

# Setting up your Windows Phone 8 development environment

fork and edit tutorial (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/DevCenter/#fork-destination-box>) | report issue

(<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/DevCenter/issues/new>)

## Overview

**Prerequisite:** If you intend to use MobileFirst Studio to develop your application, first read the *Setting up your IBM MobileFirst development environment* tutorial.

Before you start to develop, deploy, and test your Windows Phone applications, an additional step is required for setting up the Windows Phone 8 development environment. This includes installing Visual Studio 2012.

## Windows Phone development tools

Microsoft Visual Studio Express 2012 for Windows Phone is an integrated development environment (IDE), which you can use to develop applications for either the Windows 8 or Windows Phone 8 platform.

**Note:** You must have a computer that runs *Windows 8* OS to use it.

To download Visual Studio Express 2012 for Windows Phone, visit the Microsoft Visual Studio download website (<http://www.visualstudio.com/downloads/download-visual-studio-vs>).