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## Using Brackets for Development

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### Introduction

Adobe Experience Manager provides Integrated Development Environment (IDE) support for any type of IDEs with Maven support. Brackets is a text editor tool that allows for quick edits to HTML, JS, and CSS files without having to use Maven for synchronization. Developers can ultimately choose their preferred IDE, but Adobe Recommends using the Brackets AEM Extension for front-end developers.

### Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- Explain the features of Brackets
- Install Brackets and the AEM Brackets Extension
- Make changes to the repository by using Brackets

# Brackets

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Brackets is an open source code editor for HTML, HTL, CSS, and JavaScript developed by Adobe.

The features of Brackets are:

- Live preview
- In-line editors
- Pre-processor support
- Add-on extensions

The plugins available for AEM Developers are:

- AEM Brackets Extension
- Extract for Brackets

You can download the latest version of Brackets from the following link:

<http://brackets.io/>

## Installing the AEM Brackets Extension

You can install the AEM Brackets extension within Brackets by using the Extension Manager. The AEM Brackets extension helps front-end developers build the components with HTML Template Language (HTL).

The AEM Brackets extension provides a smooth workflow to edit AEM components and client libraries and leverages the Brackets code editor to access Photoshop files and layers. The easy synchronization provided by the extension (no Maven or File Vault required) increases developer efficiency and helps front-end developers with limited AEM knowledge to work in projects. This extension also provides some support for the HTL, which makes component development easier and more secure.

The features of AEM Brackets extension are:

- Automated synchronization of changed files to the AEM development Service
- Manual bidirectional synchronization of files and folders
- Full content-package synchronization of the project
- HTL code completion for expressions and data-sly-\* block statements

## Configuring Your Project

You already learned how to create a package using the Package Manager. You can import the same package to Brackets and begin working on it. If you already have a project package, ensure it has a:

- jcr\_root folder
- filter.xml file

To set up your Brackets project based on an existing front-end development project in your repository:

1. Generate a package of your project work in the CRX Package Manager.
2. Extract the contents of the package.
3. Open the jcr\_root folder of the package.
4. Configure the project settings to connect to AEM development author Service

## Exercise 1: Install Brackets and the AEM Brackets extension

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To install Brackets:

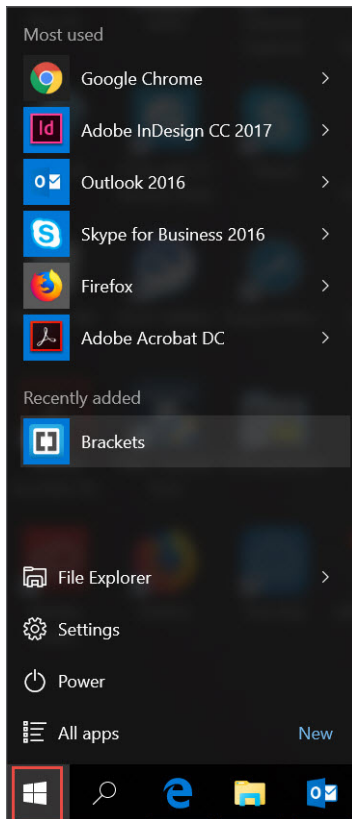
1. Download the latest version of Brackets from: <http://brackets.io/>. If you do not have network connectivity, you can obtain the standalone installation files from your Instructor.
2. Based on your Operating System (OS), double-click the **Brackets.Release.1.14.msi** or **Brackets.Release.1.14.dmg** installation file. The Brackets Installer dialog box opens.
3. Ensure both checkboxes are selected and click **Next**.
4. Click **Install**. The **Progress** bar appears. The installation may take 3-5 minutes to complete.
5. Click **Finish** to complete the installation.



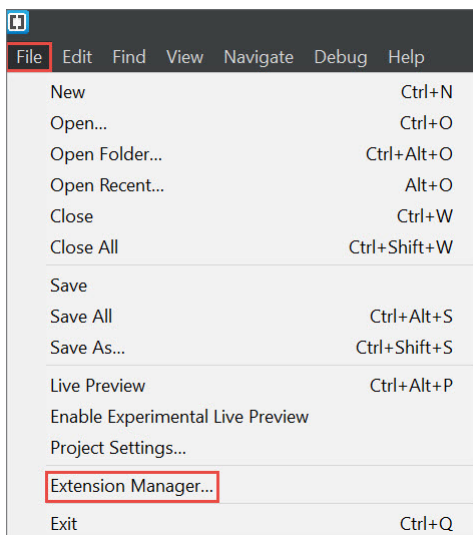
Note: If you are attending a VILT class using ReadyTech, the installation of Brackets has already been performed for you. You may skip ahead to step #2 of Exercise 2 : Make changes to the repository using Brackets.

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6. Click the **Windows** logo on your task bar, click All apps, and then click **Brackets** as shown. The **index.html (Getting Started) - Brackets** page opens.



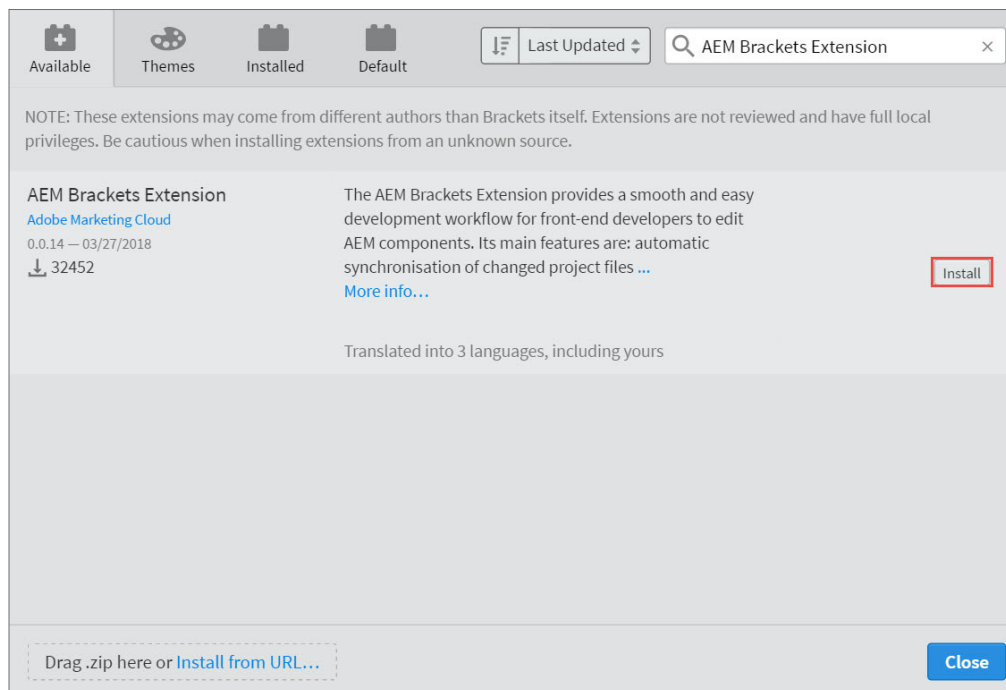
7. Click **File** and select **Extension Manager** from the list, as shown. A new wizard opens.



8. Ensure you are on the **Available** tab.
9. Type **AEM Brackets Extension** in the **Search** field and press **Enter**.

 **Note:** You can also drag the extension zip file (**aem-brackets-extension-master.zip**) from the **Distribution\_Files** to the area displayed at the bottom of the pop-up window. Notice, you need to drag the file only if you do not have Internet connectivity.

10. Click **Install** as shown. The **Install Extension** dialog box opens.



11. Wait for the installation to complete, which may take 1-2 minutes. The **Installation Extension** dialog box appears to indicate a successful installation. Click **Close**.
12. Click **Close** in the lower right to go back to the Brackets instance.
13. Click **X** in the upper-right corner to close the Brackets instance.



## Exercise 2: Make changes to the repository using Brackets

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In this exercise, you will edit the contents of your project in Brackets. After completing this task, you can update the package content and share it with team members so they also see the same content in their AEM Services.

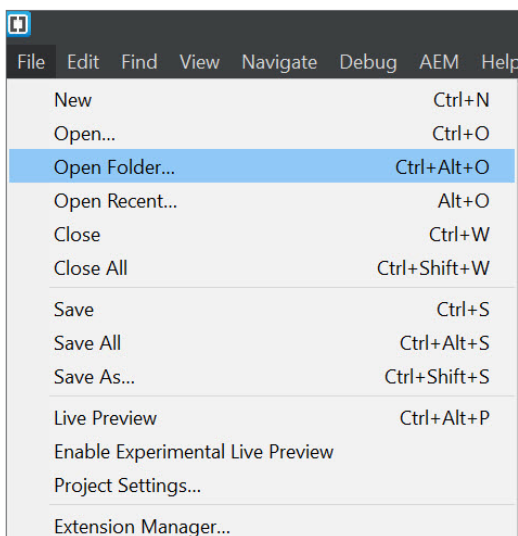
You will import the code content package into Brackets to observe how your repository can be configured in Brackets, and then examine the changes propagated to the repository in one of your training pages.

1. Verify your AEM author service is running.
- 

IMPORTANT! You must have an AEM author service running to make changes to the repository that then get saved to AEM.

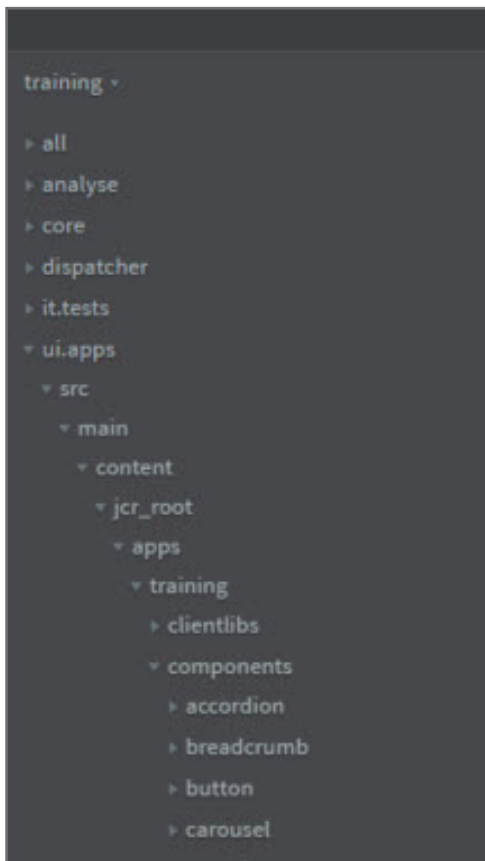
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2. Open the Brackets instance.
3. Click **File** and select **Open Folder** from the list, as shown. The **Choose a folder** dialog box opens.

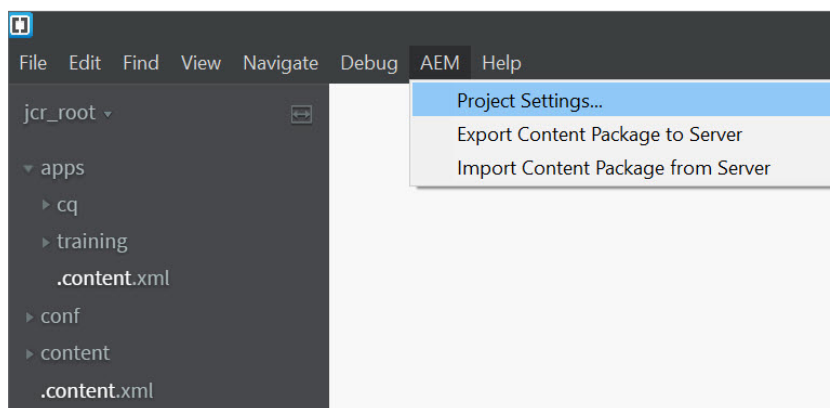


4. Locate the **<AEM project>** folder, and click **Select Folder** (or click **Open** on a Mac system). The contents of the folder are listed in the left panel.

5. Select **ui.apps\src\main\content\jcr\_root** and then expand the **apps** folder, as shown:



6. Click **AEM** and select **Project Settings** from the list as shown. The **Project Settings** dialog box opens.



7. Provide the following details in their corresponding fields:

Field	Value
ServerURL	http://localhost:4502
Username	admin
Password	admin

8. Select the **Automatically synchronize file-system changes to server** checkbox and click **OK**. These details help Brackets to interact with the AEM author development Service.

9. In the left panel, expand the apps node and navigate to **/apps/wknd/components/helloworld/helloworld.html**. The file opens on the right panel.

10. Add a message to the file, as shown:

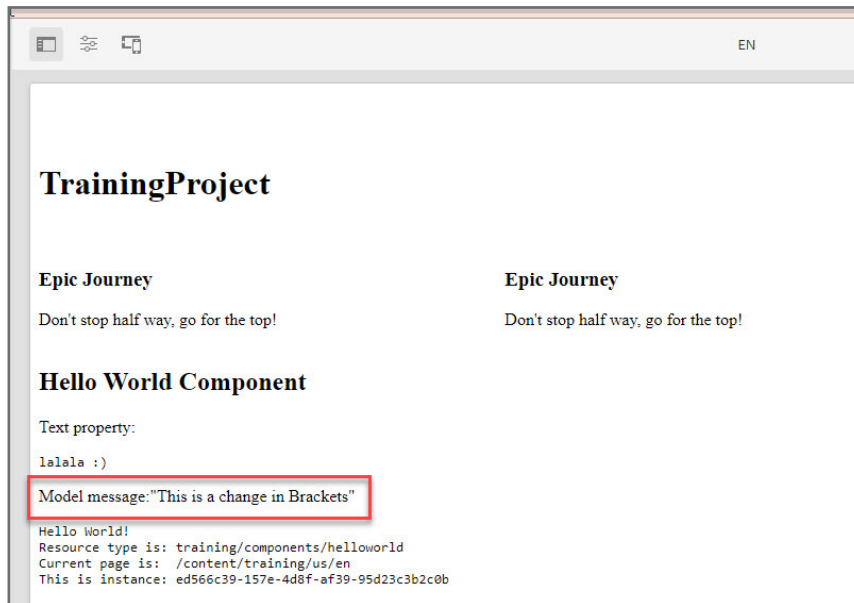
```
distributed under the License is distributed on an "AS IS" BASIS,  
WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF ANY KIND, either express or implied.  
See the License for the specific language governing permissions and  
limitations under the License.  
*/-->  
<div class="cmp-helloworld" data-cmp-is="helloworld">  
  <h2 class="cmp-helloworld__title">Hello World Component</h2>  
  <div class="cmp-helloworld__item" data-sly-test="${properties.text}">  
    <p class="cmp-helloworld__item-label">Text property:</p>  
    <pre class="cmp-helloworld__item-output" data-cmp-hook-helloworld="property">${properties.text}</pre>  
  </div>  
  <div class="cmp-helloworld__item" data-sly-use:model="com.adobe.training.core.models.HelloWorldModel" data-sly-test="${model.message}">  
    <p class="cmp-helloworld__item-label">Model message:"This is a change in Brackets"</p>  
    <pre class="cmp-helloworld__item-output" data-cmp-hook-helloworld="model">${model.message}</pre>  
  </div>  
</div>
```

11. Press **Ctrl+S** (Windows)/**Cmd+S** (Mac) or click **File** and select **Save** from the list. Notice the green AEM logo as shown. This confirms that the files are synchronized with AEM successfully.



To test the synchronization, you need to open a training page that is using the page component you just modified:

12. Navigate to the tab where the AEM author service is running.
13. Open a new tab in your browser, type <http://localhost:4502/editor.html/content/training/us/en.html> in the address bar, and then press **Enter**. The **English** page opens.
14. Notice the text that you added in **helloworld.html** now appears on the page, as shown:



You have successfully synched the files.