

# Apache POI - How To Build

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## 1. JDK Version

POI 3.5 and later requires the JDK version 1.5 or later. Versions prior to 3.5 require JDK 1.4+

## 2. Install Apache Ant

The POI build system requires [Apache Ant](#)

Specifically the build has been tested to work with Ant version 1.7.1. To install the product download the distribution and follow the instructions.

Remember to set the ANT\_HOME environment variable and add ANT\_HOME/bin to your shell's PATH.

## 3. Install JUnit

Running unit tests and building a distribution requires [JUnit](#).

Just pick the latest versions of the jars from [SourceForge](#) and place them in ANT\_HOME/lib. Make sure that optional.jar is in ANT\_HOME/lib.

## 4. Install Apache Forrest

The POI build system requires [Apache Forrest](#) to build the documentation.

Specifically the build has been tested to work with Forrest 0.5. This is an old release which is available [here](#).

Remember to set the FORREST\_HOME environment variable.

## 5. Building Targets with Ant

The main targets of interest to our users are:

Ant Target	Description
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clean	Erase all build work products (ie. everything in the build directory)
compile	Compiles all files from main, contrib and scratchpad
test	Run all unit tests from main, ooxml, contrib and scratchpad
jar	Produce jar files
assemble	Produce .zip and tar.gz distribution packages
docs	Generate all documentation (Requires Apache Forrest)