

# Building Forrest

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## 1. Getting the Forrest source

### 1.1. Step-by-step Subversion (SVN) instructions

**Note:**

If you are behind a proxy, see [this FAQ](http://subversion.tigris.org/project_faq.html#proxy) (http://subversion.tigris.org/project\_faq.html#proxy) .

1. Make sure you have a recent release of a [Subversion](http://subversion.tigris.org/) (http://subversion.tigris.org/) client installed and properly configured.
  2. Read the ASF notes about source repositories and [version control](http://www.apache.org/dev/version-control.html) (http://www.apache.org/dev/version-control.html) .
  3. At a command prompt, enter 'svn co http://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/forrest/trunk forrest' (committers should replace http with https).
  4. This will create a directory called "forrest" where the Forrest source will be stored.
- Whenever you want to update your Forrest source tree to the current version, change to the top-level "forrest" directory and invoke 'svn update'.

To see what changes you've made, invoke 'svn status'

SVN is really powerful. See [Version Control with Subversion](http://svnbook.red-bean.com/) (http://svnbook.red-bean.com/) - the opensource SVN book.

### 1.2. Using source snapshots

It is preferable to use SVN, but if you cannot for some reason, then [source snapshots](http://forrest.apache.org/mirrors.cgi) (http://forrest.apache.org/mirrors.cgi) are available (automatically packed every six hours).

## 2. Building and Installing Forrest

To build Forrest, type 'build' on Windows, or './build.sh' on Unix. If everything is successful, you should see a message like this:

```
*-----*
| installation notice
*-----*
| You have built the distribution of Forrest.
| Please set the environment variable FORREST_HOME point to src/core
| It is recommended to add
|   unix: $FORREST_HOME/bin: to your $PATH
|   win: %FORREST_HOME%\bin; to your %PATH%
| Then do 'forrest -projecthelp' to list options for the 'forrest'
```

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```
command
| More help at http://forrest.apache.org/
*-----
```

As the message says, you need to add the distribution's `bin/` ("binary") directory to your `PATH` variable, so the `'forrest'` command is available everywhere:

```
~/apache/forrest$ export FORREST_HOME=`pwd`/src/core
~/apache/forrest$ export PATH=$PATH:$FORREST_HOME/bin
```

After updating the Forrest source from SVN if there have been certain types of updates (to the Java source for `xml-forrest.jar`), you will have to build forrest again.

### 3. Run Forrest, run!

Forrest is now ready to go. Type `'forrest run'` to see the local webapp using the bundled Jetty server. Edit some of Forrest's core documentation and see the effect. The document [Using Forrest](#) (`docs/your-project.html`) is your next step.