How to Install Java with Apt-Get on Ubuntu 16.04

Sairam Krishna , Posted on June 3, 2016, filed in: Information Technology , Linux

Java programming language was originally developed by Sun Microsystems which was initiated by James Gosling and released in 1995 as core a component of Sun Microsystems' Java platform (Java 1.0 [J2SE]).

The latest release of the Java Standard Edition is Java SE 8. With the advancement of Java and its widespread popularity, multiple configurations were built to suit various types of platforms. Ex: J2EE for Enterprise Applications, J2ME for Mobile Applications.

The new J2 versions was renamed as Java SE, Java EE and Java ME respectively. Java is guaranteed to be a Write Once, Run Anywhere.This article explains about 'How to install Java with Apt-get on Ubuntu'

Installing the Default JRE/JDK

To install the Java Runtime Environment (JRE), use the following command –

```
$ sudo apt-get install default-jre
```

The sample output should be like this –

```
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  apport-hooks-elementary contractor javascript-common libgda-5.0-4
  libgda-5.0-common libgranite-common libgranite3 libgsignon-glib1
  libindicate5 libjs-jquery libnoise-core0 libtagc0 mysql-server-5.7
  mysql-server-core-5.7
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
The following additional packages will be installed:
  ca-certificates-java default-jre-headless fonts-dejavu-extra java-common
  libbonobo2-0 libbonobo2-common libgif7 libgnome-2-0 libgnome2-common
  libgnomevfs2-0 libgnomevfs2-common liborbit-2-0 openjdk-8-jre
  openjdk-8-jre-headless
Suggested packages:
  default-java-plugin libbonobo2-bin desktop-base libgnomevfs2-bin
  libgnomevfs2-extra gamin | fam gnome-mime-data icedtea-8-plugin
  openjdk-8-jre-jamvm fonts-ipafont-gothic fonts-ipafont-mincho
  ttf-wqy-microhei | ttf-wqy-zenhei fonts-indic
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  ca-certificates-java default-jre default-jre-headless fonts-dejavu-extra
  java-common libbonobo2-0 libbonobo2-common libgif7 libgnome-2-0
.....................................................................
```

There is another default Java installation called the JDK (Java Development Kit). The JDK is usually needed if you are going to compile Java programs or if the software that will use Java specifically requires it. To install JDK, use the following command –

```
$ sudo apt-get install default-jdk
```

The sample output should be like this –

```
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  apport-hooks-elementary contractor javascript-common libgda-5.0-4
  libgda-5.0-common libgranite-common libgranite3 libgsignon-glib1
  libindicate5 libjs-jquery libnoise-core0 libtagc0 mysql-server-5.7
  mysql-server-core-5.7
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
The following additional packages will be installed:
  default-jdk-headless libice-dev libpthread-stubs0-dev libsm-dev libx11-dev
  libx11-doc libxau-dev libxcb1-dev libxdmcp-dev libxt-dev openjdk-8-jdk
  openjdk-8-jdk-headless x11proto-core-dev x11proto-input-dev x11proto-kb-dev
  xorg-sgml-doctools xtrans-dev
Suggested packages:
  libice-doc libsm-doc libxcb-doc libxt-doc openjdk-8-demo openjdk-8-source
  visualvm
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  default-jdk default-jdk-headless libice-dev libpthread-stubs0-dev libsm-dev
  libx11-dev libx11-doc libxau-dev libxcb1-dev libxdmcp-dev libxt-dev
  openjdk-8-jdk openjdk-8-jdk-headless x11proto-core-dev x11proto-input-dev
  x11proto-kb-dev xorg-sgml-doctools xtrans-dev
0 upgraded, 18 newly installed, 0 to remove and 168 not upgraded.
Need to get 11.9 MB of archives.
.....................................................................................
```

Installing the Oracle JDK

To install the oracle JDK, use the following command –

```
$ sudo add-apt-repository ppa:webupd8team/java
```

The sample output should be like this –

```
Oracle Java (JDK) Installer (automatically downloads and installs Oracle JDK7 / JDK8 / JDK9). There are no actual Java files in this PPA.

More info (and Ubuntu installation instructions):
- for Oracle Java 7: http://www.webupd8.org/2012/01/install-oracle-java-jdk-7-in-ubuntu-via.html
- for Oracle Java 8: http://www.webupd8.org/2012/09/install-oracle-java-8-in-ubuntu-via-ppa.html

Debian installation instructions:
- Oracle Java 7: http://www.webupd8.org/2012/06/how-to-install-oracle-java-7-in-debian.html
- Oracle Java 8: http://www.webupd8.org/2014/03/how-to-install-oracle-java-8-in-debian.html

Important!!! For now, you should continue to use Java 8 because Oracle Java 9 is available as an early access release (it should be released in 2016)! You should only use Oracle Java 9 if
 More info: https://launchpad.net/~webupd8team/+archive/ubuntu/java
```

```
Press [ENTER] to continue or ctrl-c to cancel adding it

gpg: keyring `/tmp/tmpa5dj4h41/secring.gpg' created
gpg: keyring `/tmp/tmpa5dj4h41/pubring.gpg' created
gpg: requesting key EEA14886 from hkp server keyserver.ubuntu.com
.....................................................................................
```

Now update the packages list using the following command –

```
$ sudo apt-get update
```

Managing Java

There may be multiple Java installations on one server. You could configure a specific model which can be used as a default to be used within the command line through the use of update-options as shown below-

```
$ sudo update-alternatives --config java
```

The sample output should be like this –

```
There are 5 choices for the alternative java (providing /usr/bin/java).

  Selection    Path                                            Priority   Status
------------------------------------------------------------
* 0            /usr/lib/jvm/java-8-openjdk-amd64/jre/bin/java   1081      auto mode
  1            /usr/lib/jvm/java-6-oracle/jre/bin/java          1         manual mode
  2            /usr/lib/jvm/java-7-oracle/jre/bin/java          2         manual mode
  3            /usr/lib/jvm/java-8-openjdk-amd64/jre/bin/java   1081      manual mode
  4            /usr/lib/jvm/java-8-oracle/jre/bin/java          3         manual mode
  5            /usr/lib/jvm/java-9-oracle/bin/java              4         manual mode

Press  to keep the current choice[*], or type selection number:
```

you can choose as per your knowledge.

Setting the JAVA_HOME Environment Variable

To set this environment variable, we will first need to find out where Java is installed. You can do this by executing the following command –

```
$ sudo update-alternatives --config java
```

Copy the path from your preferred installation and then open /etc/environment file as shown below –

```
$ sudo nano /etc/environment
```

At the end of the file add the following lines –

```
JAVA_HOME="YOUR_JAVA_PATH"
```

For example, it should be as shown below –

```
JAVA_HOME="/usr/lib/jvm/java-8-openjdk-amd64/jre/bin/java"
```

Save and exit the file, and reload it as shown below-

```
$ source /etc/environment
```

you may now test whether or not the environment variable has been set by using executing the following command-

```
$ echo $JAVA_HOME
```

After this article, you will be able to understand – How To Install Java with Apt-Get on Ubuntu 16.04. In our next articles, we will come up with more Linux based tricks and tips. Keep reading!

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