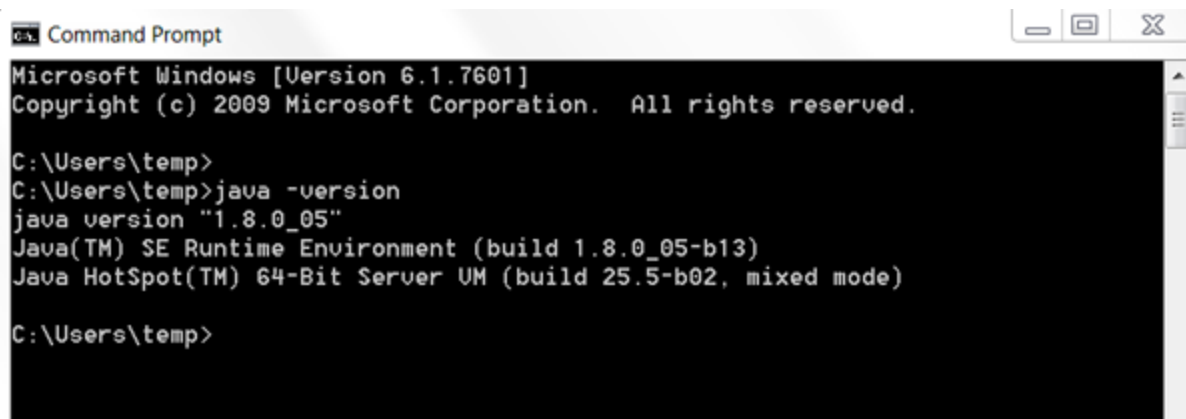# Installing the Java Development Kit: Windows Guide

1) Verify That You Have Java

First, check if you have the Java Developer Kit, version 7 or greater already installed. To check if you have JDK installed (and which version), open a terminal window and type: java -version and hit enter.

The example below shows Java version 8.0_05 -- the version number comes after the "1."

If you have Java 7 or greater, you computer is set up!

If the JDK is **not** available, or the version is lower than 7, go on to Step 2 below.

2) Download the Java Development Kit

Oracle, the company that maintains Java, has a lot of options and acronyms. We're looking for the plain old JDK. This is the kit you need to start developing your apps with Java.

As of May 2015, the download icon for the JDK looked like this:

Java SE Downloads

Java Platform (JDK) 8u45

After you click the download link, you'll see a list of options for download. Go to the **Java SE Development Kit** menu of options. Do not go to the demos and samples (the menus look very similar, so make sure to read the heading at the top)

3) Install

You've got a lot of options here, but the two you care about are the Windows options.

If your computer is only a few years old, you're most likely going to download the 64-bit option. If your computer is a little older you can follow these instructions to double check.

I'm going to download the 64-bit option (highlighted below).

Java SE Development Kit 8u45

You must accept the Oracle Binary Code License Agreement for Java SE to download this software.

Accept License Agreement ○ Decline License Agreement

Product / File Description	File Size	Download
Linux x86	146.89 MB	jdk-8u45-linux-i586.rpm
Linux x86	166.88 MB	jdk-8u45-linux-i586.tar.gz
Linux x64	145.19 MB	jdk-8u45-linux-x64.rpm
Linux x64	165.24 MB	jdk-8u45-linux-x64.tar.gz
Mac OS X x64	221.98 MB	jdk-8u45-macosx-x64.dmg
Solaris SPARC 64-bit (SVR4 package)	131.73 MB	jdk-8u45-solaris-sparcv9.tar.Z
Solaris SPARC 64-bit	92.9 MB	jdk-8u45-solaris-sparcv9.tar.gz
Solaris x64 (SVR4 package)	139.51 MB	jdk-8u45-solaris-x64.tar.Z
Solaris x64	95.88 MB	jdk-8u45-solaris-x64.tar.gz
Windows x86	175.98 MB	jdk-8u45-windows-i586.exe
Windows x64	180.44 MB	jdk-8u45-windows-x64.exe

Accept the license agreement, and download it. Once you've downloaded it, go ahead and double click it to install.

4) Verify That You Have Java

Go back to Step 1 and confirm that you have Java version 7 or higher installed.
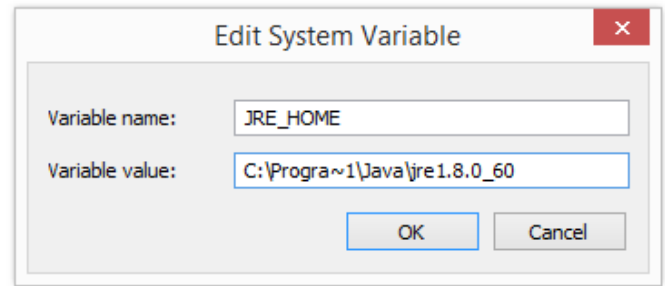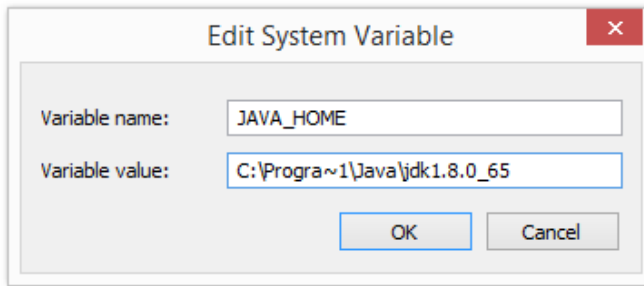
Do not move on with Android Studio install until after you have installed the JDK. Without a working copy of Java, the rest of the process will not work. If you can't get the download to work, look for error messages, and try googling to find a solution.

Link to Java download site

5) Register Java as Environment Variable

To set the JAVA_HOME variable:

1. Find out where Java is installed. If you didn't change the path during installation, it will be something like this:
2. C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_65
3. In Windows 7 right click **My Computer** and select **Properties** > **Advanced**.
4. In Windows 8 go to **Control Panel** > **System** > **Advanced System Settings**.
5. Click the **Environment Variables** button.
6. Under **System Variables**, click **New.**
7. In the **Variable Name** field, enter:
   - JAVA_HOME if you installed the JDK (Java Development Kit)
   - or
   - JRE_HOME if you installed the JRE (Java Runtime Environment)
8. In the **Variable Value** field, enter your JDK or JRE installation path.
9. If the path contains spaces, use the shortened path name, for example C:\Progra~1\Java\jdk1.8.0_65)

Edit System Variable

Variable name:	JAVA_HOME
Variable value:	C:\Progra~1\Java\jdk1.8.0_65

OK   Cancel

Edit System Variable

Variable name:	JRE_HOME
Variable value:	C:\Progra~1\Java\jre1.8.0_60

OK   Cancel

Note for Windows users on 64-bit systems
Progra~1 = 'Program Files'
Progra~2 = 'Program Files(x86)'

10. Click **OK** and **Apply Changes** as prompted.

Next, is we need to modify the path variable to point to the Java Development Kit.

1. Still on System Variables, find the **Path** variable and click **Edit...**
2. Prepend **%JAVA_HOME%\bin;** to the beginning of the PATH variable.
   ● don't forget that semi-colon(;) at the end (this is the separator character used between all the URLs in the path.
3. Click **OK** and **Apply Changes** as prompted.

You'll need to close any re-open any command windows that were open before you made these changes as there's no way to reload environment variables from an active command prompt. If the changes don't take effect even after reopening the command window, restart Windows.