

# Tomcat installation (2.7)

⚠ **Tomcat 5.5:** we recommend Tomcat 5.5.33 in order to avoid certain Tomcat security vulnerabilities present in earlier releases.

⊖ **Tomcat 6.0 / 7.0:** Sakai 2.7 has **not** been tested in Tomcat 6.0 or 7.0 and will not run in either version of Tomcat without configuration changes. Adopters are advised to stay with the Tomcat 5.5. series.

⚠ **JAVA\_OPTS:** running Sakai 2.x in Tomcat 5.5.27+ requires `JAVA_OPTS` modifications (see below).

ℹ Sakai installations should always be accompanied by a fresh install of Tomcat. It provides a clean environment that simplifies troubleshooting if problems are encountered during the startup phase.

The Apache [Tomcat](#) servlet container provides an ideal environment for running Sakai as a web application. Tomcat implements both the Java Servlet and JavaServer Pages (JSP) specifications and can be run in standalone mode or in conjunction with a web application server such as the Apache HTTP server or JBoss. Sakai 2.7 works with the Tomcat 5.5 series.

Tomcat can be downloaded as a binary install from <http://archive.apache.org/dist/tomcat/tomcat-5/>

Choose the **core** distribution. Windows users have the option of downloading either a Windows Service Installer `.exe` or a binary `*.zip` archive. We recommend the `*.zip` archive over the installer because configuration and log viewing are easier. You can later convert the `.zip` install into a service install by running `/bin/service.bat` (see below for more details).

Unpack the Tomcat archive into your installation directory of choice, e.g. `/opt/`. Unix/Mac users should create a symbolic link (e.g., `ln -s apache-tomcat-5.5.33`) while Windows users should simply rename the base Tomcat directory to `/tomcat` to simplify the path.

## Tomcat pathnames

Windows users should ensure that the Tomcat path includes no spaces as this causes errors with JavaServer Faces (JSF) tools in Sakai.

👍 **Good:** `C:\opt\tomcat\`, `C:\sakaistuff\installs\tomcat\`  
👎 **Bad:** `C:\program files\tomcat\`, `C:\opt\apache tomcat 5.5.33\`

## Tomcat permissions

Unix/Mac users should make sure that they have write permissions to the Tomcat servlet container files and directories before proceeding or startup permission errors may occur.

## Tomcat JDK 1.4 Compatibility Package

⊖ Do not download and install the JDK 1.4 Compatibility Package. Sakai 2.7 will not run should you install it.