

Setting up your Mac OS X

All the needed dependencies for setting up your machine for these tutorials.

— Overview of requirements —

The installation will depend on your operating system, but overall, you will need:

- Python 2.x - there are plans to update/include Python 3.x
 - git
 - A C compiler
 - pip
 - virtualenv
 - virtualenvwrapper
 - text editor of your choice
-

— Installation —

Python

Macs come with Python pre-installed. To check, open up the Terminal application, then type `python`:

```
bash $ python Python 2.7.2 (default, Jun 20 2012, 16:23:33) [GCC 4.2.1 Compatible Apple Clang 4.0 (tags/Apple/clang-418.0.60)] on darwin Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information. >>>
```

Python.org[1] has a good Python on the Mac[2] page if the above does not work for you.

git

You will need to install git[3] on your machine through their download page[4]. You can then follow the Save your Progress[5] page to set it up.

C compiler

To test if you have either GCC or clang, type `$ gcc` or `$ clang` into your terminal. If you get an error that says “command not found” then follow the install instructions:

You will need the XCode[6] application. Once you have XCode on your machine, you will need to navigate to Preferences → Downloads, then select **Command Line Tools** to download & install (this may take a while, get some coffee, go take a shower).

This gives you the GCC[7] or the GNU Compiler Collection. To test installation, within the Terminal application, type `gcc` and you should get the following:

```
bash $ gcc i686-apple-darwin11-llvm-gcc-4.2: no input files
```

pip

pip[8], stands for “python install python”, is a tool for installing and managing Python packages. Within your Terminal application, use the following commands (ignore the leading `$` as that is your terminal prompt) for downloading & installing. It may prompt you for your computer login password.

```
bash $ curl https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pypa/pip/master/contrib/get-pip.py | sudo python $
pip Usage: pip COMMAND [OPTIONS] You must give a command (use "pip help" to see a list of
commands) $ sudo pip install --upgrade setuptools
```

virtualenv & virtualenvwrapper

virtualenv[9] creates isolated environments for each of your Python projects. It helps to solve version & dependency problems with multiple Python installations and/or multiple versions of different Python packages. We’ll use `pip` to install it:

```
bash $ sudo pip install virtualenv
```

virtualenvwrapper[10] is a great (but not required) tool for using virtualenv by simplifying the commands that virtualenv needs. We’ll use `pip` again to install it:

```
bash $ sudo pip install virtualenvwrapper $ export WORKON_HOME=~/.Envs $ mkdir -p $WORKON_HOME $
source /usr/local/bin/virtualenvwrapper.sh
```

— Text Editor —

If you already have a text editor that you like to use, great!

If not, I would suggest grabbing Sublime Text 2[11]. It’s free, and very user-friendly, especially for the beginner.

Now continue on to “Test your setup”.