

# Setting up the Cordova development environment

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

## Overview

Cordova application development allows developers to use their preferred tools and code editors.

To get started with Cordova development (<https://cordova.apache.org/>) the very basic required step is to install the Cordova CLI. To continue with MobileFirst development in Cordova applications, the MobileFirst SDK plug-ins need to be added to the Cordova application.

**Prerequisite:** As you setup your Cordova development environment, make sure to also read the Setting up the MobileFirst development environment ([../setting-up-your-development-environment/mobilefirst-development-environment/](https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/setting-up-your-development-environment/mobilefirst-development-environment/)) tutorial.

Jump to:

- Installing the Cordova CLI
- Next steps

## Installing the Cordova CLI

MobileFirst Platform Foundation supports Apache Cordova CLI 6.0.0

(<https://cordova.apache.org/news/2016/01/28/tools-release.html>).

To install:

1. Download and install NodeJS v4.3 LTS (<https://nodejs.org/en/>).
2. From a **Command-line** window, run the command: `npm install -g cordova`.

## Next steps

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.

- Learn how to add the MobileFirst SDK to Cordova applications ([../adding-the-mfpf-sdk/cordova/](https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/adding-the-mfpf-sdk/cordova/)).
- For applications development, refer to the Using the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK ([../using-the-mfpf-sdk/](https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/using-the-mfpf-sdk/)) tutorials.
- For adapters development, refer to the Adapters ([../adapters/](https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/adapters/)) category as well as to the Developing Adapters in IDEs ([../adapters/developing-adapters](https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/adapters/developing-adapters/)) and testing and debugging adapters ([../adapters/testing-and-debugging-adapters/](https://github.ibm.com/MFPSamples/DevCenter/tree/master/tutorials/en/foundation/8.0/adapters/testing-and-debugging-adapters/)) tutorials.