

Windows with Cygwin

Cygwin simulates a UNIX interface for Windows, allowing you to use familiar bash commands. Only use this option if you are **very comfortable with Cygwin** and already have downloaded it - otherwise, please use Windows with Powershell.

Install Python

Run the 32-bit Cygwin installer again and select Python 2.7. Alternatively, if you have apt-cyg installed, run "apt-cyg python".

Make sure that the right python is being used by default by running

```
which python
```

and confirming that it returns `/usr/bin/python`.

Otherwise, you may have to deal with your Cygwin path (remember that Cygwin's path inherits from the Windows path). This is left as an exercise for the reader.

Install pip, the Python package manager

Make sure that the 'curl' and 'wget' packages are installed.

There's a setup script to install pip, but it depends on a package called setuptools. But there's a setup script for that too. So run in Cygwin

```
curl https://bitbucket.org/pypa/setuptools/raw/bootstrap/ez_setup.py |  
python
```

and then

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pypa/pip/master/contrib/get-pip.py  
python get-pip.py
```

Install virtualenv

virtualenv is an essential tool for Python devs because it allows you to simulate different python installations for different Python projects. We'll use one for our blog project.

To install virtualenv, run in Cygwin

```
pip install virtualenv
```

and

```
pip install virtualenvwrapper
```