Table Of Contents

nixCraft: Linux Tips, Hacks, Tutorials, And Ideas In Blog Format
http://www.cyberciti.biz/

Home > Faq > BASH Shell

How to Set JAVA_HOME / PATH variables Under Linux Bash Profile

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. I just need a help to show me how to setup java path on Linux. How can I set JAVA_HOME and PATH variables for every user under my Linux system?

A. ~/.bash_profile is a startup script which generally runs once. This particular file is used for commands which run when the normal user logs in. Common uses for .bash_profile are to set environment variables such as PATH, JAVA_HOME, to create aliases for shell commands, and to set the default permissions for newly created files.

[1]

Set JAVA_HOME / PATH for single user

Login to your account and open .bash_profile file

```
$ vi ~/.bash_profile
```

Set JAVA_HOME as follows using syntax export JAVA_HOME=<path-to-java>. If your path is set to /usr/java/jdk1.5.0_07/bin/java, set it as follows:

```
export JAVA_HOME=/usr/java/jdk1.5.0_07/bin/java
```

Set PATH as follows:

```
export PATH=$PATH:/usr/java/jdk1.5.0_07/bin
```

Save and close the file. Just logout and login back to see new changes:

```
$ echo $JAVA_HOME
$ echo $PATH
```

Tip: Use the following command to find out exact path to which java executable under UNIX / Linux:

```
$ which java
```

Please note that the file ~/.bashrc is similar, with the exception that ~/.bash_profile runs only for Bash login shells and .bashrc runs for every new Bash shell.

Set JAVA_HOME / PATH for all user

You need to setup global config in /etc/profile OR /etc/bash.bashrc file for all users:

```
# vi /etc/profile
```

Next setup PATH / JAVA_PATH variables as follows:

```
export PATH=$PATH:/usr/java/jdk1.5.0_07/bin
export PATH=$PATH:/usr/java/jdk1.5.0_07/bin
```

Save and close the file.

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our daily email newsletter or weekly newsletter to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via RSS/XML feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/**

URL to article: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/linux-unix-set-java_home-path-variable/**

URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/bash-shell/**