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You are browsing the **Symfony 4 documentation**, which changes significantly from Symfony 3.x. If your app doesn't use Symfony 4 yet, browse the [Symfony 3.4 documentation](#).

Installing & Setting up the Symfony Framework

4.2 version

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Screencast

Do you prefer video tutorials? Check out the [Stellar Development with Symfony](#) screencast series.

To create your new Symfony application, first make sure you're using PHP 7.1 or higher and have [Composer](#) installed. If you don't, start by [installing Composer globally](#) on your system. If you want to use a virtual machine (VM), check out [Homestead](#).

Create your new project by running:

```
$ composer create-project symfony/website-skeleton my-project
```

This will create a new `my-project` directory, download some dependencies into it and even generate the basic directories and files you'll need to get started. In other words, your new app is ready!



Tip

The `website-skeleton` is optimized for traditional web applications. If you are building microservices, console applications or APIs, consider using the much simpler `skeleton` project:

```
$ composer create-project symfony/skeleton my-project

# optional: install the web server bundle (explained next)
$ cd my-project
$ composer require symfony/web-server-bundle --dev
```

Running your Symfony Application ¶

On production, you should use a web server like Nginx or Apache (see [configuring a web server to run Symfony](#)). But for development, it's convenient to use the [Symfony PHP web server](#).

Move into your new project and start the server:

```
$ cd my-project
$ php bin/console server:run
```

Open your browser and navigate to `http://localhost:8000/`. If everything is working, you'll see a welcome page. Later, when you are finished working, stop the server by pressing `Ctrl+C` from your terminal.



Tip

If you're having any problems running Symfony, your system may be missing some technical requirements. Use the [Symfony Requirements Checker](#) tool to make sure your system is set up.



Tip

If you're using a VM, you may need to tell the server to bind to all IP addresses:

```
$ php bin/console server:start 0.0.0.0:8000
```

You should **NEVER** listen to all interfaces on a computer that is directly accessible from the Internet.

Storing your Project in git ¶

Storing your project in services like GitHub, GitLab and Bitbucket works like with any other code project! Init a new repository with `git` and you are ready to push to your remote:

```
$ git init
$ git add .
$ git commit -m "Initial commit"
```

Your project already has a sensible `.gitignore` file. And as you install more packages, a system called [Flex](#) will add more lines to that file when needed.

Setting up an Existing Symfony Project ¶

If you're working on an existing Symfony application, you only need to get the project code and install the dependencies with Composer. Assuming your team uses Git, setup your project with the following commands:

```
# clone the project to download its contents
$ cd projects/
$ git clone ...

# make Composer install the project's dependencies into vendor/
$ cd my-project/
$ composer install
```

You'll probably also need to customize your `.env` and do a few other project-specific tasks (e.g. creating database schema). When working on a existing Symfony app for the first time, it may be useful to run this command which displays information about the app:

```
$ php bin/console about
```

Checking for Security Vulnerabilities ¶

Symfony provides a utility called the "Security Checker" to check whether your project's dependencies contain any known security vulnerability. Check out the integration instructions for [the Security Checker](#) to set it up.

The Symfony Demo application ¶

[The Symfony Demo Application](#) is a fully-functional application that shows the recommended way to develop Symfony applications. It's a great learning tool for Symfony newcomers and its code contains tons of comments and helpful notes.

To check out its code and install it locally, see [symfony/symfony-demo](#).

Start Coding! ¶

With setup behind you, it's time to [Create your first page in Symfony](#).

Go Deeper with Setup ¶

- [Using Symfony with Homestead/Vagrant](#)
- [How to Use PHP's built-in Web Server](#)
- [Configuring a Web Server](#)
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Thanks **Jordan Hoff** for being a Symfony contributor.

1 commit · 2 lines

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