

# **Workshop 03: TidalCycles Installation Party**

In this session, we will install TidalCycles, the live coding environment we will mainly use in future workshops.

TidalCycles is a library written in the Haskell programming language, allowing you to represent music with code and perform it in real-time.

Installation can be a bit tricky. Let's proceed step-by-step!

# **Installation Overview**

## **Supported OS**

- macOS
- Windows
- Linux

## **Automatic Install vs. Manual Install**

There are two methods for installing TidalCycles:

- **Automatic Install:**  
Uses the appropriate package manager for your OS to install all necessary software at once (recommended).
- **Manual Install:**  
Install each piece of software individually. Try this if the automatic installation fails or if you need specific settings.

## **Installation - MacOS**

## **Automatic Install**

Follow these steps to install TidalCycles.

### **1. Prerequisite: Install Apple Xcode command line tools**

Open Terminal and run the following command.

```
xcode-select --install
```

## 2. Run the tidal-bootstrap script

Run the following command in Terminal.

```
curl https://raw.githubusercontent.com/tidalcycles/tidal-bootstrap/master/tidal-bootstrap.command -sSf | sh
```

Installation takes a very long time! Be patient.

This operation will install the following software:

- [Haskell Language](#) (Ghcup)
- [cabal](#): package system for Haskell and Tidalcycles
- The Tidal Pattern engine (Tidal Cycles itself)
- [Pulsar](#): Text editor
  - [tidalcycles plugin](#) for Pulsar
- [SuperCollider](#) for backend audio generation, and:
  - [SuperDirt](#): sample library used by tidal
  - [sc-3 plugins](#): unit generator plugins

## Troubleshooting

If you encounter errors during installation, please refer to the following document for individual solutions.

- [TidalCyls > Installation > macOS](#)

## **Manual Installation**

If the automatic installation does not work, please refer to the following document to install manually.

- [TidalCylcs > Installation > macOS#manual-installation](#)

## **Installation - Windows**

## Automatic Install

1. Run PowerShell as Administrator
2. Install Chocolatey

Run the following command.

```
Set-ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Scope Process -Force; iex ((New-Object System.Net.WebClient).DownloadString('https://chocolatey.org/install.ps1'))
```

### 3. Install TidalCycles

(After installing Chocolatey) Run the following command.

```
choco install tidalcycles
```

Installation takes a very long time! Be patient.

This operation will install the following software:

- [git](#)
- [SuperCollider](#)
- [sc-3 plugins](#)
- [msys2](#)
- [Haskell - ghc & cabal](#)
- [SuperDirt](#)
- [Pulsar-dev Editor](#) with TidalCycles plugin package

## Troubleshooting

If the automatic installation does not work, please refer to the following document to install manually.

- [TidalCyls > Installation > Windows](#)

## Manual Installation

If the automatic installation does not work, please refer to the following document to install manually.

- [TidalCylcs > Installation > Windows#manual-installation](#)