**Install MySQL + Workbench on Windows (Step-by-Step, 2025)**

**Before you start**

* **Windows 10/11 (64-bit), admin rights, internet.**
* **If you previously installed MySQL, uninstall it first to avoid conflicts.**
* **Decide which path you want:**
  + **Path A (easiest, all-in-one): *MySQL Installer* — installs MySQL Server 8.0 + Workbench together.** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/downloads/installer/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
  + **Path B (latest versions): Separate MSIs — install MySQL Server 8.4 LTS or 9.x + Workbench separately; the MSI includes MySQL Configurator for setup.** [**MySQL+2MySQL+2**](https://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mysql/8.0.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

**Path A — Using MySQL Installer (MySQL 8.0 series)**

1. **Download the MySQL Installer (Community)**
   * **Go to the official page and get the MySQL Installer for Windows. (Note: the Installer is only for the 8.0 series.)** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/downloads/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
2. **Run the installer (right-click → *Run as administrator*).**
3. **Choose a setup type**
   * **Pick Developer Default (installs MySQL Server, Workbench, Shell, etc.). If you don’t see it, pick Full or Custom and include MySQL Server and MySQL Workbench.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-windows-excerpt/8.0/en/windows-installation.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
4. **Check Requirements**
   * **Let it install dependencies (e.g., Visual C++). Click Execute when prompted.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-installer/en/mysql-installer-setup.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
5. **Install products**
   * **Click Execute to download/install, then Next.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-installer/en/mysql-installer-setup.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
6. **Configuration wizard**
   * **Type & Networking: Standalone server; default port 3306; allow Windows Firewall rule.**
   * **Authentication: Choose Use Strong Password Encryption (recommended).** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-installer/en/server-authentication-method.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
   * **Root password: Set a strong password; optionally add a student user.**
   * **Windows service: Keep “Run as a Windows Service” checked (service is typically named MySQL80).** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-installation-excerpt/8.0/en/mysql-installer-workflow-server.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
   * **Click Execute to apply configuration; then Finish.**
7. **Launch MySQL Workbench**
   * **From Start menu → MySQL → MySQL Workbench. Connect to Local instance (host: localhost, port 3306, user root).** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/workbench/en/wb-installing-windows.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

**Path B — Latest MySQL (Server 8.4 LTS/9.x) + Workbench (separate MSIs)**

1. **Download MySQL Server MSI**
   * **Go to MySQL Community Server, pick Windows (x86, 64-bit), MSI.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mysql/8.0.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
2. **Run the MSI (admin). When it finishes, it offers to run MySQL Configurator.**
3. **Configure with MySQL Configurator**
   * **Set port 3306; enable Windows Firewall rule.**
   * **Choose Strong Password Encryption (caching\_sha2\_password).** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/en/windows-installation.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
   * **Set root password; create a normal user if desired.**
   * **Install as a Windows service and start it.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/en/windows-installation.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
4. **Download & install MySQL Workbench (Windows MSI)**
   * **Get the Workbench installer from the official page and run it.** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/workbench/en/wb-installing.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
5. **Open Workbench and connect**
   * **Start → MySQL Workbench → create a connection to localhost:3306 as root.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/workbench/en/wb-installing-windows.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

**Quick test (in Workbench)**

1. **Open a connection.**
2. **Run:**
3. **SELECT VERSION();**
4. **CREATE DATABASE testdb;**
5. **USE testdb;**
6. **CREATE TABLE t(id INT PRIMARY KEY, note VARCHAR(50));**
7. **INSERT INTO t VALUES (1,'hello');**
8. **SELECT \* FROM t;**

**You should see one row returned.**

**(Optional) Install sample database for practice**

* **Download Sakila sample DB (sakila-schema.sql and sakila-data.sql) and run them in Workbench (File → Open SQL Script → Execute).** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/sakila/en/sakila-installation.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

**Common issues & fixes**

* **Can’t connect / port blocked  
  Ensure port 3306 is allowed in Windows Firewall during setup. Re-run the configurator/installer if needed.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/en/windows-installation.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
* **Service not running  
  Open *Services* (services.msc) and start the MySQL service (e.g., *MySQL80*).** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-installation-excerpt/8.0/en/mysql-installer-workflow-server.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
* **Client can’t authenticate  
  Use the Strong Password Encryption option (default in 8.0+). Older clients may require the legacy option; prefer updating clients instead.** [**MySQL+1**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-installer/en/server-authentication-method.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
* **Don’t see “Developer Default” (Path A)  
  Use Full or Custom and manually include Server + Workbench.** [**MySQL**](https://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql-windows-excerpt/8.0/en/windows-installation.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)