
4. Install the distribution.

To install MySQL from a binary distribution, use the instructions in [Section 2.2, “Installing MySQL on Unix/Linux Using Generic Binaries”](#).

To install MySQL from a source distribution or from the current development source tree, use the instructions in [Section 2.9, “Installing MySQL from Source”](#).

5. Perform any necessary postinstallation setup.

After installing MySQL, see [Section 2.10, “Postinstallation Setup and Testing”](#) for information about making sure the MySQL server is working properly. Also refer to the information provided in [Section 2.10.4, “Securing the Initial MySQL Account”](#). This section describes how to secure the initial MySQL `root` user account, *which has no password* until you assign one. The section applies whether you install MySQL using a binary or source distribution.

6. If you want to run the MySQL benchmark scripts, Perl support for MySQL must be available. See [Section 2.13, “Perl Installation Notes”](#).

Instructions for installing MySQL on different platforms and environments is available on a platform by platform basis:

- **Unix, Linux, FreeBSD**

For instructions on installing MySQL on most Linux and Unix platforms using a generic binary (for example, a `.tar.gz` package), see [Section 2.2, “Installing MySQL on Unix/Linux Using Generic Binaries”](#).

For information on building MySQL entirely from the source code distributions or the source code repositories, see [Section 2.9, “Installing MySQL from Source”](#)

For specific platform help on installation, configuration, and building from source see the corresponding platform section:

- Linux, including notes on distribution specific methods, see [Section 2.5, “Installing MySQL on Linux”](#).
- IBM AIX, see [Section 2.7, “Installing MySQL on Solaris”](#).
- FreeBSD, see [Section 2.8, “Installing MySQL on FreeBSD”](#).

- **Microsoft Windows**

For instructions on installing MySQL on Microsoft Windows, using either the MySQL Installer or Zipped binary, see [Section 2.3, “Installing MySQL on Microsoft Windows”](#).

For details and instructions on building MySQL from source code using Microsoft Visual Studio, see [Section 2.9, “Installing MySQL from Source”](#).

- **macOS**

For installation on macOS, including using both the binary package and native PKG formats, see [Section 2.4, “Installing MySQL on macOS”](#).

For information on making use of an macOS Launch Daemon to automatically start and stop MySQL, see [Section 2.4.3, “Installing and Using the MySQL Launch Daemon”](#).

For information on the MySQL Preference Pane, see [Section 2.4.4, “Installing and Using the MySQL Preference Pane”](#).