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# Installing Composer on OS X

Composer [http://getcomposer.org/] is a cross-platform dependency manager for PHP libraries. This article will explain how to install it on OS X and add an alias so you can use it from anywhere.

## **Installing**

The first step is to download Composer, which will effectively create a Phar (PHP Archive) file called <code>composer.phar</code>. From your terminal, run the following command:

curl -sS https://getcomposer.org/installer | php

#### **Installation Errors**

In some cases, you might receive the following error:

Some settings on your machine make Composer unable to work properly.

Make sure that you fix the issues listed below and run this script again:

The detect\_unicode setting must be disabled.

Add the following to the end of your `php.ini`:

detect\_unicode = Off

A php.ini file does not exist. You will have to create one. If you can not modify the ini file, you can also run `php -d option=value` to

For OS X 10.8, the php.ini file should be located in /private/etc/. If you don't have one already, you can copy the default one:

sudo cp /private/etc/php.ini.default php.ini

Then, edit the file

[https://linux.startcom.org/docs/fr/Introduction%20to%20Linux/sect\_06\_02.html] and append the following to it:

detect unicode = Off

Save the file and rerun the curl command above.

### **Running Composer**

The resulting file will be called <code>composer.phar</code>, a PHP Archive that can be executed directly via PHP. However, in my case, I want Composer to be accessible globally by simply typing <code>composer</code>. To do this, move it to <code>/usr/bin/</code> and create an alias:

sudo mv composer.phar /usr/local/bin/
vim ~/.bash\_profile

Add this to your .bash\_profile . It may be empty or non-existent, so go ahead and create it:

alias composer="php /usr/local/bin/composer.phar"

Now, relaunch your terminal and you'll be able to access Composer simply by calling composer .

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#### About the author

Creator of <u>Surreal CMS</u> and other web things. <u>Follow me</u> for tweets about JavaScript, CSS, and web programming.

