### Step 1: Download Node.js Installer for Windows

* Visit the official Node.js website: [nodejs.org/en/download](https://nodejs.org/en/download)
* Click the **Windows Installer** button for the latest **LTS (Long Term Support)** version (recommended for stability).
* The installer file (e.g., node-v18.17.0-x64.msi) will be downloaded to your **Downloads folder** or chosen folder.

### Step 2: Run the Node.js Installer

1. Double-click the downloaded .msi installer file to start the installation wizard.
2. In the setup wizard:
   * Click **Next** on the welcome screen.
   * Accept the **License Agreement** by checking *“I accept the agreement”*, then click **Next**.
   * Choose the installation folder or leave the default location, click **Next**.
   * On the **Custom Setup** screen, leave default components selected (Node.js runtime, npm package manager, corepack, etc.), click **Next**.
   * On **Tools for Native Modules** screen, you can check this box if you plan to build native addons (optional), then **Next**.
3. Click the **Install** button.
4. Windows may prompt for permission; click **Yes** / enter administrator password to continue.
5. Wait as Node.js and npm install.
6. When the installation finishes, click **Finish**.

### Step 3: Verify Node.js and npm Installation

Open a new **Command Prompt** (press Win + R, type cmd, and Enter) or **PowerShell** and run:

node -v  
npm -v

**Expected output:**  
- node -v prints something like v18.17.0 indicating Node.js is installed.  
- npm -v prints npm version like 9.8.1.

If both commands show version numbers, Node.js and npm are correctly installed and available globally.