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uv

Environment variables

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# Environment variables

uv defines and respects the following environment variables:

### `UV\_BREAK\_SYSTEM\_PACKAGES`

Equivalent to the `--break-system-packages` command-line argument. If set to `true`, uv will allow the installation of packages that conflict with system-installed packages.

WARNING: `UV\_BREAK\_SYSTEM\_PACKAGES=true` is intended for use in continuous integration (CI) or containerized environments and should be used with caution, as modifying the system Python can lead to unexpected behavior.

### `UV\_BUILD\_CONSTRAINT`

Equivalent to the `--build-constraint` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this file as constraints for any source distribution builds. Uses space-separated list of files.

### `UV\_CACHE\_DIR`

Equivalent to the `--cache-dir` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this directory for caching instead of the default cache directory.

### `UV\_COMPILE\_BYTECODE`

Equivalent to the `--compile-bytecode` command-line argument. If set, uv will compile Python source files to bytecode after installation.

### `UV\_CONCURRENT\_BUILDS`

Sets the maximum number of source distributions that uv will build concurrently at any given time.

### `UV\_CONCURRENT\_DOWNLOADS`

Sets the maximum number of in-flight concurrent downloads that uv will perform at any given time.

### `UV\_CONCURRENT\_INSTALLS`

Controls the number of threads used when installing and unzipping packages.

### `UV\_CONFIG\_FILE`

Equivalent to the `--config-file` command-line argument. Expects a path to a local `uv.toml` file to use as the configuration file.

### `UV\_CONSTRAINT`

Equivalent to the `--constraint` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this file as the constraints file. Uses space-separated list of files.

### `UV\_CUSTOM\_COMPILE\_COMMAND`

Equivalent to the `--custom-compile-command` command-line argument.

Used to override uv in the output header of the `requirements.txt` files generated by `uv pip compile`. Intended for use-cases in which `uv pip compile` is called from within a wrapper script, to include the name of the wrapper script in the output file.

### `UV\_DEFAULT\_INDEX`

Equivalent to the `--default-index` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this URL as the default index when searching for packages.

### ### `UV_ENV_FILE`

`.env` files from which to load environment variables when executing `uv run` commands.

### ### `UV_EXCLUDE_NEWER`

Equivalent to the `--exclude-newer` command-line argument. If set, uv will exclude distributions published after the specified date.

### ### `UV_EXTRA_INDEX_URL`

Equivalent to the `--extra-index-url` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this space-separated list of URLs as additional indexes when searching for packages. (Deprecated: use `UV_INDEX` instead.)

### ### `UV_FIND_LINKS`

Equivalent to the `--find-links` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this comma-separated list of additional locations to search for packages.

### ### `UV_FORK_STRATEGY`



Equivalent to the `--fork-strategy`` argument. Controls version selection during universal resolution.

### ``UV_FROZEN``

Equivalent to the `--frozen`` command-line argument. If set, uv will run without updating the `uv.lock`` file.

### ``UV_GITHUB_TOKEN``

Equivalent to the `--token`` argument for self update. A GitHub token for authentication.

### ``UV_GIT_LFS``

Enables fetching files stored in Git LFS when installing a package from a Git repository.

### ``UV_HTTP_TIMEOUT``

Timeout (in seconds) for HTTP requests. (default: 30 s)

### ``UV_INDEX``

Equivalent to the `--index`` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this space-separated list of URLs as additional indexes when searching for packages.

### `UV\_INDEX\_STRATEGY`

Equivalent to the `--index-strategy` command-line argument.

For example, if set to `unsafe-any-match`, uv will consider versions of a given package available across all index URLs, rather than limiting its search to the first index URL that contains the package.

### `UV\_INDEX\_URL`

Equivalent to the `--index-url` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this URL as the default index when searching for packages. (Deprecated: use `UV\_DEFAULT\_INDEX` instead.)

### `UV\_INDEX\_{name}\_PASSWORD`

Provides the HTTP Basic authentication password for a named index.

The `name` parameter is the name of the index. For example, given an index named `foo`, the environment variable key would be `UV\_INDEX\_FOO\_PASSWORD`.

### `UV\_INDEX\_{name}\_USERNAME`

Provides the HTTP Basic authentication username for a named index.

The `name` parameter is the name of the index. For example, given an index

named ``foo``, the environment variable key would be ``UV_INDEX_FOO_USERNAME``.

### ``UV_INSECURE_HOST``

Equivalent to the ``--allow-insecure-host`` argument.

### ``UV_INSTALLER_GHE_BASE_URL``

The URL from which to download uv using the standalone installer and ``self update`` feature, in lieu of the default GitHub Enterprise URL.

### ``UV_INSTALLER_GITHUB_BASE_URL``

The URL from which to download uv using the standalone installer and ``self update`` feature, in lieu of the default GitHub URL.

### ``UV_INSTALL_DIR``

The directory in which to install uv using the standalone installer and ``self update`` feature. Defaults to ``~/local/bin``.

### ``UV_KEYRING_PROVIDER``

Equivalent to the ``--keyring-provider`` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this value as the keyring provider.

### ``UV_LINK_MODE``

Equivalent to the `--link-mode` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this as a link mode.

### ### `UV_LOCKED`

Equivalent to the `--locked` command-line argument. If set, uv will assert that the `uv.lock` remains unchanged.

### ### `UV_NATIVE_TLS`

Equivalent to the `--native-tls` command-line argument. If set to `true`, uv will use the system's trust store instead of the bundled `webpki-roots` crate.

### ### `UV_NO_BUILD_ISOLATION`

Equivalent to the `--no-build-isolation` command-line argument. If set, uv will skip isolation when building source distributions.

### ### `UV_NO_CACHE`

Equivalent to the `--no-cache` command-line argument. If set, uv will not use the cache for any operations.

### ### `UV_NO_CONFIG`

Equivalent to the `--no-config` command-line argument. If set, uv will not

read any configuration files from the current directory, parent directories,  
or user configuration directories.

### `UV\_NO\_ENV\_FILE`

Ignore `.env` files when executing `uv run` commands.

### `UV\_NO\_INSTALLER\_METADATA`

Skip writing `uv` installer metadata files (e.g., `INSTALLER`, `REQUESTED`,  
and `direct\_url.json`) to site-packages `.dist-info` directories.

### `UV\_NO\_PROGRESS`

Equivalent to the `--no-progress` command-line argument. Disables all progress  
output. For example, spinners and progress bars.

### `UV\_NO\_SYNC`

Equivalent to the `--no-sync` command-line argument. If set, uv will skip  
updating the environment.

### `UV\_NO\_VERIFY\_HASHES`

Equivalent to the `--no-verify-hashes` argument. Disables hash verification  
for `requirements.txt` files.

### `UV\_NO\_WRAP`

Use to disable line wrapping for diagnostics.

### `UV\_OFFLINE`

Equivalent to the `--offline` command-line argument. If set, uv will disable network access.

### `UV\_OVERRIDE`

Equivalent to the `--override` command-line argument. If set, uv will use this file as the overrides file. Uses space-separated list of files.

### `UV\_PRERELEASE`

Equivalent to the `--prerelease` command-line argument. For example, if set to `allow`, uv will allow pre-release versions for all dependencies.

### `UV\_PREVIEW`

Equivalent to the `--preview` argument. Enables preview mode.

### `UV\_PROJECT\_ENVIRONMENT`

Specifies the path to the directory to use for a project virtual environment.

See the [project documentation](../../concepts/projects/config/#project-environment-path) for more details.

### `UV\_PUBLISH\_CHECK\_URL`

Don't upload a file if it already exists on the index. The value is the URL of the index.

### `UV\_PUBLISH\_INDEX`

Equivalent to the `--index` command-line argument in `uv publish`. If set, uv the index with this name in the configuration for publishing.

### `UV\_PUBLISH\_PASSWORD`

Equivalent to the `--password` command-line argument in `uv publish`. If set, uv will use this password for publishing.

### `UV\_PUBLISH\_TOKEN`

Equivalent to the `--token` command-line argument in `uv publish`. If set, uv will use this token (with the username `\_\_token\_\_`) for publishing.

### `UV\_PUBLISH\_URL`

Equivalent to the `--publish-url` command-line argument. The URL of the upload endpoint of the index to use with `uv publish`.

### `UV\_PUBLISH\_USERNAME`

Equivalent to the `--username` command-line argument in `uv publish`. If set, uv will use this username for publishing.

### `UV\_PYPY\_INSTALL\_MIRROR`

Managed PyPy installations are downloaded from [python.org](https://downloads.python.org/).

This variable can be set to a mirror URL to use a different source for PyPy installations. The provided URL will replace

`https://downloads.python.org/pypy` in, e.g.,

`https://downloads.python.org/pypy/pypy3.8-v7.3.7-osx64.tar.bz2`.

Distributions can be read from a local directory by using the `file://` URL scheme.

### `UV\_PYTHON`

Equivalent to the `--python` command-line argument. If set to a path, uv will use this Python interpreter for all operations.

### `UV\_PYTHON\_BIN\_DIR`

Specifies the directory to place links to installed, managed Python executables.



### ### `UV\_PYTHON\_DOWNLOADS`

Equivalent to the [`python-downloads`](../../reference/settings/#python-downloads) setting and, when disabled, the `--no-python-downloads` option. Whether uv should allow Python downloads.

### ### `UV\_PYTHON\_INSTALL\_DIR`

Specifies the directory for storing managed Python installations.

### ### `UV\_PYTHON\_INSTALL\_MIRROR`

Managed Python installations are downloaded from the Astral [`python-build-standalone`](https://github.com/astral-sh/python-build-standalone) project.

This variable can be set to a mirror URL to use a different source for Python installations. The provided URL will replace `https://github.com/astral-sh/python-build-standalone/releases/download` in, e.g., `https://github.com/astral-sh/python-build-standalone/releases/download/20240713/cpython-3.12.4%2B20240713-aarch64-apple-darwin-install_only.tar.gz`. Distributions can be read from a local directory by using the `file://` URL scheme.

### ### `UV\_PYTHON\_PREFERENCE`

Equivalent to the `--python-preference` command-line argument. Whether uv

should prefer system or managed Python versions.

### `UV\_REQUEST\_TIMEOUT`

Timeout (in seconds) for HTTP requests. Equivalent to `UV\_HTTP\_TIMEOUT`.

### `UV\_REQUIRE\_HASHES`

Equivalent to the `--require-hashes` command-line argument. If set to `true`, uv will require that all dependencies have a hash specified in the requirements file.

### `UV\_RESOLUTION`

Equivalent to the `--resolution` command-line argument. For example, if set to `lowest-direct`, uv will install the lowest compatible versions of all direct dependencies.

### `UV\_SYSTEM\_PYTHON`

Equivalent to the `--system` command-line argument. If set to `true`, uv will use the first Python interpreter found in the system `PATH`.

WARNING: `UV\_SYSTEM\_PYTHON=true` is intended for use in continuous integration (CI) or containerized environments and should be used with caution, as modifying the system Python can lead to unexpected behavior.

### `UV\_TOOL\_BIN\_DIR`

Specifies the "bin" directory for installing tool executables.

### `UV\_TOOL\_DIR`

Specifies the directory where uv stores managed tools.

### `UV\_UNMANAGED\_INSTALL`

Used ephemeral environments like CI to install uv to a specific path while preventing the installer from modifying shell profiles or environment variables.

### `UV\_VENV\_SEED`

Install seed packages (one or more of: `pip`, `setuptools`, and `wheel`) into the virtual environment created by `uv venv`.

Note that `setuptools` and `wheel` are not included in Python 3.12+ environments.

## Externally defined variables

uv also reads the following externally defined environment variables:

### `ACTIONS\_ID\_TOKEN\_REQUEST\_TOKEN`

Used for trusted publishing via `uv publish`. Contains the oidc request token.

### `ACTIONS\_ID\_TOKEN\_REQUEST\_URL`

Used for trusted publishing via `uv publish`. Contains the oidc token url.

### `ALL\_PROXY`

General proxy for all network requests.

### `BASH\_VERSION`

Used to detect Bash shell usage.

### `CLICOLOR\_FORCE`

Use to control color via `anstyle`.

### `CONDA\_DEFAULT\_ENV`

Used to determine if an active Conda environment is the base environment or not.

### `CONDA\_PREFIX`

Used to detect an activated Conda environment.

### `FISH\_VERSION`

Used to detect Fish shell usage.

### `FORCE\_COLOR`

Forces colored output regardless of terminal support.

See [force-color.org](https://force-color.org).

### `GITHUB\_ACTIONS`

Used for trusted publishing via `uv publish`.

### `HOME`

The standard `HOME` env var.

### `HTTPS\_PROXY`

Proxy for HTTPS requests.

### `HTTP\_PROXY`

Proxy for HTTP requests.

### `HTTP\_TIMEOUT`

Timeout (in seconds) for HTTP requests. Equivalent to `UV\_HTTP\_TIMEOUT`.

### `INSTALLER\_NO\_MODIFY\_PATH`

Avoid modifying the `PATH` environment variable when installing uv using the standalone installer and `self update` feature.

### `JPY\_SESSION\_NAME`

Used to detect when running inside a Jupyter notebook.

### `KSH\_VERSION`

Used to detect Ksh shell usage.

### `LOCALAPPDATA`

Used to look for Microsoft Store Python installations.

### `MACOSX\_DEPLOYMENT\_TARGET`

Used with `--python-platform macos` and related variants to set the deployment target (i.e., the minimum supported macOS version).

Defaults to `12.0`, the least-recent non-EOL macOS version at time of writing.

### `NETRC`

Use to set the .netrc file location.

### `NO\_COLOR`

Disables colored output (takes precedence over `FORCE\_COLOR`).

See [no-color.org](https://no-color.org).

### `NU\_VERSION`

Used to detect `NuShell` usage.

### `PAGER`

The standard `PAGER` posix env var. Used by `uv` to configure the appropriate pager.

### `PATH`

The standard `PATH` env var.

### `PROMPT`

Used to detect the use of the Windows Command Prompt (as opposed to

PowerShell).

### `PWD`

The standard `PWD` posix env var.

### `PYC\_INVALIDATION\_MODE`

The validation modes to use when run with `--compile`.

See

[`PycInvalidationMode`]([https://docs.python.org/3/library/py\\_compile.html#py\\_compile.PycInvalidationMode](https://docs.python.org/3/library/py_compile.html#py_compile.PycInvalidationMode)).

### `PYTHONPATH`

Adds directories to Python module search path (e.g.,

`PYTHONPATH=/path/to/modules`).

### `RUST\_LOG`

If set, uv will use this value as the log level for its `--verbose` output.

Accepts any filter compatible with the `tracing\_subscriber` crate.

For example:

\* `RUST\_LOG=uv=debug` is the equivalent of adding `--verbose` to the command line



\* ``RUST_LOG=trace`` will enable trace-level logging.

See the [tracing documentation]([https://docs.rs/tracing-subscriber/latest/tracing\\_subscriber/filter/struct.EnvFilter.html#example-syntax](https://docs.rs/tracing-subscriber/latest/tracing_subscriber/filter/struct.EnvFilter.html#example-syntax)) for more.

### ### ``RUST_MIN_STACK``

Use to set the stack size used by uv.

The value is in bytes, and the default is typically 2MB (2097152). Unlike the normal ``RUST_MIN_STACK`` semantics, this can affect main thread stack size, because we actually spawn our own main2 thread to work around the fact that Windows' real main thread is only 1MB. That thread has size ``max(RUST_MIN_STACK, 4MB)``.

### ### ``SHELL``

The standard ``SHELL`` posix env var.

### ### ``SSL_CERT_FILE``

Custom certificate bundle file path for SSL connections.

### ### ``SSL_CLIENT_CERT``

If set, uv will use this file for mTLS authentication. This should be a single

file containing both the certificate and the private key in PEM format.

### `SYSTEMDRIVE`

Path to system-level configuration directory on Windows systems.

### `TRACING\_DURATIONS\_FILE`

Use to create the tracing durations file via the `tracing-durations-export` feature.

### `VIRTUAL\_ENV`

Used to detect an activated virtual environment.

### `VIRTUAL\_ENV\_DISABLE\_PROMPT`

If set to `1` before a virtual environment is activated, then the virtual environment name will not be prepended to the terminal prompt.

### `XDG\_BIN\_HOME`

Path to directory where executables are installed.

### `XDG\_CACHE\_HOME`

Path to cache directory on Unix systems.

### `XDG\_CONFIG\_DIRS`

Path to system-level configuration directory on Unix systems.

### `XDG\_CONFIG\_HOME`

Path to user-level configuration directory on Unix systems.

### `XDG\_DATA\_HOME`

Path to directory for storing managed Python installations and tools.

### `ZDOTDIR`

Used to determine which `.zshenv` to use when Zsh is being used.

### `ZSH\_VERSION`

Used to detect Zsh shell usage.

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