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# Java installation

**Aware IM** needs Java Development Kit (JDK) version 12.0 or later to be installed on your machine before you can run **Aware IM**. For Windows and Mac OS operating systems you don't have to install Java as **Aware IM** already comes with the Java version as part of its distribution package. For Linux operating systems your machine must have the appropriate version of JDK. If not, you must download and install Java before you can run **Aware IM**. You may also want to install a different version of Java for optimal performance if you are running under Windows or Mac OS operating systems. This section contains instructions on how to download or install Java.

Java can be downloaded from the Oracle web site.

<note important>Remember that you need Java Development Kit (JDK), not Java Runtime Environment (JRE)</note>

You need to download JDK version 12.0 or later appropriate to your current platform. Then install Java on your machine following the instructions of the installation package.

On Windows and Mac operating system it is strongly recommended that you either delete the AwareIM/JDK directory (Windows) or AwareIM.app/Contents/Resources/Java/JDK (Mac OS) or rename it and then either install your version of Java into the AwareIM/JDK (or AwareIM.app/Contents/Resources/Java/JDK) directory or copy the installed JDK into this directory.

On Linux make sure that the appropriate Java is on the path or update the following files to refer to the appropriate Java version:

- AwareIM/CP/eclipse/CP.ini
- AwareIM/bin/startupOptions.props
- AwareIM/samples/startupOptions.props
- AwareIM/bin/startAwareIMNoGUI.sh

To get the Configuration Tool to use your version of Java under Linux modify the file AwareIM/ConfigTool/eclipse/ConfigTool.ini and add the following section:

```
-vm  
Path to your java program (for example java12.0/bin/java)
```

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