

How to Install Django on Windows, macOS, and Linux

This document explains how to install Django on Windows, macOS, and Linux with easy-to-follow commands and a recommended virtual environment setup.

Windows: Step-by-Step Guide to Install Python, pip, and Django

1. Install Python

Download the installer:

- Go to python.org/downloads/windows
- Click the big yellow button for the latest Python version.

Run the installer:

- IMPORTANT: Check the box that says 'Add Python to PATH'.
- Click 'Install Now'.

Verify Python is installed by opening Command Prompt and typing:

```
python --version
```

2. Verify or Install pip

Check if pip is already installed by typing:

```
pip --version
```

If pip is missing:

- Download `get-pip.py` from bootstrap.pypa.io/get-pip.py
- Save it to your Downloads folder.
- In Command Prompt:

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Downloads
```

```
python get-pip.py
```

Then check again:

```
pip --version
```

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3. Set up Your Django Project Folder

Choose where to keep your project, for example in Documents:

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Documents
```

Create a folder for your Django project:

```
mkdir my_django_project  
cd my_django_project
```

4. Create and Activate a Virtual Environment

Create the virtual environment:

```
python -m venv env
```

Activate the virtual environment:

```
env\Scripts\activate
```

You should see (env) at the start of your command prompt line.

5. Install Django

Inside your activated virtual environment, install Django:

```
pip install django
```

Verify Django is installed:

```
django-admin --version
```

6. Create and Run Your First Django Project

Start your project:

```
django-admin startproject mysite  
cd mysite
```

Run the development server:

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```
python manage.py runserver
```

Open your browser to <http://127.0.0.1:8000/> to see the Django welcome page.

Summary for Windows

- Installed Python
- Verified or installed pip
- Created and activated a virtual environment
- Installed Django
- Created and ran your first Django project

macOS/Linux Quick Guide

Navigate to your desired folder, then run:

```
mkdir my_django_project  
cd my_django_project  
python -m venv env
```

Activate with:

```
source env/bin/activate
```

Then install Django and create your project as shown in the Windows steps.

That's it! You now have Django installed and ready on your computer. Happy coding!