**Step 1: Download JDK 21**

1. **Visit the Oracle Website:**
   * Open your web browser and go to the official Oracle website's JDK download page:  
     <https://www.oracle.com/java/technologies/javase/jdk21-archive-downloads.html>.
2. **Download JDK 21 for Windows:**
   * Scroll down to find the section labeled **JDK 21** and look for the **Windows x64 Installer** (usually ends with .exe).
   * Click the **download link** next to it.
3. **Accept License Agreement:**
   * Before downloading, you might need to accept the **Oracle license agreement**. Check the box if prompted.

**Step 2: Install JDK 21**

1. **Run the Installer:**
   * Once the file has been downloaded, navigate to your downloads folder and double-click the **JDK 21 installer (.exe file)** to run it.
2. **Follow the Installation Wizard:**
   * The installation wizard will open. Click **Next** to begin.
   * By default, the JDK will be installed in C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21. You can change this location if you wish, but it’s fine to leave it as is. Click **Next**.
3. **Wait for Installation to Complete:**
   * The installer will copy files and set up everything for you. Once complete, click **Close** to finish the installation.

**Step 3: Set Up Environment Variables**

1. **Open Environment Variables Settings:**
   * Right-click the **Start button** and select **System**.
   * Scroll down and click **Advanced system settings** on the right.
   * In the System Properties window, click **Environment Variables**.
2. **Add the JDK Path to System Variables:**
   * In the Environment Variables window, under the **System variables** section, scroll down and find the **Path** variable. Select it and click **Edit**.
   * In the Edit window, click **New** and paste the path to the JDK 21 **bin** folder. By default, this path is:  
     C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21\bin
3. **Create JAVA\_HOME Variable:**
   * In the Environment Variables window, click **New** under the **System variables** section.
   * In the Variable name field, enter JAVA\_HOME.
   * In the Variable value field, paste the path to the main JDK folder (without the bin). By default, this is:  
     C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21
   * Click **OK** to save it.
4. **Save and Close:**
   * Click **OK** to close all windows and apply the changes.

**Step 4: Verify the Installation**

1. **Open Command Prompt:**
   * Press **Win + R**, type cmd, and hit **Enter** to open the Command Prompt.
2. **Check Java Version:**
   * In the Command Prompt, type the following command and press **Enter**:

java -version

* + You should see output similar to this if the installation was successful:

java version "21"

Java(TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 21)

Java HotSpot(TM) 64-Bit Server VM (build 21)

1. **Check the JDK Compiler:**
   * To check if the JDK compiler (javac) is working, type:

javac -version

* + You should see:

javac 21

**Conclusion:**

You’ve successfully installed **JDK 21** on **Windows 11**! Now you’re ready to start developing Java applications. Make sure to configure your development environment (like IntelliJ IDEA, Eclipse, or Visual Studio Code) to use **JDK 21**.