

# PDFBox - How to build PDFBox

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## 1. Building PDFBox

This page will describe how to build PDFBox. Most users should find the binary releases adequate, but if you are contributing to PDFBox then you will need to know how to properly build the project.

You can obtain the latest source of PDFBox from SVN, see the [Apache PDFBox](#) site for information about how to connect to SVN. The below instructions should also work for a released/nightly distribution.

1. Install [ANT](#), PDFBox currently uses 1.6.2 but other versions probably work as well.
2. (Optional) Setup Apache Forrest, Forrest is used for PDFBox documentation but is not required to compile PDFBox.
  1. Install [Forrest](#)
  2. In the build.properties, set the forrest.home property

```
forrest.home=c:\javalib\apache-forrest-0.6\src\core
```

3. (Optional) Place the junit.jar file in the ANT\_HOME\lib directory. This is required to run the junit tests but not to compile PDFBox.
4. (Optional) Setup IKVM, if you want to build the .NET DLL version of PDFBox.
  1. [IKVM](#) binaries
  2. In the build.properties, set the ikvm.dir property

```
ikvm.dir=C:\javalib\ikvm-12-07-2004\ikvm
```

5. Run 'ant' from the root PDFBox directory. This will create the .zip package distribution. See the build file for other ant targets.

### Note:

If you want to run PDFBox from an IDE then you will need to add the 'Resources' directory to the project classpath in your IDE.

## 2. Running/Debugging PDFBox in Eclipse

In order to run PDFBox from within Eclipse there are a couple things that need to be setup. Certain pieces of functionality require access to the Resources folder. Here is an example of what you need to do to run the ExtractText command line application.

1. In Eclipse click on "run..." or "debug..."
2. In the tree on the left select "Java Application" and click "New"
3. Name it, select the correct project, and the main class
4. Select the "Arguments" tab and enter the command line arguments to the app
5. Select the "Classpath" tab, the pdfbox project and jars should already be added in the

"User Entries"

6. Select the "User Entries" item and click the "Advanced" button
7. The "Add Folder" radio button should be selected, press ok
8. Select the root of the pdfbox project, this will make the "Resources" folder available on the classpath.