Download and untar zookeeper.tar.gz
Setup a entry in ~/.bashrc file for zookeeper
export ZK_HOME=/usr/local/zookeeper
and also add it to $PATH by
export PATH=$PATH:[your old entries]:$ZK_HOME/bin

For configuring the zookeeper goto $ZK_HOME/conf, you may or may not find zoo.cfg, if not do
a **cp zoo_sample.cfg zoo.cfg**.

what is in zoo.cfg (change the dataDir to somewhere system wont wipe):
tickTime=2000
dataDir=/var/lib/zookeeper/
clientPort=2181
initLimit=5
syncLimit=2
server.1=zoo1:2888:3888
server.2=zoo2:2888:3888
server.3=zoo3:2888:3888

1. You attribute the server id to each machine by creating a file named
   `myid`, one for each server, which resides in that server's data
   directory, as specified by the configuration file parameter **dataDir**.
2. The myid file consists of a single line containing only the text of that
   machine's id. So `myid` of server 1 would contain the text "1" and
   nothing else. The id must be unique within the ensemble and should
   have a value between 1 and 255.

Highest myid = leader

run on all machines:
$ zkServer.sh start

or for a more verbose version:
$ zkServer.sh start-foreground

check status with
$ zkServer.sh status