Setting up Your Java Environment—Windows

In order to compile Java programs, you will need to set up a development environment on the computer you will be using for this course. The following instructions are to set up such an environment for a Windows PC. There is a separate document with instructions for setting up a development environment for the Apple Mac.

First, you need to install the Java Software Development Kit (SDK); then you can install either the JCreatorLE or Eclipse Interactive Development Environment (IDE).

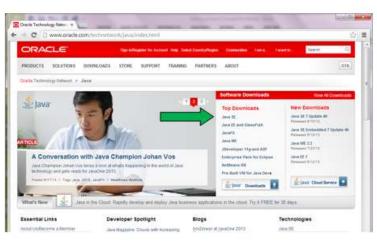
If you are just beginning to learn how to program, it is recommended that you use JCreatorLE to maintain consistency with the on-campus version of this course. If you already have some programming experience, then Eclipse offers more features that you may be able to use in advanced courses.

Installing the Java SDK

The Java SDK contains the Java language libraries as well as a compiler and run-time engine to execute your programs. The compiler can be used at the command line, but most programmers find using an IDE to be more efficient and effective. After you install the Java SDK, you can install an IDE using the instructions found in later sections of this document.

Note that some literature and web pages may still refer to Java being at Sun Microsystems, but all material relating to the Java language is now located at Oracle Corporation. New versions of Java occur frequently, so the numbering could be higher than the 7u40 example below.

1. Visit http://java.oracle.com, which will redirect to the main Java page at Oracle.



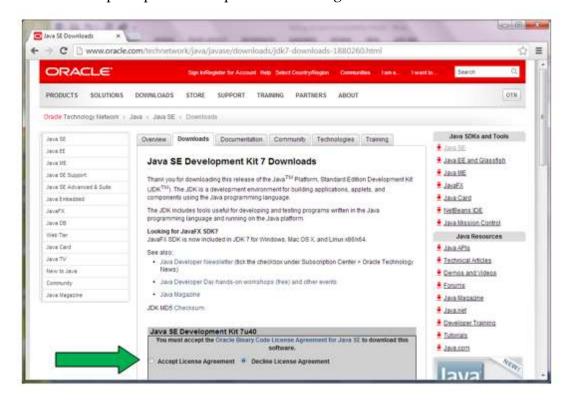
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2. Click **Java SE** under the **Top Downloads** section.



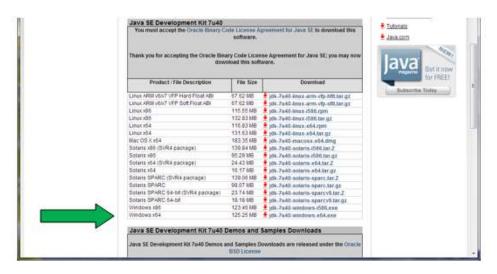
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3. You will be prompted to accept the License Agreement.



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4. Scroll further down the page to see the list of available files. Note there are versions available for Linux, Mac OS X, and Windows. The rest of this document will focus on the Windows install, again for compatibility with the on-campus environment.

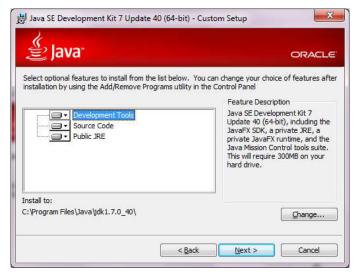


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5. Once the file has downloaded, click to start the installation process. Click **Next** to continue on the two panels displayed.



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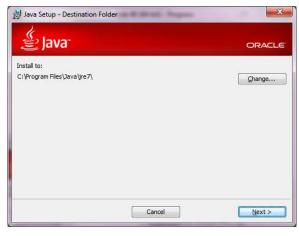


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6. A status panel will show the progress as the installation is prepared.



7. You will then be prompted for the file destination. It is recommended that you accept the default location and click **Next**.



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8. A status panel is displayed as the installation progresses. Once the installation is finished, the final form is displayed. Click **Close** to conclude the installation.



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Installing JCreatorLE IDE

If you are just beginning to learn how to program, JCreatorLE is a simple to use IDE, which you use to input and run your programs. This is the IDE used for the oncampus version of this course. JCreatorLE would be sufficient for all three courses in this series (COMP 1131, 1231, and 2231). If you are a more advanced programmer, you may wish to install an IDE with more features, such as Eclipse (see next section).

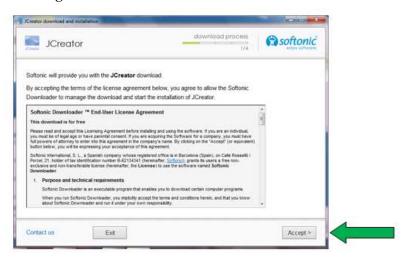
There are two ways to obtain JCreatorLE:

- Freeware version from Softonic
- Latest version on a 30 day trial from Xinox Software (full license will cost \$35 US later)
- 1. For the freeware version, use the link http://jcreator-1.en.softonic.com, click the "Free Download" button, and follow the instructions on the actual download page.



@ Softronic

Once the file has been downloaded, click on it to run. You will be shown four different forms for the License Agreement, Type of Installation, Additional Tools, and Download Progress.



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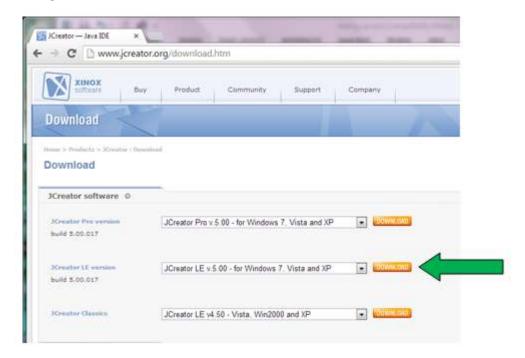


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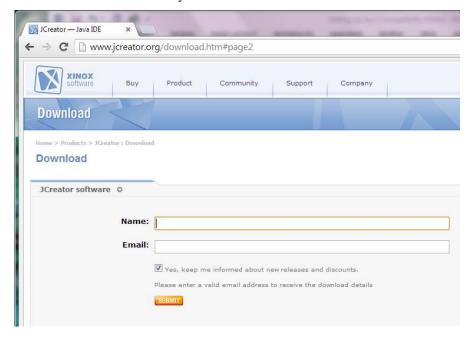
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2. For the latest version, use the link http://www.jcreator.org/download.htm and click on the Download button for JCreator LE version. Note that the JCreator Pro version has a higher cost for additional features and is not necessary unless you are taking advanced courses.



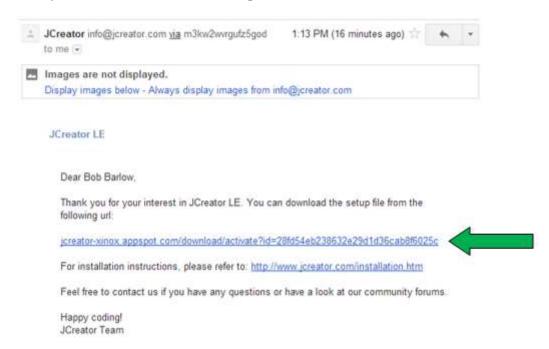
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You will be prompted for a name and valid email address. Details on the download are sent via email only.



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Access your email and click the link provided

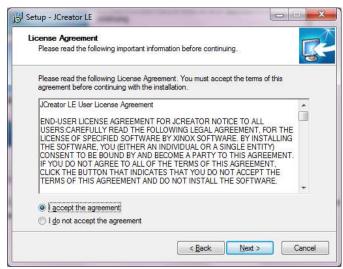


3. Once you have downloaded JCreatorLE from either source, you will then go through the JCreatorLE Setup Wizard. Click **Next** to continue.



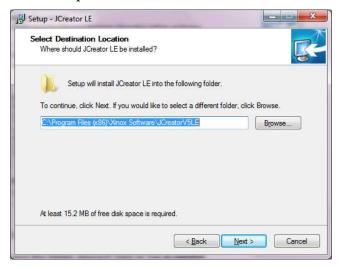
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4. On the License Agreement form, read the agreement (if you wish), choose I accept the agreement, then Next.

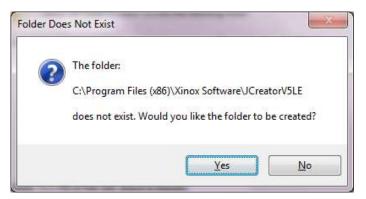


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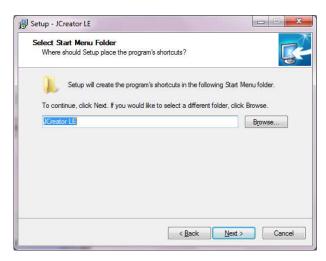
5. For the next few forms, respond "Next" or "Yes" as needed.



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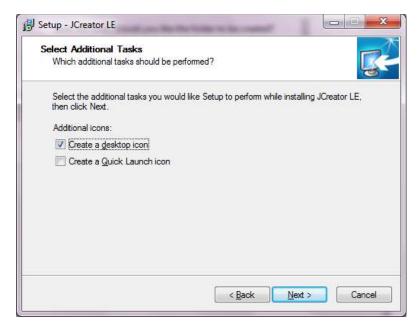


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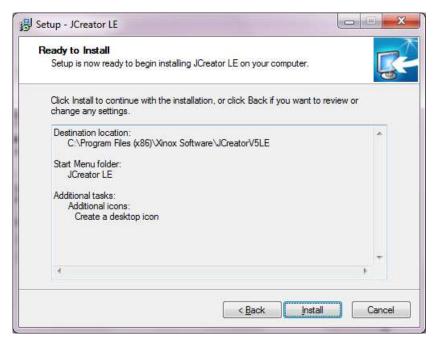
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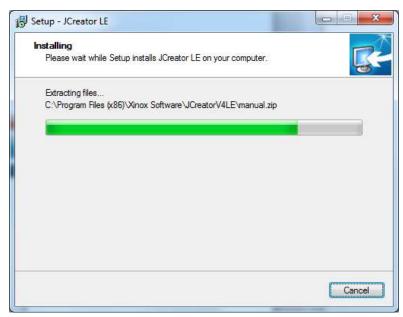
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6. Finally, click Install to start the installation process.



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7. You will see a progress screen, followed by a completion screen. Click **Finish** and JCreatorLE will start.

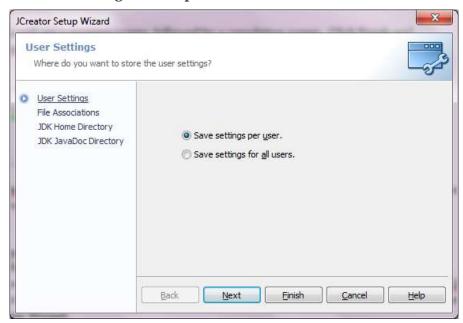


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8. JCreatorLE will launch and be ready for your use. It is recommended that you go through the Set-up Wizard at this time to ensure your Java SDK and JCreatorLE work together correctly. Use this to set the paths to C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.7.0\docs. If the Wizard does not start, you will have to do the set-up manually. Click "Installation" on the JCreatorLE Start Page, then follow the instructions in the section Starting JCreator Without Using the Setup Wizard.



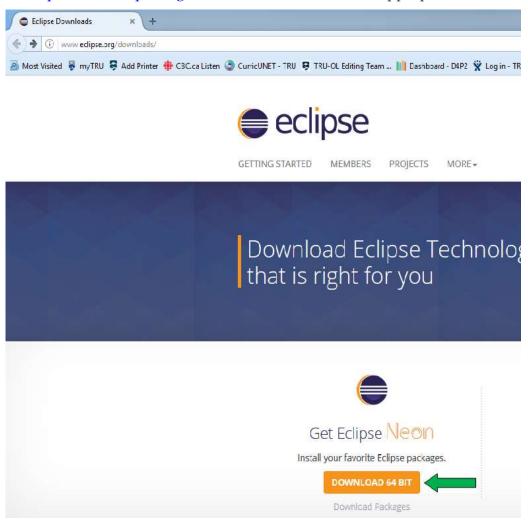
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- 9. Once you have installed the SDK and JCreatorLE, follow the instructions on the Start Page for Creating your first Application, Building your Code, and Running your Code.
- 10. Note that the latest version of JCreatorLE from Xinox is free for a 30 day trial only. You will be directed by a help wizard when it is time to pay for the license (\$35 US) to continue to use the software. In the meantime, it is recommended that you try this software out as you write your first programs.

Installing Eclipse IDE

If you are a more advanced programmer, you may find the Eclipse IDE more useful. It is a more complex environment with more features. There are versions of Eclipse for Linux, Mac OS X, and Windows. Eclipse also has the advantage of being free to download and use (although a donation to the Eclipse Foundation is suggested)

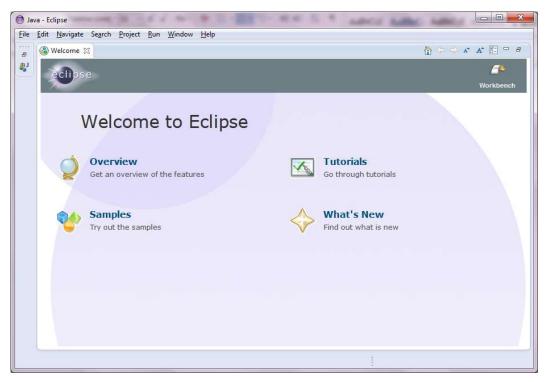
1. Go to http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/ and choose the appropriate version.



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2. Once the file has downloaded, un-zip it to a suitable directory (e.g. C:\Program Files\Eclipse).

3. Browse the directory for the Eclipse application and create a desktop shortcut for it. Use the shortcut to launch the software, reply to the workspace file location, then you will see the Welcome page. It is recommended that you go through the Overview and Tutorials to become familiar with this IDE.



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