

Configuring & Using Apache Tomcat

1. **Install Java.** Download for Windows, MacOS, Linux, and Solaris from <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/>. As of early 2017, I used JDK 1.8.0 (the latest versions at the time), but any Java 6 or 7 version will work. Servlet 3.0 containers (of which Tomcat 7 is one) require Java 6+, and will not work with Java 5. You want the full JDK (with compiler), not just the JRE (for running existing apps). Accept all defaults when installing.
2. **Install Tomcat.** you can download any Tomcat 7+ (currently Tomcat 9.x) version from [the Tomcat Web site](#) and then modify [context.xml](#), [server.xml](#), and [web.xml](#) into `install_dir/conf`. These files are annotated with comments on what modifications were done to change the port to 80 and to enable directory listings and automatic server restarts.
3. **Install and start Eclipse.** Download from <http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/>. Choose "Eclipse IDE for Java EE Developers", download, and unzip. As of early 2017, the latest version is Eclipse 4.7.0 (Oxygen Double click on `eclipse.exe` in the eclipse folder, then click on "Workbench").
4. **Tell Eclipse about Tomcat.** Click on Servers tab at bottom. R-click, New, Server, Apache, Tomcat v9.0, navigate to Tomcat 9 installation folder (e.g., `C:\Tomcat-9.x`), OK. If you don't see Servers tab, add the tab via Window, Show View, Servers.
5. **Run Tomcat.** Click on Servers tab at bottom. R-click on Tomcat v9.0, choose "Start". Open `http://localhost/` in a browser (or `http://localhost:8080/` if you change the port from 80 to 8080). You should now see a friendly Tomcat welcome page. If you get a "port 80 is already in use" message, you need to change port no or go to the Windows Control Panel, Services, and stop the other server (probably IIS). Also, on Linux and Solaris, you need admin privileges to start servers on low-numbered ports like 80.