

# 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](#).

1. Make sure you have a recent release of a [Subversion](#) client installed and properly configured.
2. Read the ASF notes about source repositories and [version control](#).
3. At a command prompt, enter 'svn co http://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/forrest/trunk forrest' (committees 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](#) - 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](#) are available (automatically packed every six hours).

## 2. Building and installing Forrest

To build Forrest, change directory to 'forrest/main', and then type 'build' on Windows or './build.sh' on Unix. (Requires Java 1.4) If everything is successful, you should see a message similar to:

```
*-----
| Installation notice
*-----
You have built the X.Y-dev version of Forrest.
Please set the environment variable FORREST_HOME point to
/svn/forrest
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' 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:

```
[~]$ cd /path/to/svn/forrest
[/svn/forrest]$ export FORREST_HOME=`pwd`
[/svn/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 need to build forrest again.

### **3. Run Forrest, run!**

Forrest is now ready to go. To view and edit the local copy of Forrest core documentation, cd to site-author and do 'forrest run' to see the local webapp using the bundled Jetty server. Edit something in content/xdocs/\*.xml see the immediate effect.

The document [Using Forrest](#) is your next step.