

# Toucan Static Site Generator: Quick Installation Guide

Toucan is a Swift-based static site generator designed for simplicity and performance. This guide walks you through the installation process and helps you get started with creating your first static website.

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## Prerequisites

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Before installing Toucan, ensure your environment is properly set up:

### 1. Install Swift:

- Toucan requires Swift to be installed on your machine.
- [Download Swift](#) and follow the installation instructions for your operating system.

### 2. Verify Swift Installation:

- Open a terminal and type: `swift --version`
  - You should see the installed Swift version. If not, troubleshoot your installation.
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## Installation Steps

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### Step 1: Clone the Repository

1. Open your terminal.
2. Clone the Toucan repository:

```
git clone https://github.com/toucansites/toucan.git cd toucan
```

### Step 2: Build and Install Toucan

1. Use `make` to build and install Toucan: `make install`
  - This command compiles the Toucan source code and installs it on your system.

2. Verify the installation: `which toucan`

- The output should display the path where Toucan is installed. If it doesn't, check the installation logs for errors.

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## Getting Started with Toucan

### Step 1: Initialize a New Site

1. Create a new site by running: `toucan init my-site`

- Replace `my-site` with the name of your project folder.
- Toucan will generate a folder structure with default configuration files and templates.

2. Navigate to your new site folder: `cd my-site`

After initializing a site, your project will have the following structure:

```
my-site/
├── LICENSE           # License file for the project
├── Makefile          # Makefile for building and managing the project
├── README.md         # Project README file
├── docs/             # Folder containing generated static files (HTML,
└── src/              # Source files for content and templates
```

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### Step 2: Generate Your Site

1. Run the following command to generate the static files: `toucan generate`

- Toucan processes your content and templates, producing static HTML files in the `docs` directory.

### Step 3: Watch for changes (only for macOS for now)

The watch command monitors a source directory for changes and automatically rebuilds the distribution files, regenerating the site whenever changes are detected.

1. Run the following command to generate the static files: `toucan watch`

### Step 4: Serve Your Site Locally

1. Start a local development server: `toucan serve`
2. Open your browser and navigate to: `http://localhost:3000`
  - This allows you to preview your site locally.

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## Copy Theme and Default Contents

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1. From the zip file copy all contents from the **theme** folder into the **my-site/src/themes/default** folder.
2. From the zip file copy all contents from copy all content from the **contents** folder into the **my-site/src/content** folder.

After successfull file copies, your project will have the following structure:

```
my-site/
├── docs
├── src/
│   ├── contents/
│   │   ├── 404
│   │   ├── about
│   │   ├── assets
│   │   ├── authors
│   │   ├── home
│   │   ├── lists
│   │   ├── posts
│   │   └── tags
│   └── themes/
│       └── default/
│           ├── assets
│           ├── templates
│           └── types
```

The theme comes with a variety of sample content to help you quickly understand how to structure and manage your site. These include:

1. Tags:
  - A sample tag directory is provided in `src/contents/tags/`.
  - This demonstrates how tags are created and displayed.
2. Authors:
  - A test author is included in `src/contents/authors/`.
  - This shows how to add and customize author profiles.
3. Posts:

- Several sample posts are included in `src/contents/posts/`.
- These showcase how to write Markdown-based posts with metadata and images.

4. 404 Page:

- A preconfigured “Page Not Found” template is located in `src/contents/404/`.

5. About Page:

- A sample “About” page is included in `src/contents/about/` to demonstrate static page creation.

6. Assets:

- Default images and icons are stored in `src/contents/assets/`.
- Includes logos, placeholders, and theme-specific assets.

7. Home Page Content:

- A preconfigured home page setup is included in `src/contents/home/`.

You can use these sample contents as a reference or starting point for your project. Once you’re familiar with the structure, replace them with your own custom content.

Happy building with Toucan!

## Troubleshooting

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If you encounter issues during installation or setup, consider the following:

- Ensure Swift is installed and correctly configured.
- Check your `PATH` to ensure the Toucan binary is accessible.
- Review the logs for any error messages and report issues on the [Toucan GitHub Issues page](#).

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## Resources

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- **Official Repository:** <https://github.com/toucansites/toucan>
- **Swift Downloads:** <https://swift.org/download/>