

# Setting up the Windows 8.1 and Windows 10 development environment

## Overview

This tutorial explains the steps a developer needs to follow in order to be able to develop and test Windows 8.1 Universal and Windows 10 UWP applications.

**Prerequisite:** As you setup your iOS development environment, make sure to also read the Setting up the MobileFirst development environment ([../setting-up-your-development-environment/mobilefirst-development-environment/](#)) tutorial.

## Registration

### 1. Register as a Windows developer

- Create an Microsoft account (<https://signup.live.com/>) to be used by your organization/team admin.
- Using the Microsoft ID, sign-in to the Windows Dev Center (<https://dev.windows.com/en-us/programs/join>).

Learn more in the Windows developer support (<https://dev.windows.com/en-us/support>) website

## Development

Application development for either Windows 8.1 Universal or Windows 10 UWP requires a PC workstation running either the Windows 8.1 or Windows 10 operating system, with Microsoft Visual Studio 2013 or 2015.

### Windows 8.1 Universal

A Windows 8.1 Universal application Solution is made up from three projects:

- Shared code for business logic
- A project for Windows Desktop/tablet applications
- A project for Windows Phone applications

Windows 8.1 Universal requires:

- Windows OS 8.1 or higher
- Visual Studio 2013 or 2015

### Windows 10 UWP

A Windows 10 UWP (Universal Windows Platform) application Solution is made up from a single project containing:

- Shared code for business logic
- Adaptive UI (for both Desktop/tablet and Phone)

Windows 10 UWP requires:

- Windows OS 8.1 or higher

- Visual Studio 2015

## What's Next

Now that the MobileFirst and Windows development environment are set up, continue to Quick Start ([../quick-start/windows-8-10/](#)) category to experience MobileFirst Platform, or to All Tutorials ([../all-tutorials/](#)) to learn specific aspects of MobileFirst Platform development.