

Installing Ruby on Rails on Windows

Pieces You Need

- Ruby
- RubyGems
- Rails (Gem)
- A Database Engine

Install Ruby and RubyGems

Refer to [RubyInstaller.org](http://rubyinstaller.org) [<http://rubyinstaller.org>] for the the latest downloads and information.

If you intend installing gems such as `sqlite3-ruby` (as below), then you likely need the Development Kit [<http://rubyinstaller.org/downloads/>], which provides a complete build environment.

You may need to update gems after installation:

```
$ gem update --system
```

Install Rails

Rails is easy to install now, thanks to RubyGems. Simply use `gem` to install it at a command prompt:

```
$ gem install rails
```

This will take awhile, so go get a snack. It may even look like it's not doing anything at first, so don't worry that it's hanging. This will install all the code, test code, ri documentation, and RDoc documentation for Rails.

Install a Database Engine

Rails is completely DB-agnostic, so we'll describe how to install two of the more popular Database Engines: SQLite and MySQL.

How to Install SQLite

SQLite is the default database type that Rails looks for, and it's a great, lightweight DB for Development. We'll install SQLite3 here.

You need two files from the SQLite download page [<http://www.sqlite.org/download.html>]:

- the SQLite Command Line Tool [http://www.sqlite.org/sqlite-3_7_2.zip]
- the SQLite DLL [http://www.sqlite.org/sqlitedll-3_7_2.zip]

Unzip them and put the three extracted files somewhere in your path or in the `ruby\bin` directory. Now install the `sqlite3-ruby` gem:

```
$ gem install sqlite3-ruby
```

How to Install MySQL

Download MySQL Community Server [<http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mysql/5.1.html#downloads>] and install it. If you also do PHP programming, check out WAMP for an easy installation as well.

To use MySQL in Rails versions greater than 2.1, you'll also need the MySQL adapter:

```
$ gem install mysql
```

Because MySQL is not the default adapter, we'll have to edit our database.yml file later.

Setup a First Project

Note: Rails 3 is now installed by default; these instructions refer to Rails 3.

Setting a Rails project is a one-line affair (from the command prompt):

```
$ rails new myprojectname
```

This will build a directory, in which it will build the entire blank Rails project skeleton. To see your fresh project in action, navigate to your project root and run `script/server`:

```
$ cd myprojectname
$ rails server
```

Then, navigate to `http://localhost:3000/` [`http://localhost:3000/`] in your browser, and you should see the default Rails "Welcome Aboard" page.

Out of the box, Rails uses the SQLite3 adapter and creates the DB in the db directory. If you look at your database.yml file (in `\config`), you'll see a database entry for your development, test, and production databases. Each should look something like this:

```
development:
  adapter: sqlite3
  database: db/development.sqlite3
  pool: 5
  timeout: 5000
```

This means in development mode Rails is using the sqlite3 adapter to communicate with the database at `db\development.sqlite3`. This is fine during development, but in production, you'll probably want something beefier. You can change any of the entries to read from a different database type. Here's what an example MySQL entry would look like:

```
development:
  adapter: mysql
  database: myprojectname_development
  username: devrailsuser
  password: devrailspassword
  host: localhost
```

Other resources

- Akita on Rails suggested environment for Rails on Windows [<http://akitaonrails.com/2009/1/13/the-best-environment-for-rails-on-windows>]

- [RubyStack](#): Free, all-in-one installer that includes Apache and MySQL
- JRuby [<http://jruby.org/>]: Ruby running on the JVM (Java Virtual Machine)

Discussion

Umur Ozkul, 2009/05/10 06:01

I am refering this article as the requirement of my ruby on rails tutorial - <http://conceptspace.wikidot.com/blog:15>
[<http://conceptspace.wikidot.com/blog:15>]

skim, 2009/12/17 04:49

You can also install Luis Lavena's new RubyInstaller for Windows. It's currently marked RC1, but stable.

<http://rubyinstaller.org/> [<http://rubyinstaller.org/>]

Be sure to install the DevKit available in the download section to install important gems.

vsidr1, 2010/03/14 01:00

Hello, I install ruby, then Rails and mysql. I change database file, but then Ror stop work and generate error:
"Status: 500 Internal Server Error"

193: %1 is not a valid Win32 application."

How can i fix that?

Lloyd Cledwyn, 2010/04/21 16:28

It seems that I also needed to run

```
gem install sqlite3
```

in order for my version to work.

stefan trost, 2010/07/22 10:45

hi, I'm an absolute beginner and having some trouble. whenever I type in "config" I get "config: The Perl interpreter could not be found."

Upto now I have done everything according to above. I want to edit database.yml. how can I do that? what's going wrong?

And: when typing in "rake db:migrate" it says "rakefile not found" Again: what's going on? I'm thankful for help!

james cowlshaw, 2010/10/05 11:05

'config' does not relate to a command, it is the path to the database.yml file:
[RAILS_APP_PATH]\config\database.yml. When running "rake db:migrate", make sure your current working directory is [RAILS_APP_PATH].

AKS, 2010/09/22 09:06

Hi

I installed Ruby using Rubyinstaller-1.9.2-p0.exe & sqlite3-ruby and rails3 Getting error while executing rails myprojectname, "usage: rails new APP_PATH [options]"

So i gave "rails new myprojectname" & after going into the directory "myprojectname", i dont see any "server" file

under the "script" folder.

ruby: no such file or directory – script/server <LoadError>

I have only one file under "script" folder and it is "rails" Please help what is wrong i am doing here. Thanks AKS
Novice Railer

james cowlshaw, 2010/10/05 11:04

The documentation here did not apply to Rails 3. Use 'ruby rails server' instead.

Lance Carlson, 2010/10/06 19:41

JRuby might be a better solution for ruby development on windows.