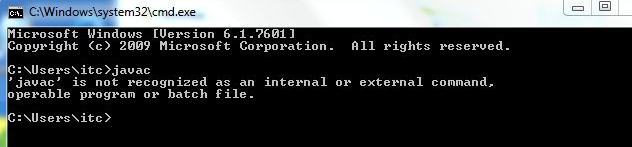
How to set JAVA\_HOME and PATH in Windows 7 or Windows 10

If the path to the Java JDK folder is not included in the PATH environment variable, it is not possible to execute **javac** from any folder at the command prompt. This results in the error: ‘javac’ is not recognized as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file:



To avoid this error, the PATH environment variable must be set to include the path to the JDK folder. There are two ways to do this:

* Temporary setting, which will only be applicable to the current active command-prompt window.
* Permanent setting

**TEMPORARY SETTING OF PATH ENVIRONMENT VARIABLE**

Assume the JDK folder is **C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0\_144**. In the command-prompt, type one of the following commands and then press the Enter or New Line key:

**SET PATH=C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0\_144\bin;**

or

**SET PATH=%PATH%;C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0\_144\bin;**

**PERMANENT SETTING OF PATH ENVIRONMENT VARIABLE**

**Note:** It is very important you make a backup of the Environment variables before trying to modify them, because if you corrupt these variables, your computer may not be operable.

To back up the Environment variables in a text-file **EnvVarBackup.txt** in the current Command-prompt folder, execute the following command at the command prompt:

**SET >> EnvVarBackup.txt**

If you want to make a backup of only one particular environment variable, say PATH, then use a command similar to:

**PATH >> PathVarBackup.txt**

Two of the ways of setting the PATH Environment variable to include the JDK path permanently are:

* Using the **SETX** command.
* Using the **Environment Properties** window

1. **Using the SETX command**

Assuming the JDK folder is **C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0\_144**. At the command prompt type the following command and then press the Enter or New Line key:

**SETX PATH %path%;C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0\_144;**

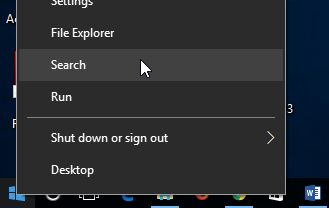
**Note:** Environment Variables set with **SETX** are available in future command windows only, not in the current command window.

1. **Using the Environment Properties** window
2. To display the **System Properties** window:

Click the start button:

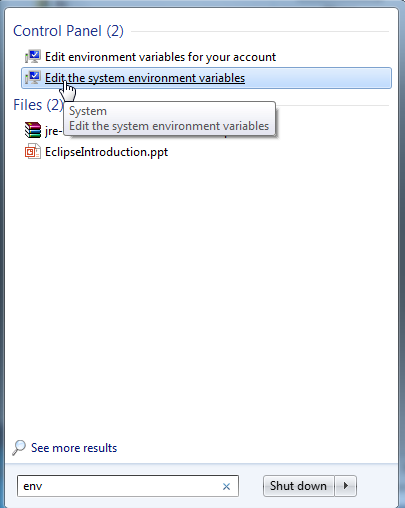


[In Windows 10, right-click the start button, and click on the Search link:



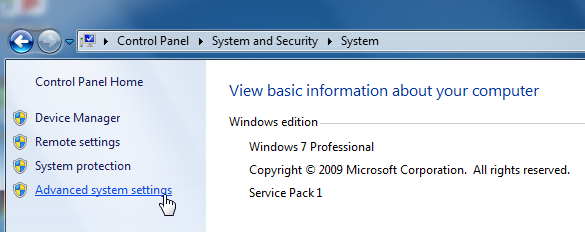
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and start to type the word **environment** in the search box, then click the link **Edit the system environment variables**:



Alternatively, start to type advanced system settings in the search box, then click View advanced system settings.

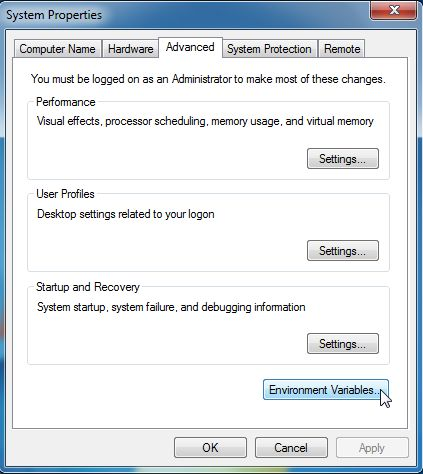
Alternatively: Use the menu: **Control Panel** 🡪 **System and Security** 🡪 **System** and then click the **Advanced system settings** link:



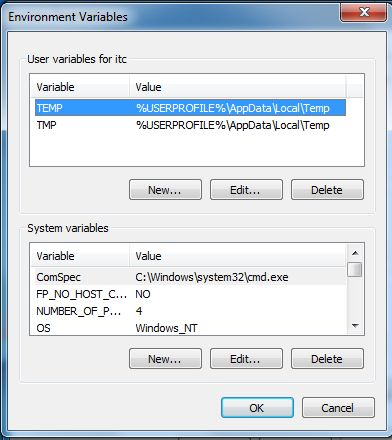
Alternatively, right-click on the **Computer** or **This PC** icon on the desktop, and then click Properties, and finally click the Advanced systems settings link.

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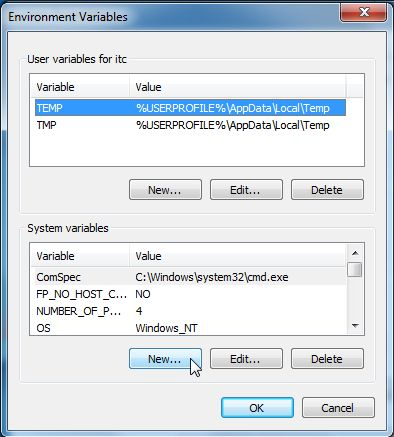
When the System Properties window is open, click the **Environment Variables . . .** button:



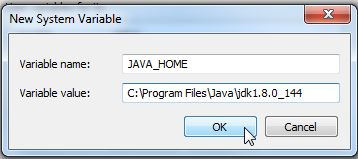
This will open the **Environment Variables** window:



1. If JAVA\_HOME environment variable does not exist; create it. Under **System variables** click the **New . . .** button:

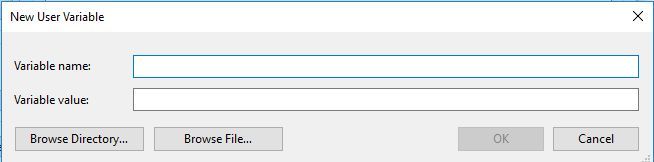


1. Write JAVA\_HOME as the Variable name and the path to the JDK folder as the Variable value, and then click the **OK** button:



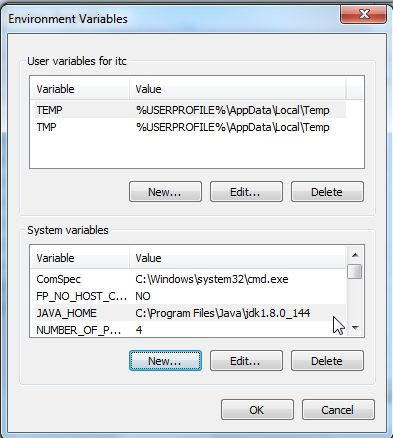
Note: Don’t include the **bin** folder in the path of the JDK.

[The Windows 10 New System Variable window:

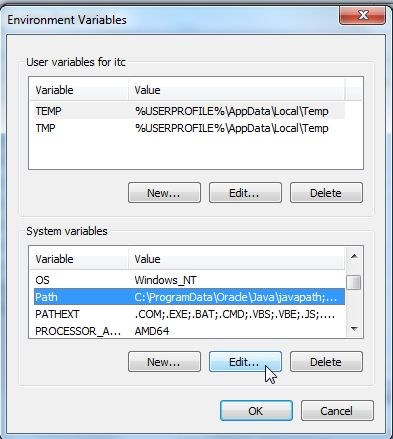


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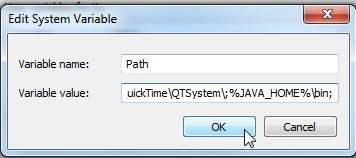
This will create the system variable JAVA\_HOME:



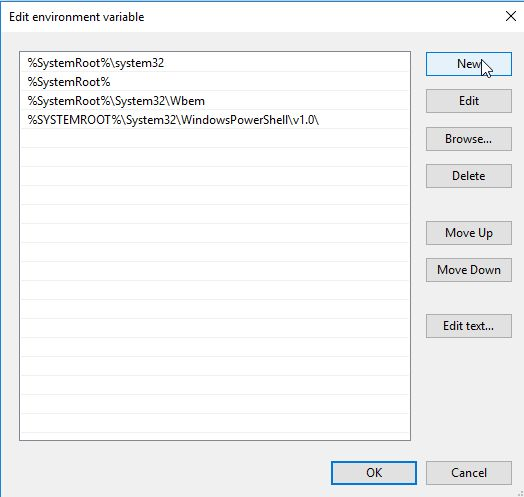
1. If the **Path** environment variable does not exist, create it; otherwise select the **Path** system variable and then click the **Edit** button:

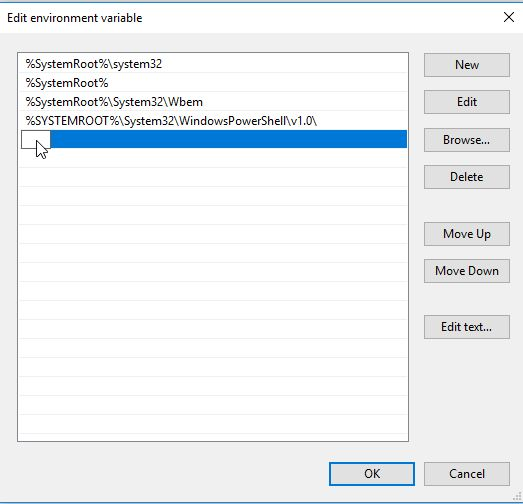


1. Add **;%JAVA\_HOME%\bin;** at the end of the current path, and then click the **OK** button:



[In Windows 10, click the New button, and then write **;%JAVA\_HOME%\bin;**

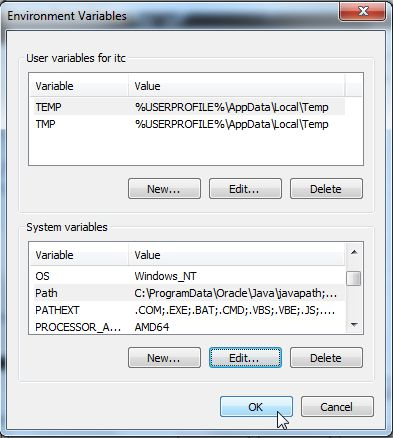




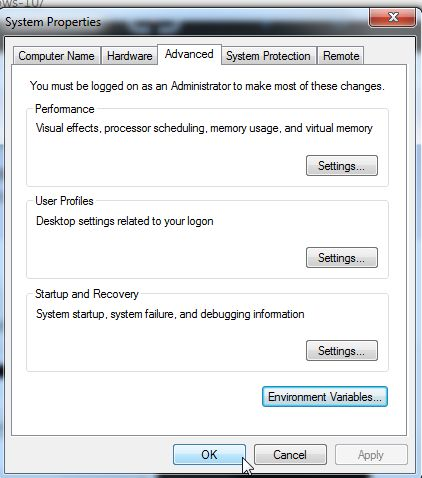
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Note: Putting the *JAVA\_HOME\bin* in *PATH* make Java commands (e.g., javac and java) accessible in the command prompt from any folder.

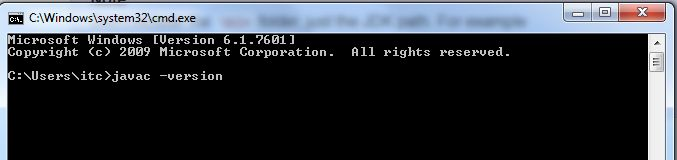
1. Click the **OK** button of the Environment Variables window:



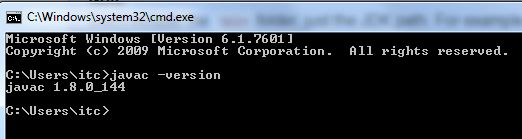
1. Click the **OK** button of the System Properties window:



1. To test that the PATH has been set properly, open the command prompt and type **javac -version**



The JDK version number is displayed:



Instead of:

