

# Installing Sphinx

- [Overview](#)
- [Linux](#)
- [macOS](#)
- [Windows](#)
- [Installation from PyPI](#)
- [Docker](#)
- [Installation from source](#)

## Overview

Sphinx is written in [Python](#) and supports Python 3.6+. It builds upon the shoulders of many third-party libraries such as [Docutils](#) and [Jinja](#), which are installed when Sphinx is installed.

## Linux

### Debian/Ubuntu

Install either `python3-sphinx` using **apt-get**:

```
$ apt-get install python3-sphinx
```

If it is not already present, this will install Python for you.

### RHEL, CentOS

Install `python-sphinx` using **yum**:

```
$ yum install python-sphinx
```

If it is not already present, this will install Python for you.

## Other distributions

Most Linux distributions have Sphinx in their package repositories. Usually the package is called `python3-sphinx`, `python-sphinx` or `sphinx`. Be aware that there are at least two other packages with `sphinx` in their name: a speech recognition toolkit (*CMU Sphinx*) and a full-text search database (*Sphinx search*).

## macOS

Sphinx can be installed using [Homebrew](#), [MacPorts](#), or as part of a Python distribution such as [Anaconda](#).

### Homebrew

```
$ brew install sphinx-doc
```

 [v: master](#) ▼

For more information, refer to the [package overview](#).

## MacPorts

Install either `python3x-sphinx` using **port**:

```
$ sudo port install py38-sphinx
```

To set up the executable paths, use the `port select` command:

```
$ sudo port select --set python python38
$ sudo port select --set sphinx py38-sphinx
```

For more information, refer to the [package overview](#).

## Anaconda

```
$ conda install sphinx
```

## Windows

### Todo

Could we start packaging this?

Most Windows users do not have Python installed by default, so we begin with the installation of Python itself. To check if you already have Python installed, open the *Command Prompt* (⌘Win-r and type **cmd**). Once the command prompt is open, type **python --version** and press Enter. If Python is installed, you will see the version of Python printed to the screen. If you do not have Python installed, refer to the [Hitchhikers Guide to Python's](#) Python on Windows installation guides. You must install [Python 3](#).

Once Python is installed, you can install Sphinx using **pip**. Refer to the [pip installation instructions](#) below for more information.

## Installation from PyPI

Sphinx packages are published on the [Python Package Index](#). The preferred tool for installing packages from PyPI is **pip**. This tool is provided with all modern versions of Python.

On Linux or MacOS, you should open your terminal and run the following command.

```
$ pip install -U sphinx
```

On Windows, you should open *Command Prompt* (⌘Win-r and type **cmd**) and run the same command.

```
C:\> pip install -U sphinx
```

After installation, type **sphinx-build --version** on the command prompt. If everything worked fine, you will see the version number for the Sphinx package you just installed.

Installation from *PyPI* also allows you to install the latest development release. You will not generally need (or want) to do this, but it can be useful if you see a possible bug in the latest stable release. To do this, use the **-pre** flag.

```
$ pip install -U --pre sphinx
```

## Docker

 v: master ▾

Docker images for Sphinx are published on the [Docker Hub](#). There are two kind of images:

- [sphinxdoc/sphinx](#)
- [sphinxdoc/sphinx-latexpdf](#)

Former one is used for standard usage of Sphinx, and latter one is mainly used for PDF builds using LaTeX. Please choose one for your purpose.

#### Note

sphinxdoc/sphinx-latexpdf contains TeXLive packages. So the image is very large (over 2GB!).

#### Hint

When using docker images, please use `docker run` command to invoke sphinx commands. For example, you can use the following command to create a Sphinx project:

```
$ docker run -it --rm -v /path/to/document:/docs sphinxdoc/sphinx sphinx-quickstart
```

And you can use the following command to build HTML document:

```
$ docker run --rm -v /path/to/document:/docs sphinxdoc/sphinx make html
```

For more details, please read [README file](#) of docker images.

## Installation from source

You can install Sphinx directly from a clone of the [Git repository](#). This can be done either by cloning the repository and installing from the local clone, or simply installing directly via **git**.

```
$ git clone https://github.com/sphinx-doc/sphinx
$ cd sphinx
$ pip install .
```

```
$ pip install git+https://github.com/sphinx-doc/sphinx
```

You can also download a snapshot of the Git repository in either [tar.gz](#) or [zip](#) format. Once downloaded and extracted, these can be installed with **pip** as above.