

# Eclipse

Pieter P

This is an installation guide for the Eclipse IDE on Ubuntu.

## Install Java

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The first step is to install the Oracle Java platform. The latest version at the time of writing this is Java SE 9.0.4.

[How to install Java](#)

## Downloading Eclipse

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Go to the Eclipse website and download the IDE. I prefer to use the portable version (without the installer).

The version of Eclipse that will be used in this guide is Eclipse Oxygen. It can be downloaded [here](#).

## Extracting and moving the downloaded files

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When Eclipse has finished downloading, open a terminal (using **CTRL+ALT+T**).

First, navigate to the directory where you downloaded the file to (by default, this is `~/Downloads`):

```
$ cd ~/Downloads
```

Move the file to `/tmp` and extract it:

```
$ mv eclipse-java-oxygen-2-linux-gtk-x86_64.tar.gz /tmp/  
$ cd /tmp  
$ tar -xzf eclipse-java-oxygen-2-linux-gtk-x86_64.tar.gz
```

Then move the extracted files to your software installation folder. I use `~/opt`. If it doesn't exist, you have to create the folder first.

```
$ mkdir -p ~/opt/  
$ mv eclipse ~/opt/
```

## Create desktop launcher

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Right now, you can go to `~/opt/eclipse` and run Eclipse from there. However, that's pretty cumbersome, so we'll link Eclipse to the `~/local/bin` folder that's in the system's path. This allows you to execute Eclipse from the terminal.

```
$ mkdir -p ~/.local/bin/  
$ ln -s "$HOME/opt/eclipse/eclipse" "$HOME/.local/bin/"
```

To check if everything works correctly, you can try to run Eclipse from the terminal:

```
$ eclipse
```

The next step is to add the Eclipse icon to the system's icon cache:

```
$ mkdir -p ~/.local/share/icons/hicolor/256x256/apps/  
$ ln -s "$HOME/opt/eclipse/icon.xpm" "$HOME/.local/share/icons/hicolor/256x256/apps/eclipse.xpm"  
$ gtk-update-icon-cache ~/.local/share/icons/hicolor
```

Finally, create a desktop launcher, to be able to open Eclipse from the Dash, or pin it to the launcher.

```
$ echo "[Desktop Entry]  
Name=Eclipse Oxygen  
Comment=Eclipse Oxygen  
Exec=eclipse %F  
Icon=eclipse  
Terminal=false  
Type=Application  
Categories=Development;" > ~/.local/share/applications/eclipse.desktop  
$ chmod +x ~/.local/share/applications/eclipse.desktop
```

After logging out and back in, you should be able to find Eclipse in the Dash.

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