mac or Linux (with Screenshots)

This guide will walk you through each step of installing Python on a PC, Mac or Linux computer. Depending on your operating system version, what you see here might be slightly different from what's on your screen, but these steps should get you up and running.

If you're installing Python on a computer at school or work, you may need help or permission from the IT department to perform the installation. If you run into issues installing Python at school, ask for IT help and let them know you're studying programming.

Click any of the links below to jump directly to the right section for your system:

- [Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for PC \(with Screenshots\) - pages 2-11](#)
- [Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for Mac \(with Screenshots\) - pages 12-19](#)
- [Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for Linux \(with Screenshots\) - pages 20-22](#)

Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for PC (with Screenshots)

This guide will walk you through each step of installing Python on a PC. Depending on your operating system version, what you see here might be slightly different from what's on your screen, but these steps should get you up and running.

If you're installing Python on a computer at school or work, you may need help or permission from the IT department to perform the installation. If you run into issues installing Python at school, ask for IT help and let them know you're studying programming.

Python for Windows

For Windows, we'll use Python version 3.4.3 or newer.

Download the Installer

Go to <http://python.org>. Hover your mouse over the **Downloads** link. You'll see a drop-down list of options, as shown in Figure A-1.

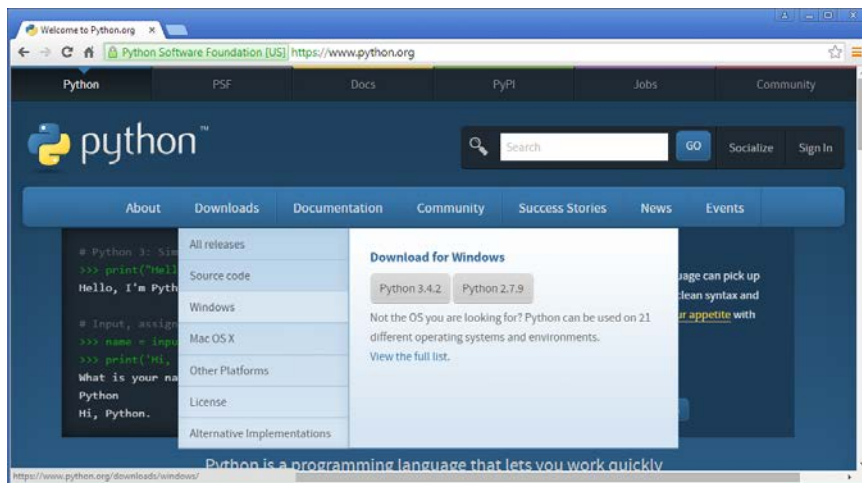


Figure A-1: Go to <http://python.org/> and hover your mouse over **Downloads** to display a list of options.

In the drop-down list, click the **Python 3.4.3** (or newer) link under **Download for Windows**. This will download the installer program.

Run the Installer

Wait until the download finishes, then open your **Downloads** folder. In your **Downloads** folder, you should see the **python-3.4.3** (or newer) Windows Installer program file, as shown in Figure A-2.

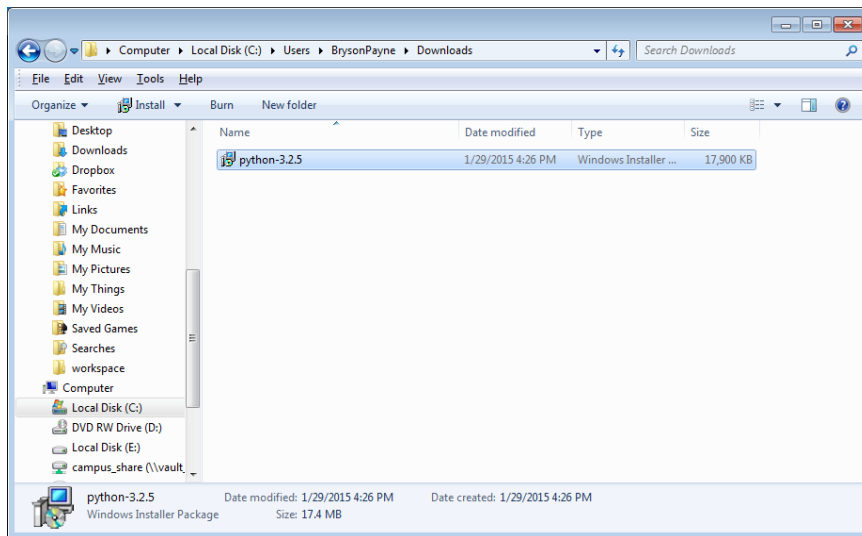
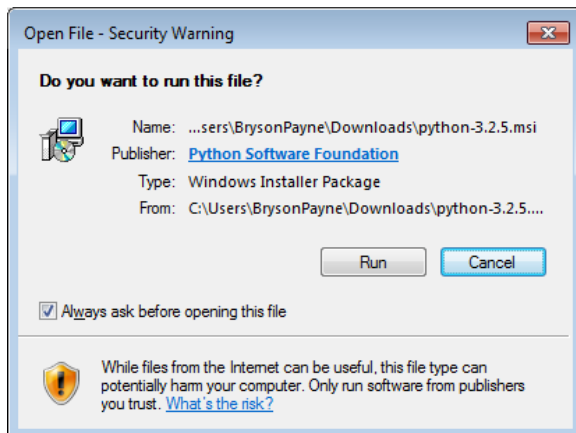


Figure A-2: Open your Downloads folder and find the python-3.4.3 Windows Installer program file.

Double-click the **python-3.4.3** Windows Installer program file to begin installation.

A Security Warning window might come up, as shown in Figure A-3. If you get a Security Warning window, click **Run**; Windows is just letting you know the software is trying to install something on your computer.



*Figure A-3: If a Security Warning window comes up, click **Run** to allow the installation.*

The installer may ask if you would like to install Python for all users or just yourself, as shown in Figure A-4. It's usually best to choose **Install for all users**, but if that isn't allowed at your school or office, or you can't get it to work, try **Install just for me**.

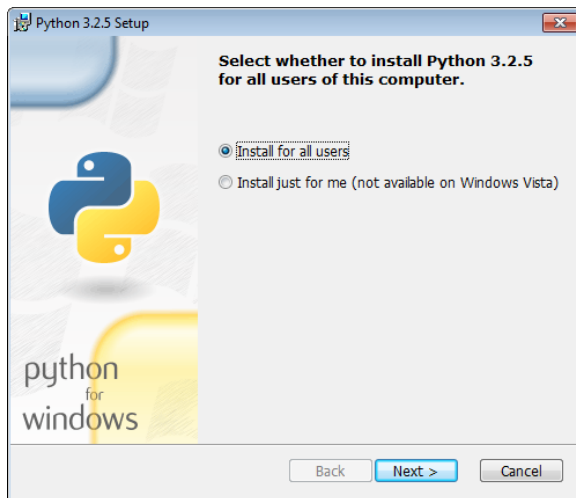


Figure A-4: If the installer asks, choose **Install for all users**. Click **Next >**.

Once you've selected either Install for all users or Install just for me, click **Next >**.

This should take you to a Select Destination Directory page like the one shown in Figure A-5. This is where you can choose what folder to install Python in. The program will try to install on your **C:** drive under a folder called **Python34**, and this should work for your laptop or home PC. Click **Next >** to keep installing. (If you're installing at school or work and run into trouble, your IT staff may tell you to install in a different folder, like **User** or **Desktop**.)

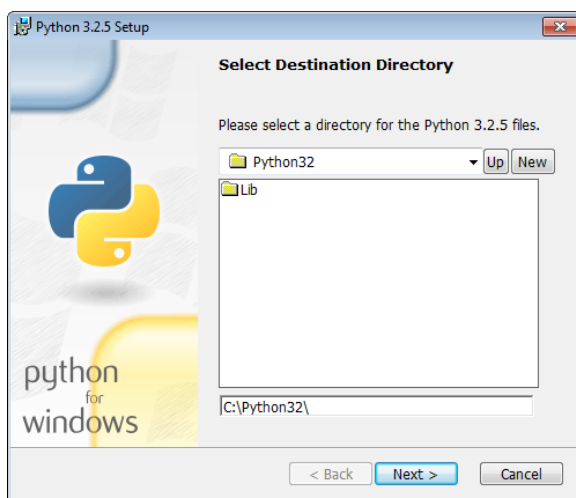


Figure A-5: Once you've chosen which folder to install Python in, click **Next >**.

Now you'll see a page like the one shown in Figure A-6 asking you to customize Python. You don't need to change anything here. Just click **Next >**.



Figure A-6: When you get to the Customize Python page, just click **Next >**.

You're just about finished with the installer. You should see a page like the one shown in Figure A-7. Click **Finish** to exit the installer.

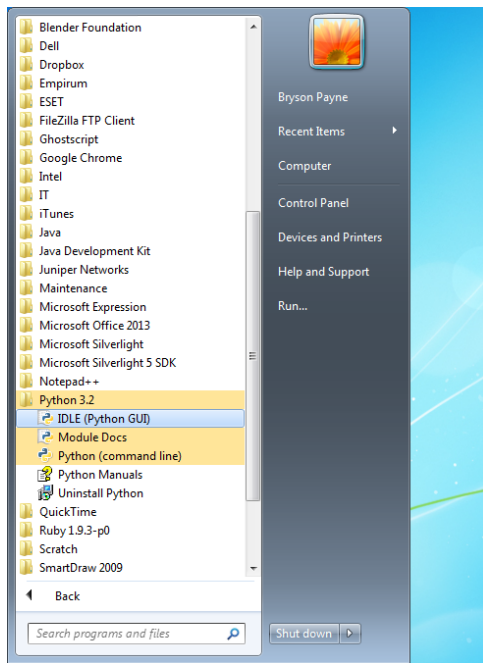


Figure A-7: Once you've completed the installer, click **Finish** to exit.

You've installed Python! Next, you can try it out to make sure it works properly.

Try Out Python

Go to **Start ▶ Programs ▶ Python 3.2 ▶ IDLE (Python GUI)**, as shown in Figure A-8. (On Windows 8 and later, you can click the Windows/Start button, go to the Search tool, and type **IDLE**).



*Figure A-8: In your Start menu, in the **Programs** folder, find Python 3.4 and click **IDLE (Python GUI)**. On Windows 8 and later, you can click the Windows/Start button, go to Search, and type **IDLE**.*

The Python shell editor screen should appear, as shown in Figure A-9. This Python shell program is where you can enter code and see results right away.

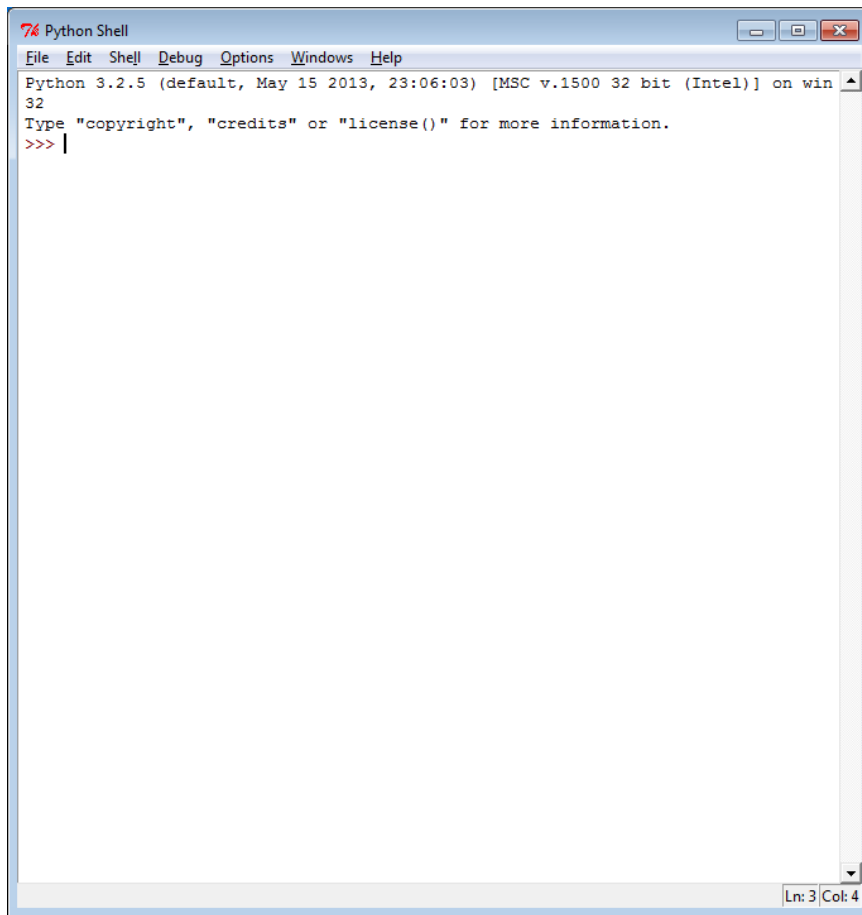
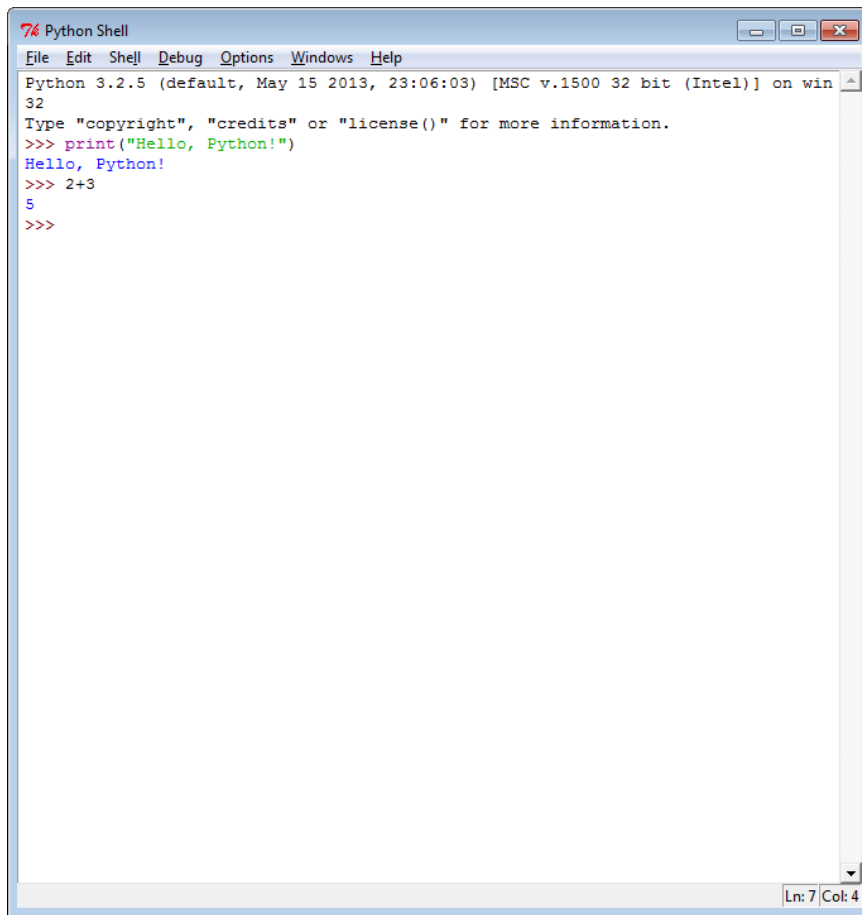


Figure A-9: The Python shell editor screen should appear. You're ready to code!

If you're curious, you can start trying out some code. Type `print("Hello, Python!")` and press **ENTER**. The Python shell should respond with `Hello, Python!`, as shown in Figure A-10.



```
Python Shell
File Edit Shell Debug Options Windows Help
Python 3.2.5 (default, May 15 2013, 23:06:03) [MSC v.1500 32 bit (Intel)] on win
32
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> print("Hello, Python!")
Hello, Python!
>>> 2+3
5
>>>
```

Figure A-10: Type `print("Hello, Python!")` and press `ENTER`. The Python shell should respond with `Hello, Python!`.

Try addition, like `2 + 3`. Press `ENTER`, and Python will respond with the answer! Finally, you may want to change the size of the text in IDLE to make it easier to read. With IDLE running, go to **Options ▸ Configure IDLE...**. Under **Fonts/Tabs**, as shown in Figure A-11, change the **Size** option to **18**, or adjust it larger or smaller until it's easy for you to read. You can also check the **Bold** checkbox to make the text thicker. Customize the font to anything that's comfortable for your eyes.

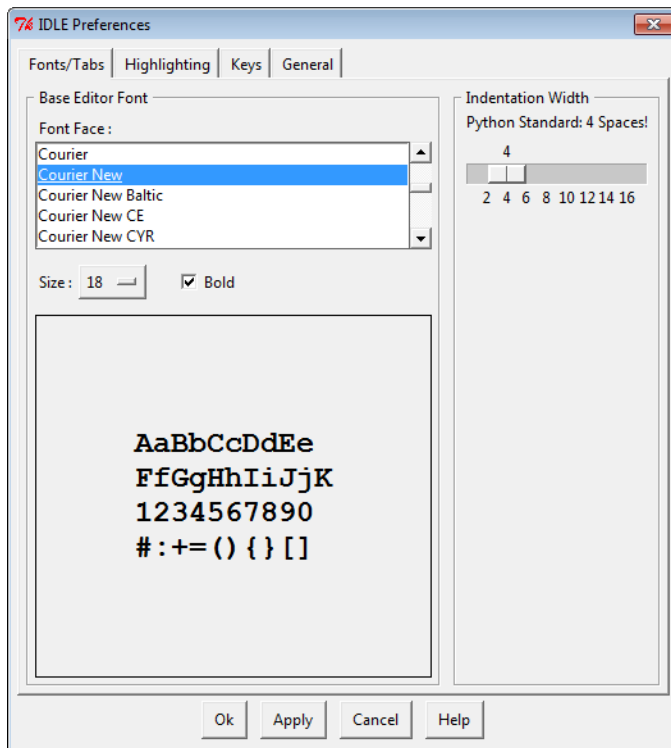


Figure A-11: Go to **Options ▸ Configure IDLE...** and under **Fonts/Tabs**, change the **Size** option to **18** and check the **Bold** checkbox for better readability.

Once you've chosen font and size options to make your IDLE input easy to read, click **Apply**, and then click **Ok** to return to the IDLE Python shell screen. Now when you type, you should see text appear in the font and size you chose, as shown in Figure A-12.

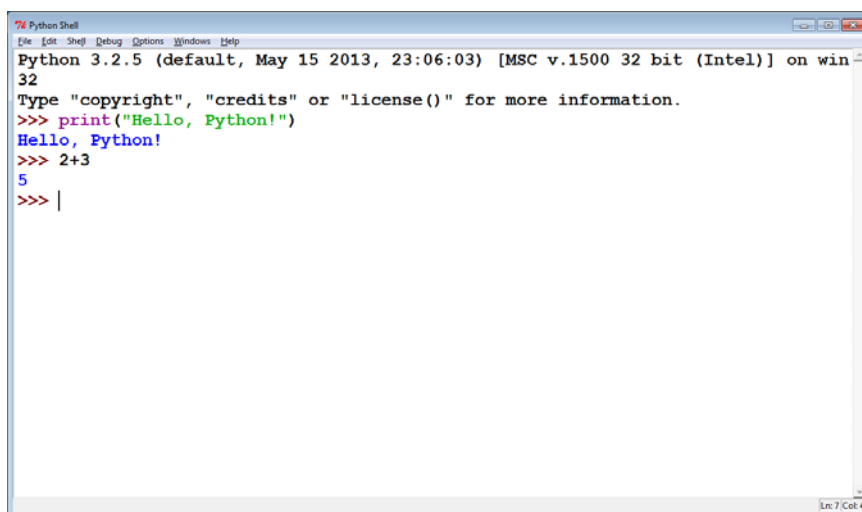


Figure A-12: Your IDLE Python shell is customized and ready to go.

You're ready to try all the programs in [Teach Your Kids to Code](#). Happy coding!

© 2015 TeachYourKidsToCode.com

Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for Mac (with Screenshots)

This guide will walk you through each step of installing Python on a Mac. Depending on your operating system version, what you see here might be slightly different from what's on your screen, but these steps should get you up and running.

Most Apple computers come with an earlier version of Python already installed, but we want to install version 3.4.3 (or later) to use the new features of Python 3 to run the sample code from the course.

Download the Installer

Go to <http://python.org>, and hover your mouse over the **Downloads** link to see a drop-down list of options. You'll see Mac OS X on this list, as shown in Figure A-13.

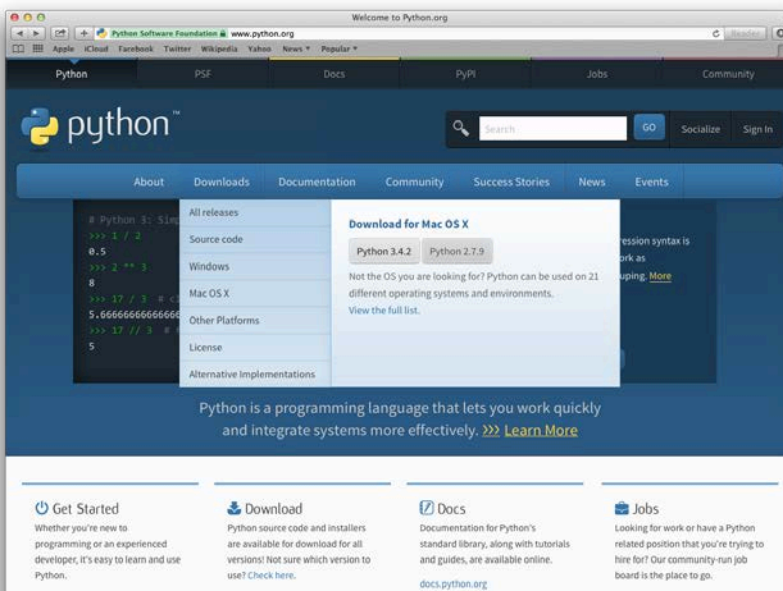


Figure A-13: Go to <http://python.org/>, and hover your mouse over the **Downloads** link. You should see a **Mac OS X** link in the drop-down list.

Click the **Mac OS X** link in the drop-down list. This will take you to a Python Releases For Mac OS X page.

On the Python Releases For Mac OS X page, find the link that starts with **Python 3.4.2** and click it. This will download the installer program.

Run the Installer

Wait for the download to finish, then open your **Downloads** folder to find the **python-3.4.2** Mac Installer program file, as shown in Figure A-14. Double-click the file to begin installation.

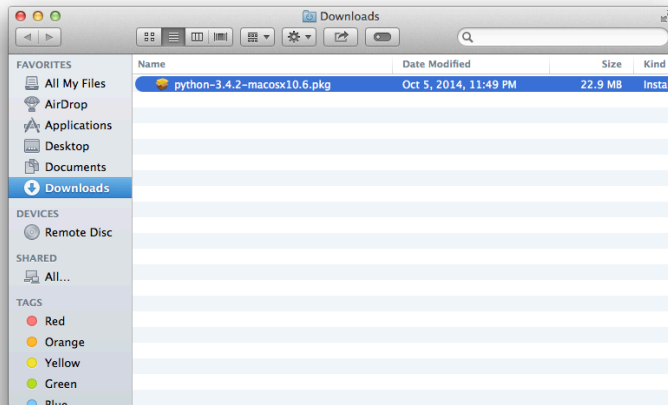


Figure A-14: Open your **Downloads** folder and double-click the **python-3.4.2** Mac Installer program file.

Double-clicking the installer file will open an Install Python window. The first page you'll see in this window is a welcome screen like the one shown in Figure A-15. Click **Continue**.



Figure A-15: Click **Continue** on the welcome screen.

Read and click **Agree** on the software license pop-up, as shown in Figure A-16.

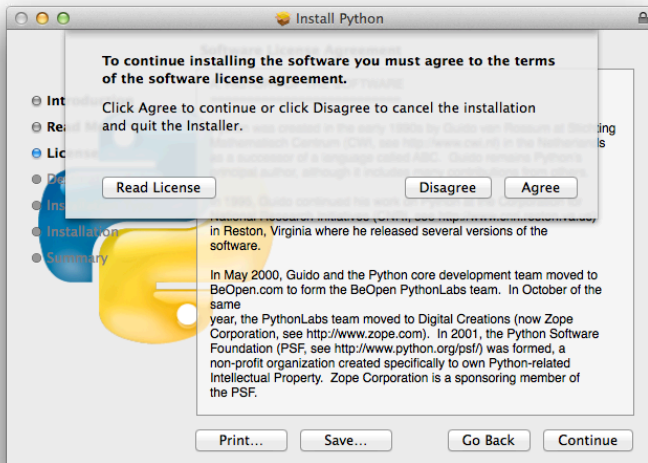


Figure A-16: Read and click **Agree** on the software license pop-up.

You'll be taken to a Select a Destination screen, as shown in Figure A-17, where you'll choose which disk to install Python on. The program will usually be installed on your Mac HD hard drive, and this should work for your MacBook or home Mac. Click **Continue** to keep installing. (If you're installing at school or work and run into trouble, your IT staff may tell you to install in a different folder; ask them for help if needed.)



Figure A-17: Click **Continue** to keep installing.

Click **Install** on the next screen, as shown in Figure A-18.

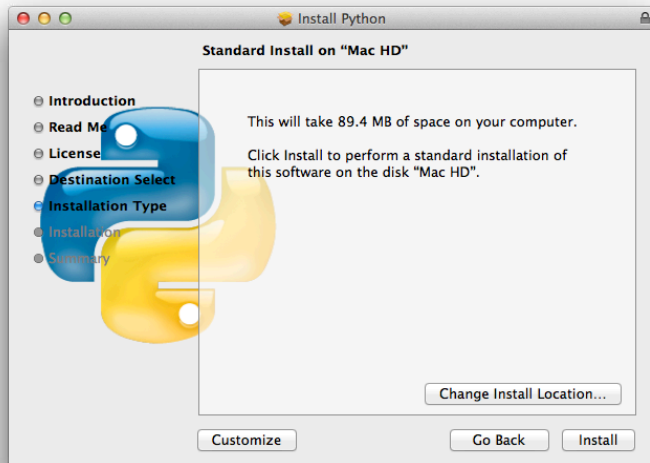


Figure A-18: Click **Install**.

You should see a screen confirming that the installation is complete, like the one shown in Figure A-19. Click **Close** to exit the installer.

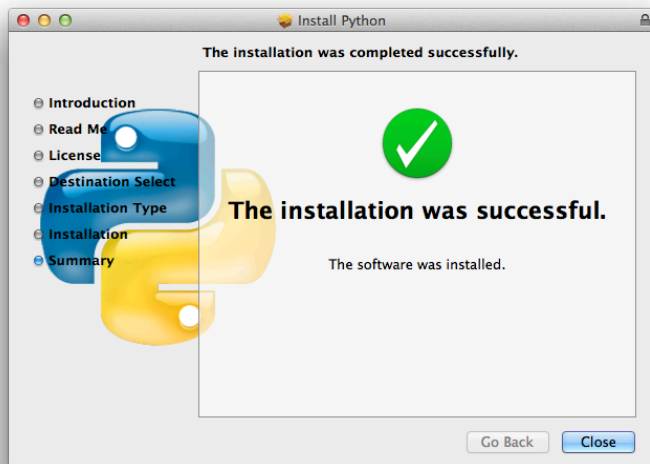


Figure A-19: Once you've completed the installer, click **Close** to exit.

You've installed Python! Next, you can try it out to see if it works.

Try Out Python

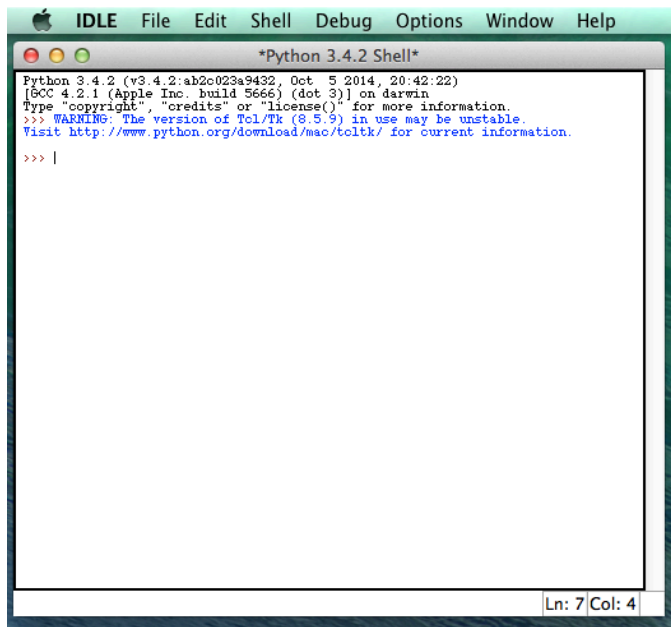


Figure A-21: The Python shell editor screen should appear. You're ready to code!

You may want to change the size of the text in IDLE to make it easier to read on your computer. Go to **IDLE ▶ Preferences...**, as shown in Figure A-22.

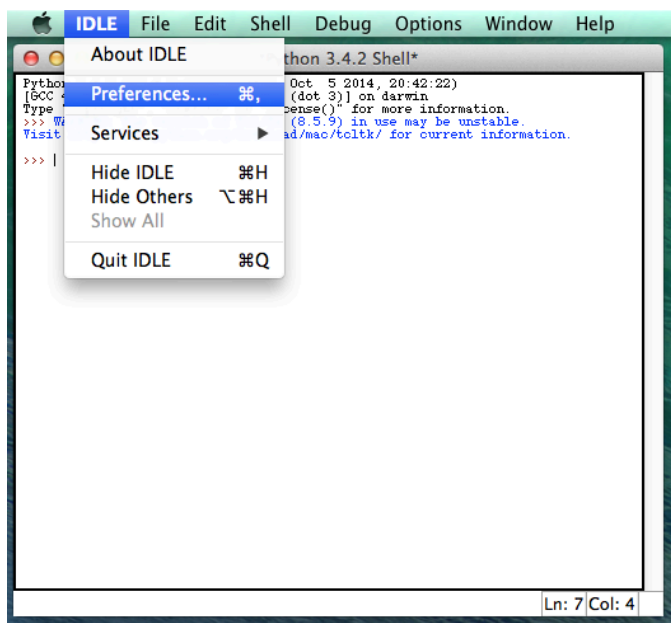
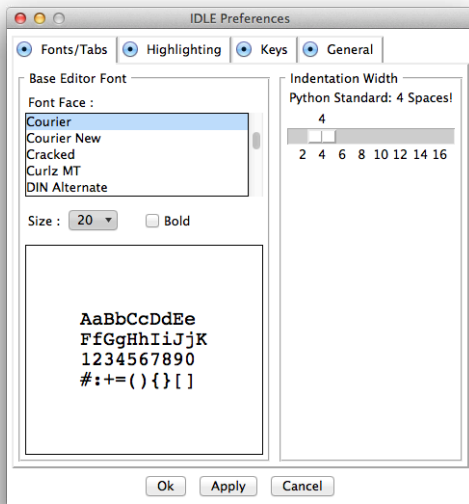


Figure A-22: To change the size of the text in IDLE to make it easier to read, go to **IDLE ▶ Preferences...**

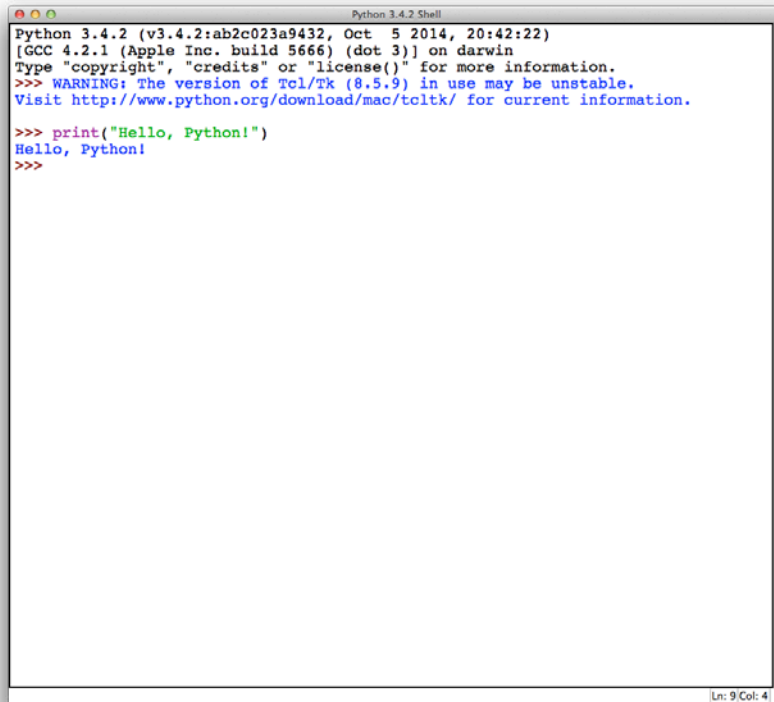
Under **Fonts/Tabs**, change the **Size** option to **20**, as shown in Figure A-23, or adjust it larger or smaller until it's easy to read. You can check the **Bold**

checkbox to make the text thicker if it helps. Customize the font to anything that's comfortable for your eyes.



*Figure A-23: Under **Fonts/Tabs**, change the **Size** to **20**, and check the **Bold** checkbox to make the text easier to read.*

Type `print("Hello, Python!")` and press RETURN; the Python shell should respond with `Hello, Python!`. Try addition, like `2 + 3`. Press RETURN, and Python will respond with the answer, as shown in Figure A-24.



```
Python 3.4.2 (v3.4.2:ab2c023a9432, Oct 5 2014, 20:42:22)
[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5666) (dot 3)] on darwin
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> WARNING: The version of Tcl/Tk (8.5.9) in use may be unstable.
Visit http://www.python.org/download/mac/tcltk/ for current information.

>>> print("Hello, Python!")
Hello, Python!
>>>
```

Figure A-24: Type `print("Hello, Python!")` and press `RETURN`. The Python shell should respond with `Hello, Python!`.

You're ready to try all the programs in **Teach Your Kids to Code**. Happy coding!

Step-by-Step Python 3 Setup for Linux (with Screenshots)

This guide will walk you through each step of installing Python on Linux. Depending on your operating system version, what you see here might be slightly different from what's on your screen, but these steps should get you up and running.

Most Linux distributions, including Ubuntu and even the Linux OS that comes installed on the Raspberry Pi, come with an earlier version of Python already installed. However, most of the apps in this course require Python 3.

Installing Python 3 on Linux

Under the Dash menu, under System Tools, run the Ubuntu Software Center or similar application for your version of Linux. Figure A-25 shows the Software Center running on Lubuntu.

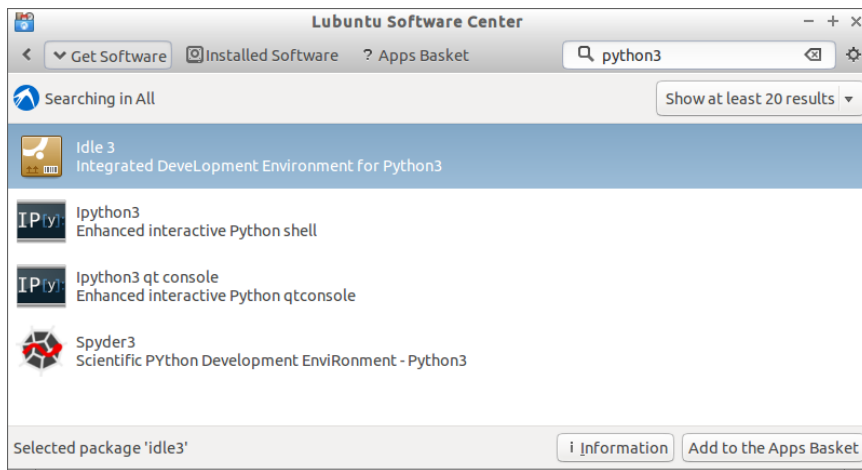


Figure A-25: Installing Python 3 on a computer running Lubuntu Linux

Search for **python3** and find Idle 3. Click **Add to the Apps Basket**.

Open the Apps Basket tab and click **Install Packages**, as shown in Figure A-26.

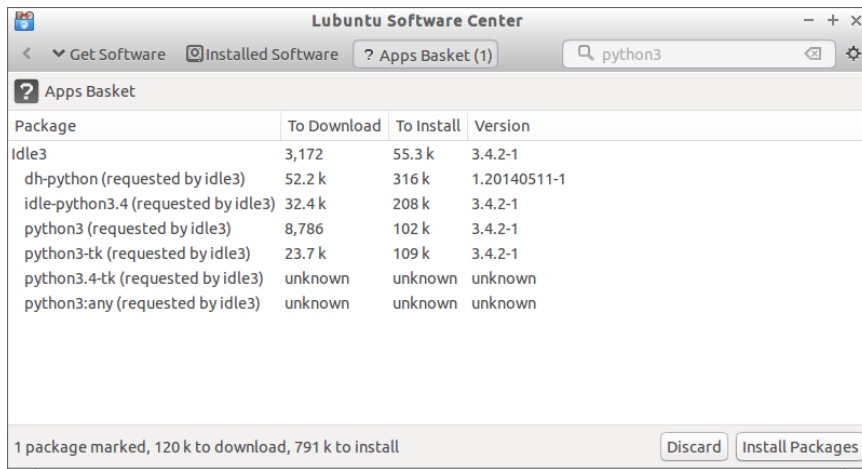


Figure A-26: Install the Idle 3 package, which includes Python 3.

After the installation completes, open a file window, select **Applications**, then **Programming**, and you should see **IDLE (using Python-3.4)**, as shown in Figure A-27.

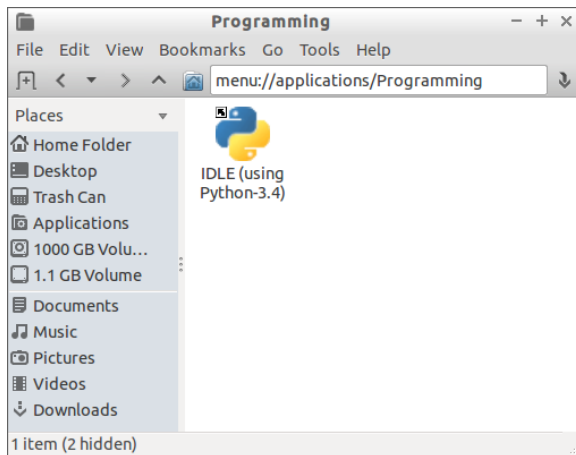


Figure A-27: IDLE, the Python shell program

Test IDLE by running it and typing `2 + 3` and pressing **ENTER**. Type `print("Hello, world!")` and press **ENTER**. IDLE should respond as shown in Figure A-28.

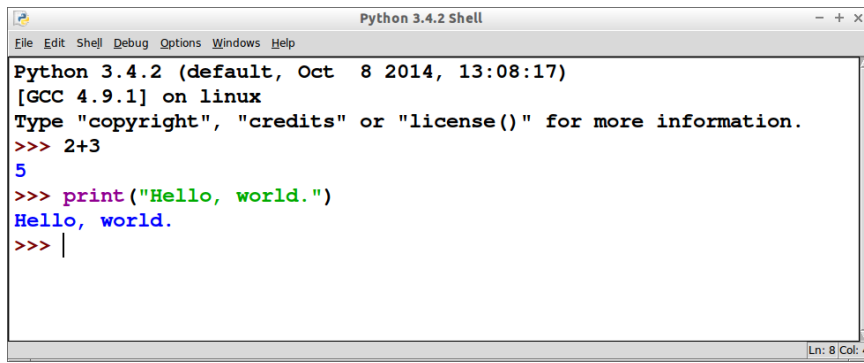
A screenshot of a Python 3.4.2 Shell window. The window has a menu bar with 'File', 'Edit', 'Shell', 'Debug', 'Options', 'Windows', and 'Help'. The main text area shows the following content: 'Python 3.4.2 (default, Oct 8 2014, 13:08:17)' followed by '[GCC 4.9.1] on linux'. Then it says 'Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.' Below this, there are three lines of code execution: '>>> 2+3' followed by '5' on the next line; '>>> print("Hello, world.")' followed by 'Hello, world.' on the next line; and '>>> |' on the final line. The status bar at the bottom right indicates 'Ln: 8 Col: 4'.

Figure A-28: Test Python by running IDLE. You're ready to code!

You're ready to try all the programs in [Teach Your Kids to Code](#). Happy coding!

© 2015 [TeachYourKidsToCode.com](#)