

# Building Forrest

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## 1. Getting the Forrest source

### 1.1. Step-by-step Subversion (SVN) instructions for developers

**Note:**

If you are behind a proxy, see [this FAQ](#).

1. Make sure you have a recent release of a [Subversion](#) client installed and properly configured.
2. Read the ASF notes about source repositories and [version control](#).
3. At a command prompt, enter 'svn co http://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/forrest/trunk forrest' (committers should replace http with https).
4. This will create a directory called "forrest" where the Forrest source will be stored.

Whenever you want to update your Forrest source tree to the current version, change to the top-level "forrest" directory and invoke 'svn update'.

To see what changes you've made, invoke 'svn status'

SVN is really powerful. See [Version Control with Subversion](#) - the opensource SVN book.

### 1.2. Sources are also available in the release

Each release of forrest contains a copy of all sources as at the time of the release. So the building instructions below do apply to that. Of course the svn method described above will provide the most up-to-date version for developers.

## 2. Building and installing Forrest

**Note:**

This document applies to this specific version. See other instructions for the [development](#) version.

To build Forrest, change directory to 'forrest/main', and then type 'build' on Windows or './build.sh' on Unix. (Requires Java 1.4) If everything is successful, you should see a message similar to:

```
*-----
| Installation notice
*-----
You have built the X.Y-dev version of Forrest.
Please set the environment variable FORREST_HOME point to
/svn/forrest
It is recommended to add
  unix: $FORREST_HOME/bin: to your $PATH
  win: %FORREST_HOME%\bin; to your %PATH%
Then do 'forrest -projecthelp' to list options for the 'forrest' command
More help at http://forrest.apache.org/
*-----
```

As the message says, you need to add the distribution's bin/ ("binary") directory to your PATH variable, so the 'forrest' command is available everywhere:

```
[~]$ cd /path/to/svn/forrest
[/svn/forrest]$ export FORREST_HOME=`pwd`
[/svn/forrest]$ export PATH=$PATH:$FORREST_HOME/bin
```

**Warning:**

After updating the Forrest source from SVN, if there have been certain types of updates (e.g. Java sources, supporting libraries, build system, etc.) you will need to clean and build forrest again. Do 'cd forrest/main; build clean; build'.

### 3. Run Forrest, run!

Forrest is now ready to go. To view and edit the local copy of Forrest core documentation, cd to site-author and do 'forrest run' to see the local webapp using the bundled Jetty server. Edit something in content/xdocs/\*.xml see the immediate effect.

The document [Using Forrest](#) is your next step.