

Setting up the MobileFirst development environment

fork and edit tutorial (<https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/setting-up-your-development-environment/mobilefirst-development-environment.md>) | report issue (<https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/issues/new>)

Overview

This tutorial covers the basics of the IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation development environment and tools.

- The MobileFirst Platform Foundation developer tools are supported on the following operating systems: Windows, Apple OS X and Linux.
- The MobileFirst Operations Console is supported in modern browsers such as: Internet Explorer 10+, latest Chrome, Safari and Firefox.

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Development Kit

The IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation Development Kit consists of the following components. These artifacts can either be installed separately, or downloaded in a single bundle using the MobileFirst Platform Foundation Development Kit Installer.

MobileFirst Platform Foundation Development Kit Installer

The Installer can be downloaded ahead of time and be used in "offline situations", where Internet connectivity is not available. It pre-packages the MobileFirst Server, The MobileFirst Developer CLI and the MobileFirst SDKs for manual installation.

Download the Installer.

MobileFirst Server

MobileFirst Server is a set of Web Application Archive (.war) files that can be deployed to the following application servers: Tomcat, WebSphere Liberty profile and WebSphere Full profile.

As part of the MobileFirst development kit, the MobileFirst Server arrives pre-packaged in the following form: A WebSphere Liberty profile application server with MobileFirst Server deployed onto it. The server provides an "mfp" runtime and uses a pre-configured filesystem-based database.

The MobileFirst Server is installed as a stand-alone server and provides the following scripts in its **scripts** folder:

`.sh` scripts are for Linux and Mac.
`.cmd` scripts are for Windows.

- `console. [sh | cmd]` : Open the local MobileFirst Console
- `run. [sh | cmd]` : Run the local MobileFirst Server with trailing Liberty Server messages
- `start. [sh | cmd]` : Run the local MobileFirst Server in background mode
- `stop. [sh | cmd]` : Stop the current local MobileFirst Server instance

Download and install the MobileFirst Server, visit the downloads (/downloads/) page.

Learn more about the MobileFirst Server in the user documentation.

Adding the MobileFirst Server to Eclipse

The MobileFirst Server can be integrated into the Eclipse IDE, allowing to quickly starting and stopping of the development server.

1. From the **Servers** view in Eclipse, select **New → Server**.
2. If an IBM folder option does not exist, click on "Download additional server adapters".
3. Select **WebSphere Application Server Liberty Tools** and follow the on-screen instructions.
4. From the **Servers** view in Eclipse, select **New → Server**.
5. Select **IBM → WebSphere Application Server Liberty**.
6. Provide a server **name** and **hostname** and click **Next**.
7. Provide the path to the server's root directory, and select a JRE version to use.
8. Click **Next** followed by clicking **Finish**.

MobileFirst Operations Console

The MobileFirst Server's Operations Console expose the MobileFirst Server functionalities.

A developer can:

- Register and deploy applications and adapters
- Optionally download native/Cordova application and adapter templates
- Configure application aspects:
 - Authentication and security
 - Application Authenticity
 - Push Notifications
 - Direct Update
- Generate DevOps scripts for continuous integration workflows and faster development cycles
- and more

Learn more about the MobileFirst Operations Console, see the tutorial:Using the MobilFirst Platform Operations Console (../../quick-start/console/).

MobileFirst Command-line Interface

The IBM MobileFirst command-line interface (CLI) tool enables developers to:

- Manage MobileFirst Servers
- Register and configure applications
- Create, build, deploy and test adapters

Download and install the MobileFirst Developer CLI, visit the downloads (/downloads/) page.

Learn more about the various CLI commands in the Using CLI to manage MobileFirst artifacts (../../using-the-mfpf-sdk/using-cli-to-manage-mobilefirst-artifacts/) tutorial.

MobileFirst Platform Foundation client and server SDKs & APIs

MobileFirst Platform Foundation provides client-side SDKs for Cordova applications as well as for Native platforms (iOS, Android and Windows 8.1 Universal & Windows 10 UWP). Server-side APIs for adapter development are available as well.

To use the MobileFirst client SDKs, visit the Adding the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK ([../adding-the-mfpf-sdk/](#)) tutorials.

To use the MobileFirst server-side APIs, visit the Adapters ([../adapters/](#)) tutorials.

Manual installation

If the MobileFirst SDKs were downloaded as part of the MobileFirst Platform Foundation Development Kit Installer, visit the user the documentation for installation instructions.

Applications and adapters development

You can use your preferred code editor or alternative IDEs, such as Atom.io, Visual Studio Code, Eclipse, IntelliJ and others, to implement applications and adapters.

For adapters development, refer to the Adapters ([../adapters/](#)) category as well as to the Developing Adapters in IDEs ([../adapters/developing-adapters](#)) and testing and debugging adapters ([../adapters/testing-and-debugging-adapters](#)) tutorials.

Note: API auto-completion is available only in Typescript-supporting IDEs.