Node runtime › **Node.js**

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OpenClaw requires **Node 22 or newer**. The installer script will detect and install Node automatically — this page is for when you want to set up Node yourself and make sure everything is wired up correctly (versions, PATH, global installs).

Check your version

```
node -v
```

If this prints `v22.x.x` or higher, you're good. If Node isn't installed or the version is too old, pick an install method below.

Install Node

macOS   Linux   Windows

Homebrew (recommended):

```
brew install node
```

Or download the macOS installer from   .

> Using a version manager (nvm, fnm, mise, asdf)

›

Troubleshooting

`openclaw: command not found`

This almost always means npm's global bin directory isn't on your PATH.

1   **Find your global npm prefix**

```
npm prefix -g
```

2   **Check if it's on your PATH**

```
echo "$PATH"
```

Look for `<npm-prefix>/bin` (macOS/Linux) or `<npm-prefix>` (Windows) in the output.

3   **Add it to your shell startup file**

macOS / Linux   Windows

Add to `~/.zshrc` or `~/.bashrc` :

```
export PATH="$(npm prefix -g)/bin:$PATH"
```

Then open a new terminal (or run `rehash` in zsh / `hash -r` in bash).

>

Permission errors on `npm install -g` (Linux)

If you see `EACCES` errors, switch npm's global prefix to a user-writable directory:

```
mkdir -p "$HOME/.npm-global"
npm config set prefix "$HOME/.npm-global"
export PATH="$HOME/.npm-global/bin:$PATH"
```

Add the `export PATH=...` line to your `~/.bashrc` or `~/.zshrc` to make it permanent.

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