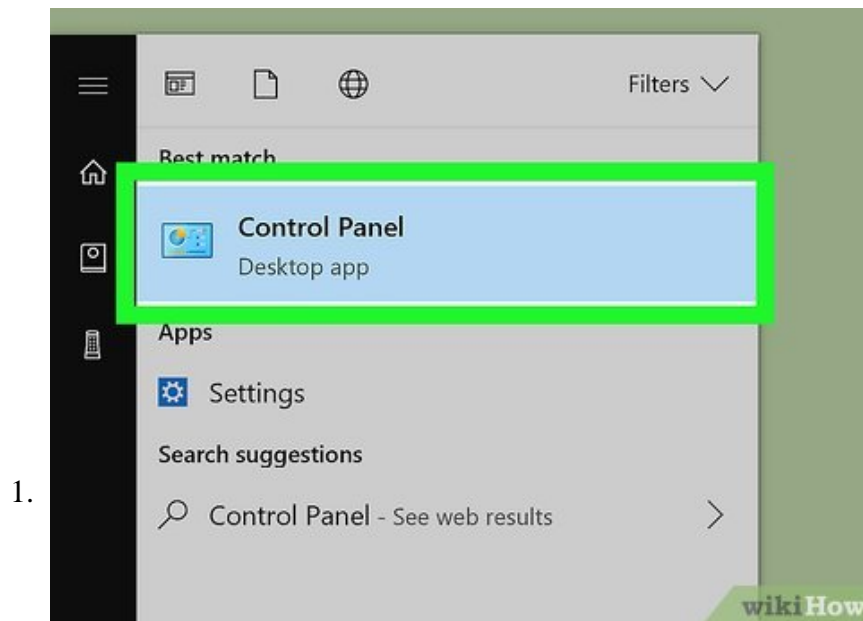


How to Set the Path in Java

This wikiHow teaches you how to set the path for your Java installation on Windows, macOS, and Linux. If you're using a Windows PC or Mac and have just installed Java, there's typically no need to do this manually as the path is set during...

Method 1 of 3:

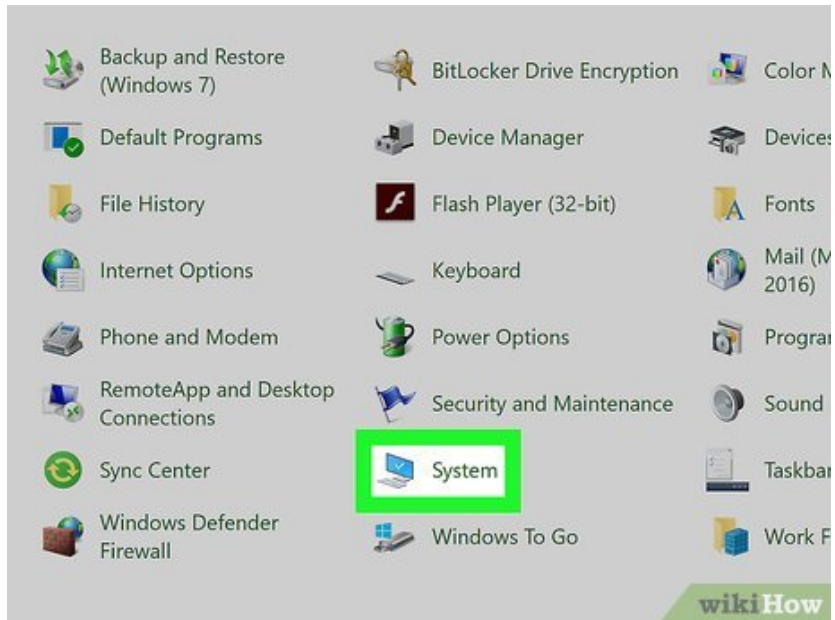
Windows



Open the Control Panel. The steps to do this vary depending on your version of Windows:

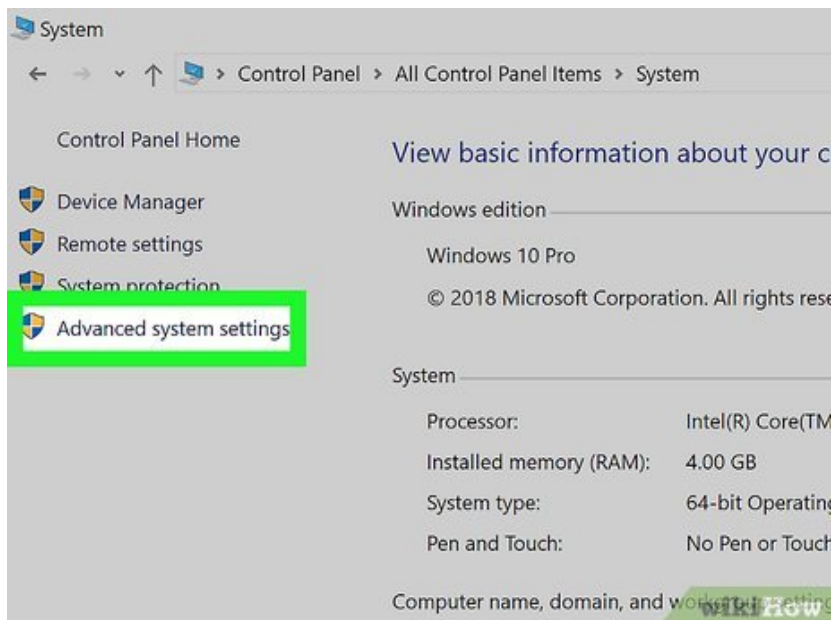
1. Windows 10 & 8: Press **Windows Key + S** to bring up the search bar, type `control panel`, and then click **Control Panel** in the search results.
2. Windows 7 and earlier: Click the Start menu and select **Control Panel**.

2.

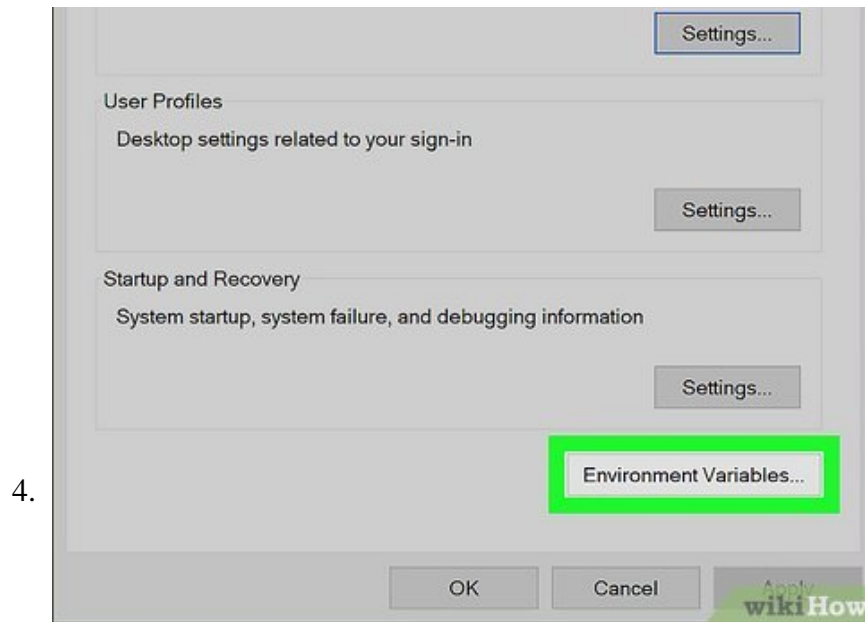


Click **System**. If you don't see this option, click **System and Security** first, then click **System**.

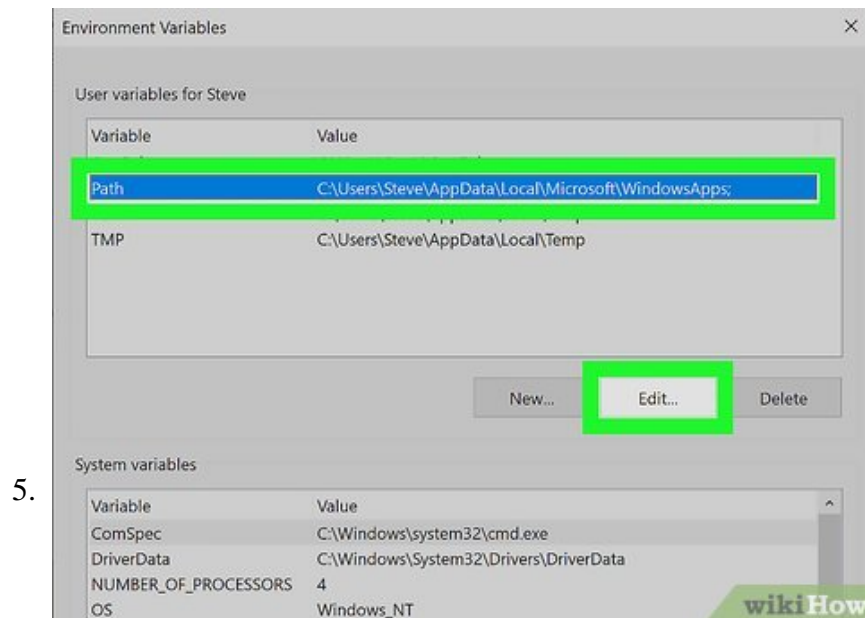
3.



Click **Advanced system settings** in the left column. Depending on your settings, you may be prompted to enter your administrator password to continue.

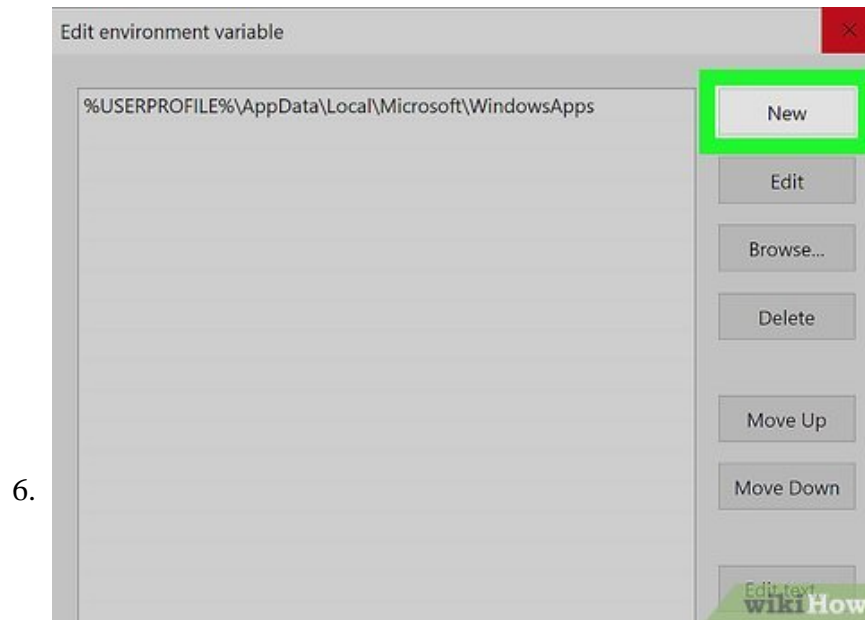


Click the **Environment Variables** button. It's near the bottom of the window.



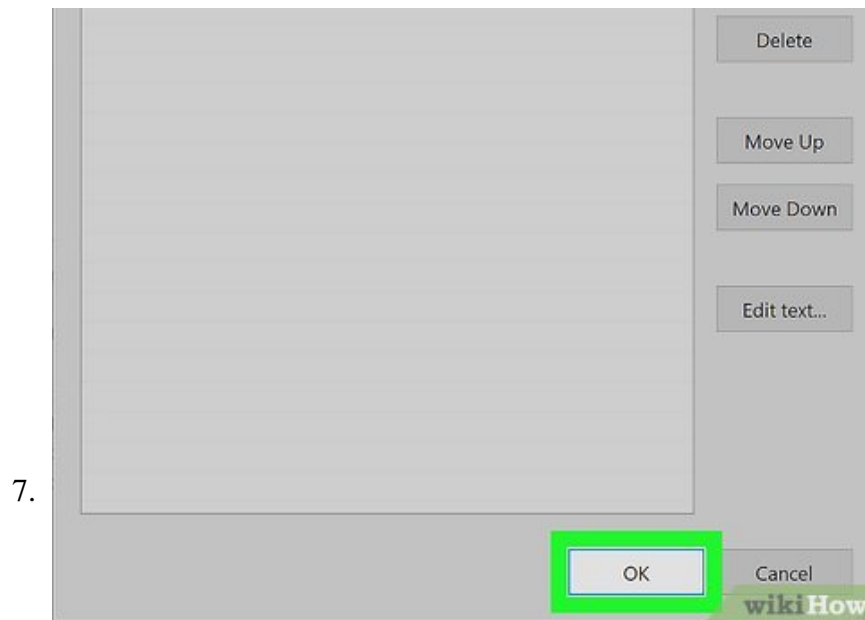
Select the **"Path"** variable and click **Edit**. Choose the one that's under "System Variables" at the bottom of the window, not the one under "User Variables".

1. If there is no Path variable under "System Variables," click **New** below that section, then type `Path` into the "Variable Name" field.



Add the path variable.

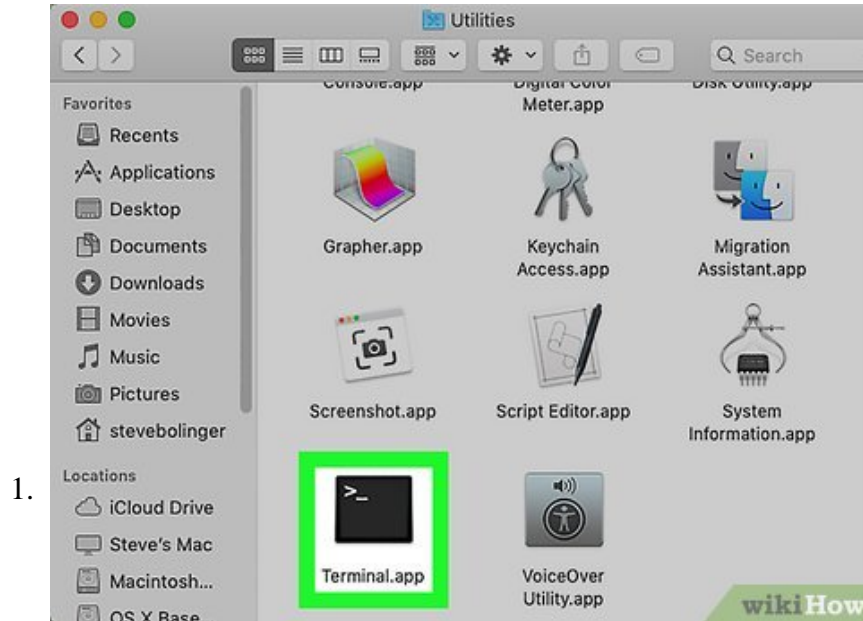
1. If you clicked **Edit** in the last step, click **New** near the top-right corner of the window, and then enter the desired path.
2. If you had to create a path variable, in the last step by clicking **New**, type the desired path into the "Variable Value" field.



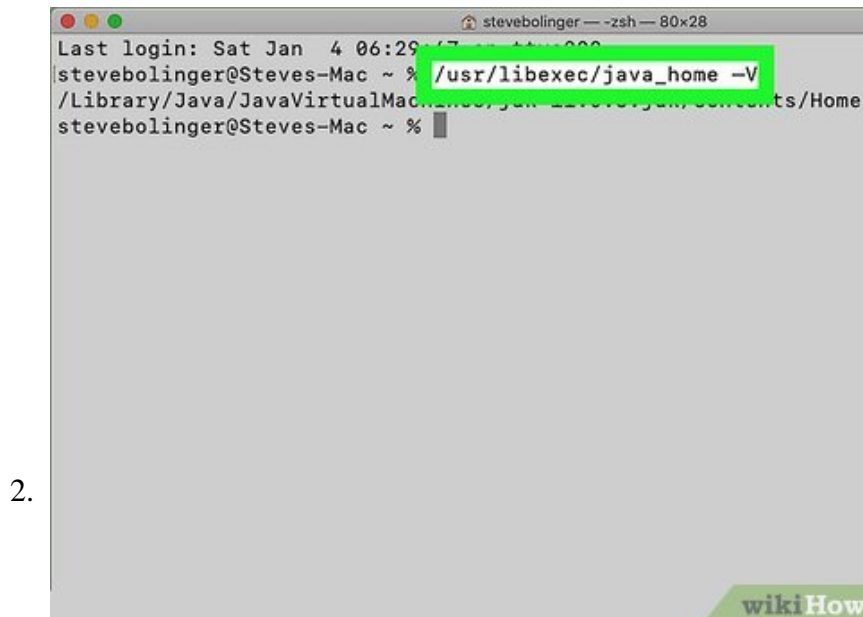
Click **OK** and then **OK** again to save. Now that you've updated the Path, launch a new command prompt window (instead of the one you were using previously, if applicable) to run your java code.^[1]

Method 2 of 3:

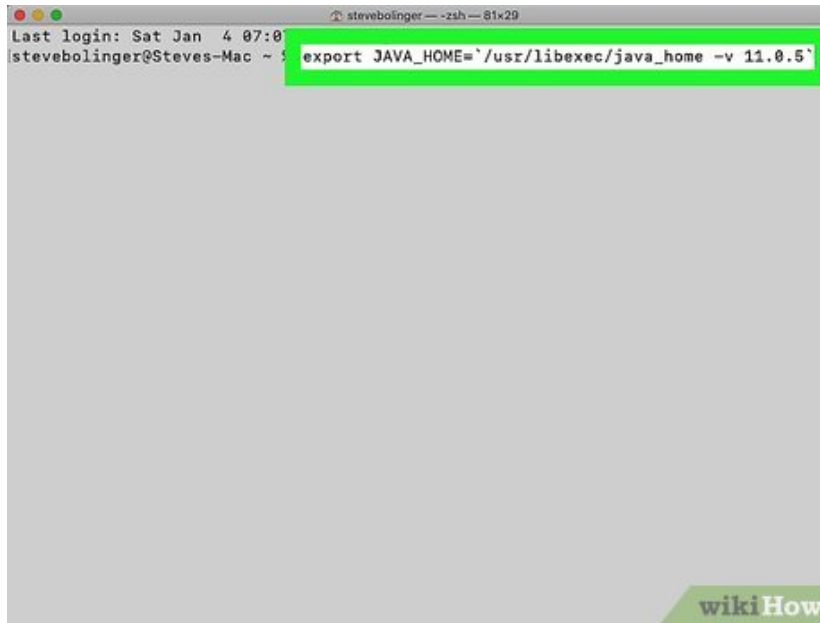
macOS



Open a terminal window. If you haven't done so already, you can do so by typing `terminal` into the Spotlight search bar and clicking **Terminal** in the search results.



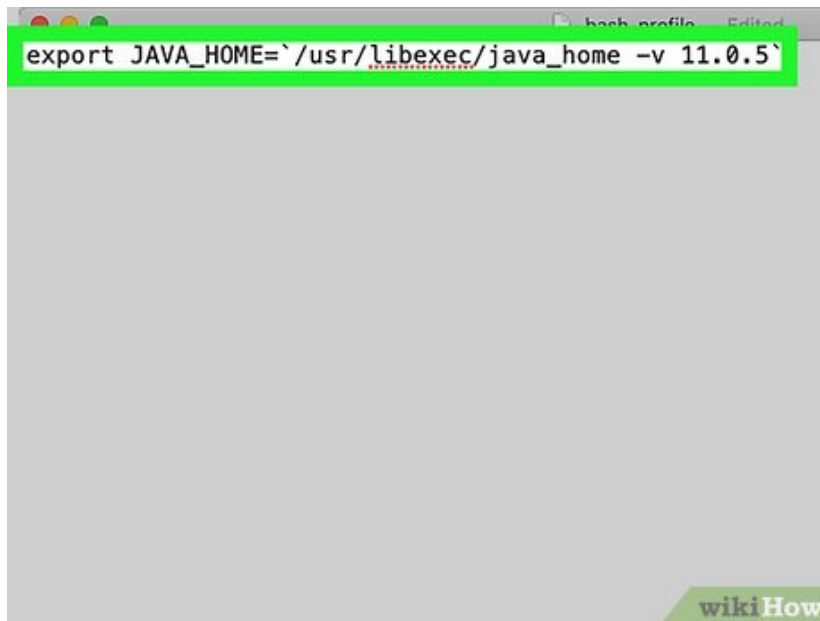
Find the locations of your Java installations. You usually won't need to add or update the path unless you are switching between installed Java versions. To see which versions are installed (and their locations), type `/usr/libexec/java_home -V` and press `? Return`.^[2]



3.

Run the `export` command to set your path. If you only want to set the path for the current terminal window, use step. If you want to make the change permanent, skip to the next step. Here's how set the path for the current terminal only:

1. Note the version number you want to use as your default installation (e.g., 1.8.0_121).
2. Type `export JAVA_HOME="/usr/libexec/java_home -v version_number``, replacing `version_number` with the actual version (e.g., 1.8.0_121).
3. Press `?Return`.



4.

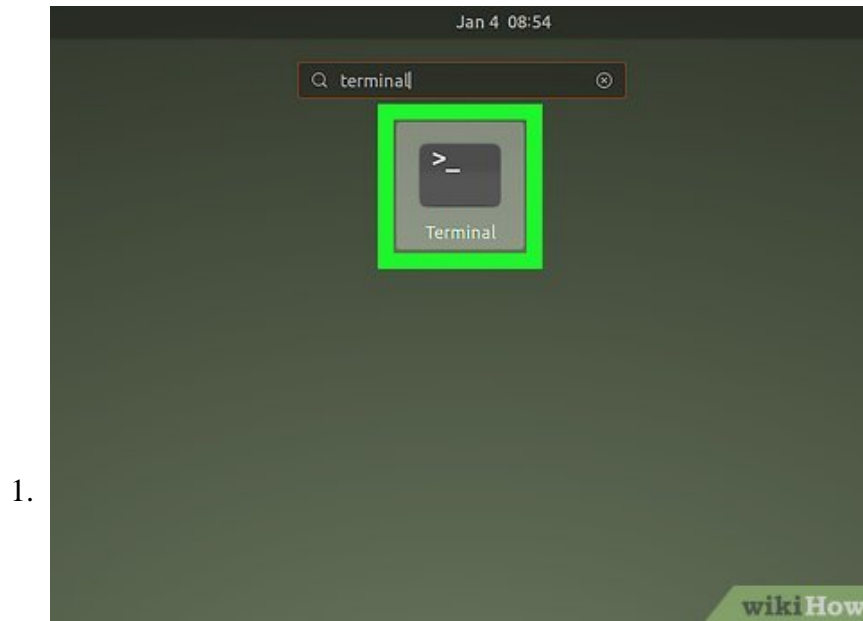
Add the `export` command to your shell profile. If you want to update the path permanently so you don't have to run `export` every time you open a terminal window, follow these steps:

1. Type `$ cd ~/` and press `?Return`. This ensures you're in your user directory.
2. Type `ls -a` and press `?Return` to see the contents of your user directory.

3. If you see a file called `.bash_profile`, great! If not, type `touch .bash_profile` and press `?Return` to create it. If you use a different shell, ignore this step.
4. Type `open -e .bash_profile` and press `?Return` to open the file in your default text editor. If you use a shell other than bash, open your shell's profile in your desired text editor as you wish.
5. Type `export JAVA_HOME=`/usr/libexec/java_home -v version_number`` on the first empty line in the file. Replace `version_number` with the version you want to set as the default (e.g., `1.8.0_121`).
6. Save the file and close the text editor.
7. If you skipped step 3, type `source .bash` and press `?Return` so the path is set for the current window.

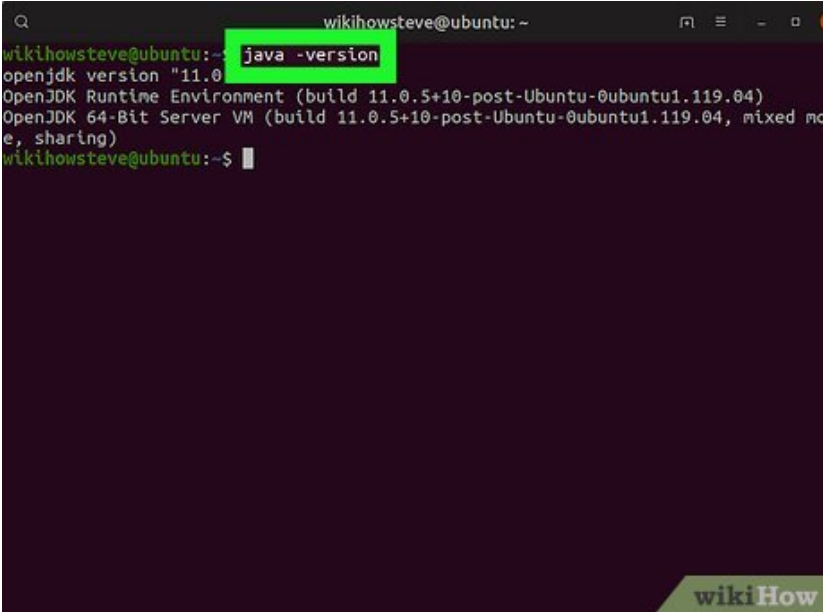
Method 3 of 3:

Linux



Open a terminal window. If you're not already at the command prompt, open a terminal window now. You can usually do this by pressing `Ctrl+Alt+T`.

2.

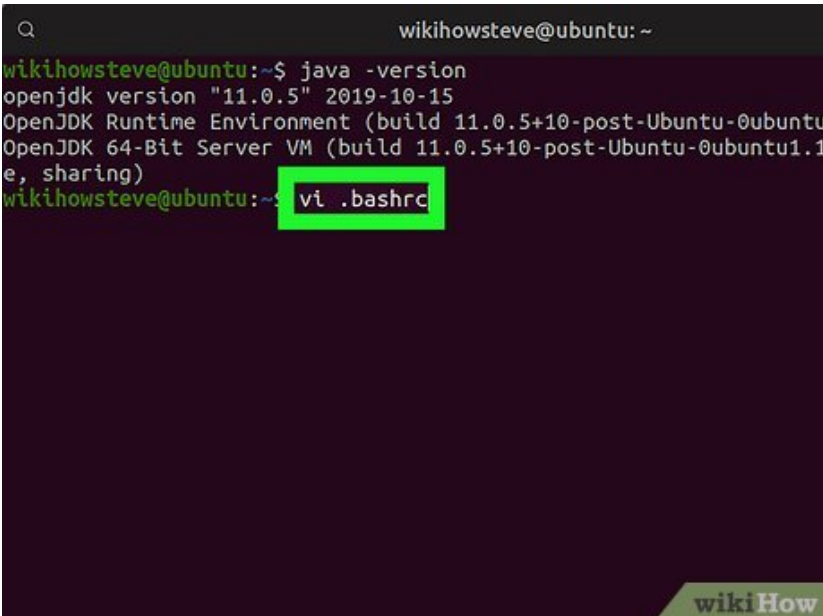


```
wikihowsteve@ubuntu: ~  
wikihowsteve@ubuntu:~$ java -version  
openjdk version "11.0.5" 2019-10-15  
OpenJDK Runtime Environment (build 11.0.5+10-post-Ubuntu-0ubuntu1.19.04)  
OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM (build 11.0.5+10-post-Ubuntu-0ubuntu1.19.04, mixed mode, sharing)  
wikihowsteve@ubuntu:~$
```

Type `java -version` and press `Enter`. If you already have a Java version in your path, this will display the version number.

1. If you see the correct version of Java, your path is already set.
2. If you see "java: command not found," the path is not set, and you should continue with this method.
3. If you see a version number other than the one you want to use, continue with this method to add the desired Java version to your path.

3.



```
wikihowsteve@ubuntu: ~  
wikihowsteve@ubuntu:~$ java -version  
openjdk version "11.0.5" 2019-10-15  
OpenJDK Runtime Environment (build 11.0.5+10-post-Ubuntu-0ubuntu1.19.04)  
OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM (build 11.0.5+10-post-Ubuntu-0ubuntu1.19.04, mixed mode, sharing)  
wikihowsteve@ubuntu:~$ vi .bashrc
```


Open your shell startup file in a text editor. For example, if you use the bash shell, you could run `vi .bashrc` to open your shell startup file in the Vi text editor. If you use the C shell, you'd run `vi .cshrc` instead.

```
# The file bash.bashrc already sets the default PS1.
# PS1='\h:\w\$ '
if [ -f /etc/bash.bashrc ]; then
  . /etc/bash.bashrc
fi
else
  if [ "`id -u`" -eq 0 ]; then
    PS1='# '
  else
    PS1='$ '
  fi
fi
fi

if [ -d /etc/profile.d ]; then
  for i in /etc/profile.d/*.sh; do
    if [ -r $i ]; then
      . $i
    fi
  done
unset i

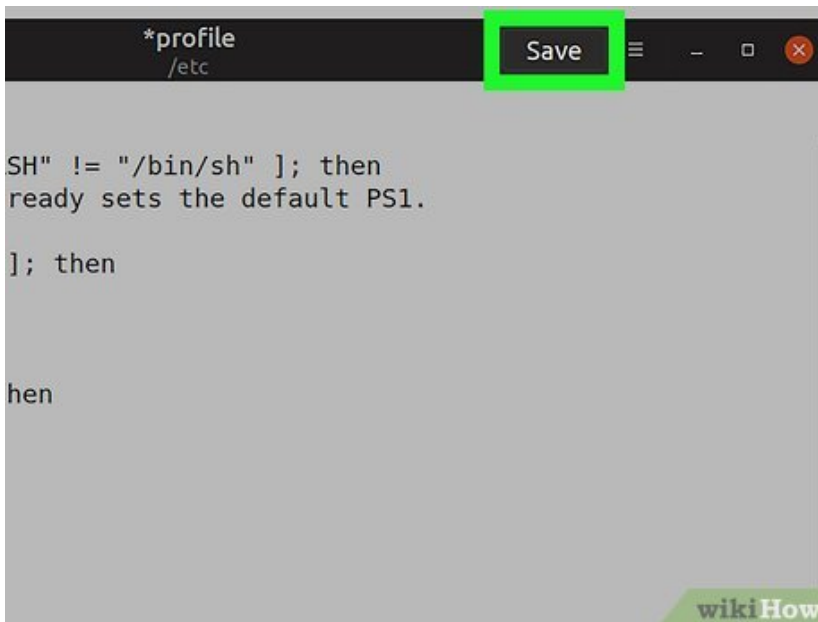
```

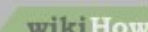
4. `PATH=/usr/local/11.0.5/bin:$PATH`
`export PATH`

Plain Text ▾ Tab Width: 8 ▾ 

Add the path variable to your source file. The syntax is different depending on your shell:^[3]

1. First, if you're using Vi, press `i` to get into insert mode.
2. bash: Type `PATH=/usr/local/jdk1.8.0/bin:$PATH` onto one line, but replace `/usr/local/jdk1.8.0` with the actual path to Java. On the next line, type `export PATH`.
3. csh: Type `set path=(/usr/local/jdk1.8.0/bin $path)` on its own line, but replace `/usr/local/jdk1.8.0` with the actual path to Java.

5. 



Save and exit the file. If you're using Vi, press `Esc` to go into command mode, type `:wq!` and press `Enter`.


6.

A terminal window with a dark background. The title bar at the top reads 'wikihowsteve@ubuntu: ~'. The prompt 'wikihowsteve@ubuntu:~\$' is followed by the command './.profile' which is highlighted with a green box. A 'wikiHow' logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the terminal window.

Load the startup file. To make the changes take effect, you can either open a new terminal window or run the following command at the current prompt:

1. bash: `./profile`.
2. csh: `source ~/.cshrc`.

7.

A terminal window with a dark background. The title bar at the top reads 'wikihowsteve@ubuntu: ~'. The prompt 'wikihowsteve@ubuntu:~\$' is followed by the command 'java -version' which is highlighted with a green box. A 'wikiHow' logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the terminal window.

Run `java -version` to check the path. Now that you've added the correct directory to your path, you should see the desired version when you run this command.

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