How To Install Java on Ubuntu with Apt-Get (Ubuntu)

Introduction

As a lot of articles and programs require to have Java installed, this article will guide you through the process of installing and managing different versions of Java.

Installing Oracle JDK

The Oracle JDK is the official JDK; however, it is no longer provided by Oracle as a default installation for Ubuntu.

You can still install it using apt-get. To install any version, first execute the following commands:

```
sudo apt-get install python-software-properties
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:webupd8team/java
sudo apt-get update
```

Then, depending on the version you want to install, execute one of the following commands:

Oracle JDK 7

This is the latest stable version.

```
sudo apt-get install oracle-java7-installer
```

Setting the "JAVA_HOME" environment variable

To set the JAVA_HOME environment variable, which is needed for some programs, first find out the path of your Java installation:

```
/usr/lib/jvm/java-7-oracle
```

Copy the path from your preferred installation and then edit the file /etc/environment:

```
sudo nano /etc/environment
```

In this file, add the following line (replacing YOUR_PATH by the just copied path):

JAVA_HOME="YOUR_PATH"

That should be enough to set the environment variable. Now reload this file:

source /etc/environment

Test it by executing:

echo \$JAVA_HOME

If it returns the just set path, the environment variable has been set successfully. If it doesn't, please make sure you followed all steps correctly.