Prerequisites

- Arduino 1.6.5, get it from Arduino website. Arduino 1.6.6 has several issues, so we recommend to stick with 1.6.5 for now.
- Internet connection

Instructions

- Start Arduino and open Preferences window.
- Enter `http://arduino.esp8266.com/stable/package_esp8266com_index.json`into *Additional Board Manager URLs* field. You can add multiple URLs, separating them with commas.
- Open Boards Manager from Tools > Board menu and find *esp8266* platform.
- Select the version you need from a drop-down box.
- Click *install* button.
- Don't forget to select your ESP8266 board from Tools > Board menu after installation.

You may optionally use *staging* boards manager package link:`http://arduino.esp8266.com/staging/package_esp8266com_index.json`. This may contain some new features, but at the same time, some things might be broken.

Using git version

This is the suggested installation method for contributors and library developers.

Prerequisites

- Arduino 1.6.5 (or newer, if you know what you are doing)
- git
- python 2.7
- terminal, console, or command prompt (depending on you OS)
- Internet connection

Instructions

- Open the console and go to Arduino directory. This can be either your *sketchbook* directory (usually `<Documents>/Arduino`), or the directory of Arduino application itself, the choice is up to you.
- Clone this repository into hardware/esp8266com/esp8266 directory. Alternatively, clone it elsewhere and create a symlink, if your OS supports them.

```
cd hardware
mkdir esp8266com
cd esp8266com
git clone https://github.com/esp8266/Arduino.git esp8266
```

  You should end up with the following directory structure:

```
Arduino
|
--- hardware
    |
    --- esp8266com
        |
        --- esp8266
            |
            --- bootloaders
            --- cores
            --- doc
            --- libraries
            --- package
            --- tests
            --- tools
            --- variants
            --- platform.txt
            --- programmers.txt
            --- README.md
            --- boards.txt
            --- LICENSE
```

- Download binary tools

```
cd esp8266/tools
python get.py
```

- Restart Arduino