



# Installing & Updating ConTeXt Standalone

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## Introduction

The text below is a compilation of heavily edited excerpts from the pages entitled “*ConTeXt Standalone*” and “*Ubuntu*,” over at the [contextgarden.net](#) wiki. Both pages are licensed under the [GNU Free Document License](#). Only information relevant to the system-wide GNU/Linux installation has been copied here. I have also added a bit of my own `sed` spice to enhance its digestion...

## System-wide installation

A system wide installation is one which is located in `/opt/context`. At present, in order to use ConTeXt MkIV, write permissions are required<sup>1</sup> in the installation directory.<sup>2</sup>

```
$ sudo mkdir /opt/context
$ sudo chown $USER /opt/context
$ cd /opt/context
$ wget http://minimals.contextgarden.net/setup/first-setup.sh
$ sh ./first-setup.sh --modules=all
$ ./tex/setuptex
```

The last step installs ConTeXt MkIV *beta*, including all modules and other third party content. This may take a considerable amount of time to complete.

Compared to LaTeX 2 $\epsilon$ , ConTeXt MkIV is relatively new and still in active development. However, as a development version, `ConTeXt MkIV beta` is very stable and should not be feared for everyday use. It is not as “bleeding edge” as the nightly build of Context MkIV, [available as a PPA elsewhere](#). If instead the stable version of ConTeXt MkIV is preferred, use:

```
$ sh ./first-setup.sh --modules=all --context=current
```

# Cache

To create the required cache directory:

```
$ sudo mkdir /var/cache/context
$ sudo mkdir /var/cache/context/texmf-cache
$ sudo chmod 777 /var/cache/context/texmf-cache
$ sed -i 's|TEXMFCACHE\(.*\)|.*|TEXMFCACHE\1"/var/cache/context/texmf-cache"|' /opt/context/tex/texmf/web2c/texmf.cnf.lua
```

The last line changes the value of TEXMFCACHE to "/var/cache/context/texmf-cache".

# bashrc

```
$ nano ~/.bashrc
```

Add these four lines to ~/.bashrc:

```
# ConTeXt
export OSFONTPATH=/usr/share/fonts/:$HOME/.fonts
export TEXROOT=/opt/context/tex
PATH="/opt/context/tex/texmf-linux-64/bin:/opt/context/bin:$PATH"
```

On 32-bit systems, just drop the -64 from the last line. Note that the order of items in PATH is significant. Putting /usr/local/context/bin first, would produce an error at run time. Finally, in order to have the changes take effect in your current shell, issue:

```
$ source ~/.bashrc
```

# Version checking

```
$ context --version

mtx-context      | ConTeXt Process Management 0.60
mtx-context      |
mtx-context      | main context file: /opt/context/tex/texmf-
context/tex/context/base/context.mkiv
mtx-context      | current version: 2014.02.01 14:22
```

# Updating

Updating ConTeXt to the latest version is really easy.

For convenience, a bash script called `update-context` is created:

```
$ mkdir ~/sbin
$ nano ~/sbin/update-context
```

```
# !/bin/bash
cd /opt/context
wget http://minimals.contextgarden.net/setup/first-setup.sh
./first-setup.sh --modules=all
```

```
$ chmod 700 ~/sbin/update-context
```

From now on, just call `sbin/update-context` to put ConTeXt up to date.

```
$ ~/sbin/update-context
```



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