

Installing Node.js

Learn how to install Node.js on your local machine!

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Installation
- Using npm

Installation

The first thing we need to do is to install [Node.js](#). This is the engine that both the front-end and the back-end are going to run on. Node.js provides a non-blocking event-driven system for our applications, and it is one of the fastest-growing technologies at the moment. Its asynchronous mechanism gives us an ability to handle complex web scenarios in an easy manner. Also, it has its own packaging ecosystem, [npm](#). Through this ecosystem, one is able to install other libraries that will be used in this example.

To install Node.js, just go to their website and click the big green button. It will automatically detect your operating system and give you the correct installation file. By running this installation file, you will install Node.js and npm. After that, you can proceed to set up your application.

Using npm

A few notes for the readers that are not familiar with using npm. Every node application has its own `package.json` file. In this file, a developer defines all libraries and technologies that will be installed in his application. Usually, once you start building a Node application, one needs to call:

```
npm init
```

After filling in the necessary information `package.json` file is created. It should

look something like this:

```
{
  "name": "nodetest",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "description": "",
  "main": "index.js",
  "scripts": {
    "test": "command"
  },
  "dependencies": {
  },
  "author": "Nikola Zivkovic (rubikscore.net)",
  "license": "ISC"
}
```

Notice the field dependencies. In here the developer adds a list of needed packages. These packages will be downloaded to the node_modules folder once the developer calls command:

```
npm install
```

Of course, one can not know what are the libraries will be needed at the beginning of development. So, for every library that needs to be installed, one can simply call:

```
npm install name_of_the_package
```

If a developer wants to add this library to the package.json file automatically, one can add “**-save**” option into that command.

That is all for installing node.js on your local machine. Next, you will learn how to install angular 4 on your local machine.