

PyCharm is now one **unified product!**

NOTE: there are references to PyCharm Community throughout the course and within these instructions, which is/was a free version of PyCharm. Since 2025, PyCharm has offered a unified product that combines the free and professional versions. For the purposes of this course, the differences are negligible. Any references to the Community version in the instructions will also apply to the new version.

Let your instructor know if you have any questions on your installation or issues with using PyCharm to complete your assignments!

For technical help with issues related to your personal computer:

- **Generative AI tools** – For example chatgpt.org or claude.ai
- **JetBrains PyCharm Support** – <https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/support/>
- **Python Community** – Search or post in <https://stackoverflow.com> (be specific about your error messages)
- **Wake Tech Helpdesk** – Call or email at <https://waketech.edu/helpdesk>
- **Wake Tech Tutoring & Learning Center** – <https://www.waketech.edu/student-services/tutoring-learning-center>

If you run into issues, try these resources first — they can often get you up and running faster.

Installing Python and PyCharm

These documents will help you install and configure Python and PyCharm, and guide you through the basic steps of working with Projects in PyCharm.

You will install using the instructions following these four steps. There are separate documents in this folder for each of these four steps in **Teams** → **Files** (linked at the top of the Microsoft Teams App), with file names that begin with the step number.

STEP 1 - Install Python

Start with the Installing Python document which will show you how to install the current version of Python (currently 3.13.x).

STEP 2 - Install PyCharm

Next, read the Installing PyCharm document which will show you how to install PyCharm

STEP 3 - Create a Project using PyCharm

After complete the installation of PyCharm, review Using PyCharm which help you create your first project in PyCharm.

STEP 4 - Configure PyCharm

If you encounter any issues with PyCharm working with Python 3.13, refer to this document for details on how to configure PyCharm to use the version of Python you installed:

Install complete? Great! Now you're ready to code, create, and make it happen.