

Setting up the Windows Universal and Windows Phone 8 development environment

Relevant to:



Native Windows Phone 8



Native Windows 8 Universal



Hybrid

Overview

Prerequisite: If you intend to use IBM MobileFirst Platform Studio or CLI to develop your application, first read the [Setting up the MobileFirst development environment](#) tutorial.

Before you start to develop, deploy, and test your Windows Universal and Windows Phone Silverlight 8 applications, an additional step is required for setting up the Windows and Windows Phone 8 development environment. This includes installing Visual Studio 2013.

Windows Universal and Windows Phone 8 development tools

Microsoft Visual Studio Express 2013 is an integrated development environment (IDE), which you can use to develop applications for either the Windows Universal or Windows Phone 8 platform.

Note: To create Windows 8 Universal applications , you must have a computer that runs *Windows 8.1* OS.

To download Visual Studio Express 2013 for Windows Phone, [visit the Microsoft Visual Studio download website](#).