

# Installing and Configuring Folding@Home

Folding@Home (F@H) is a way for you to use your computer to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic. This project uses your computer to help with molecular protein folding computer simulations. By installing the F@H software, your computer will receive a Work Unit. Your computer will process that Work Unit and return the results for further analysis. For an in-depth look at how this works, please go to <https://foldingathome.org/diseases/>.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Winthrop is donating computer time on lab computers to this fight. By following the instructions below, you can join the Winthrop team in this battle.

Please note that Winthrop University personnel are not the developers or maintainers of this software. If you want additional information or technical support, please see the Folding@Home support page at <https://foldingathome.org/support/>. The Winthrop Service Desk cannot provide support for this software.

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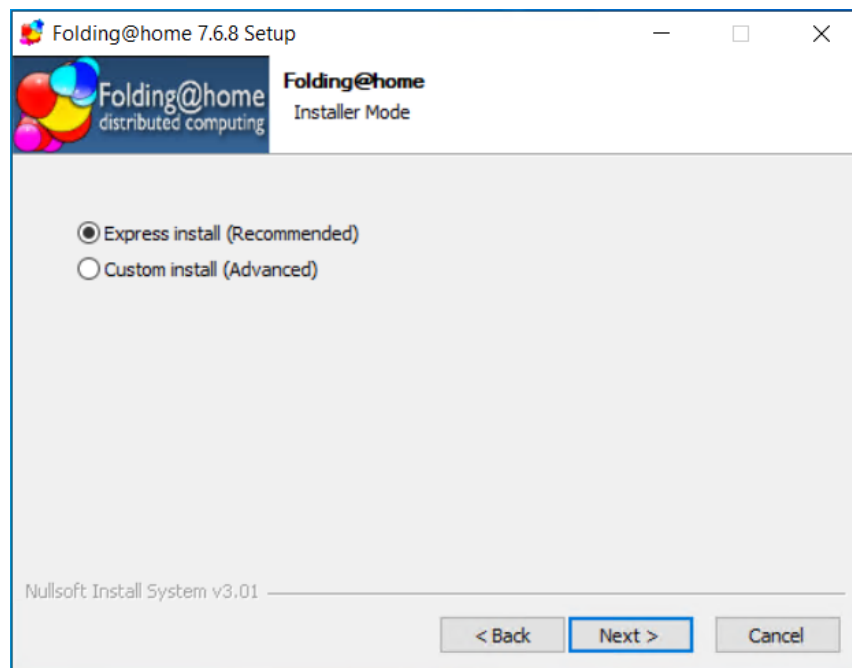
## **INSTALLATION**

Start a web browser and go to <https://foldingathome.org/start-folding>

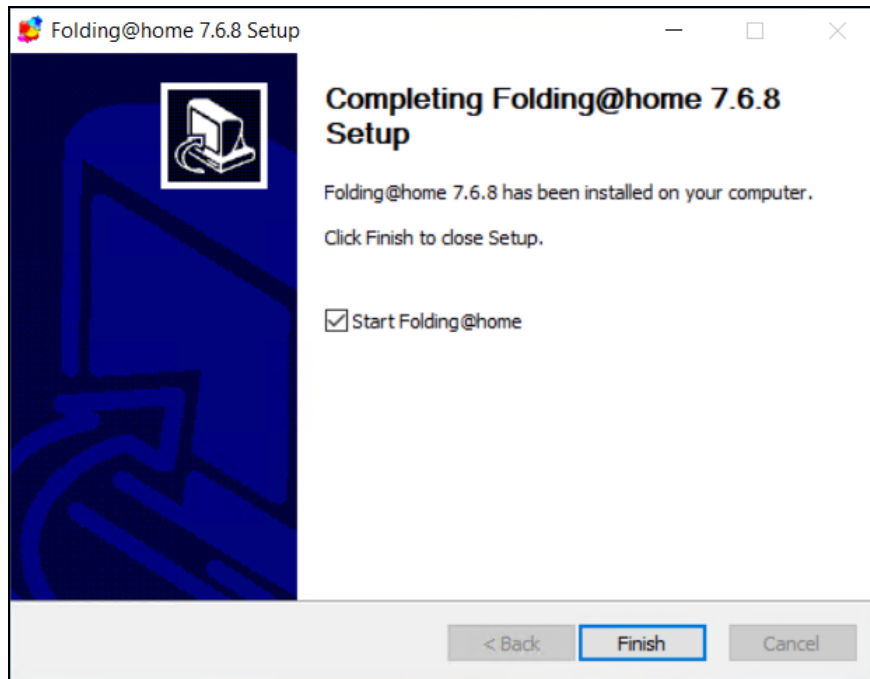
Download the installer for the application. The website should provide you with the correct version for your operating system.

Once downloaded, run the installer.

It is recommended to leave **Express install** selected.



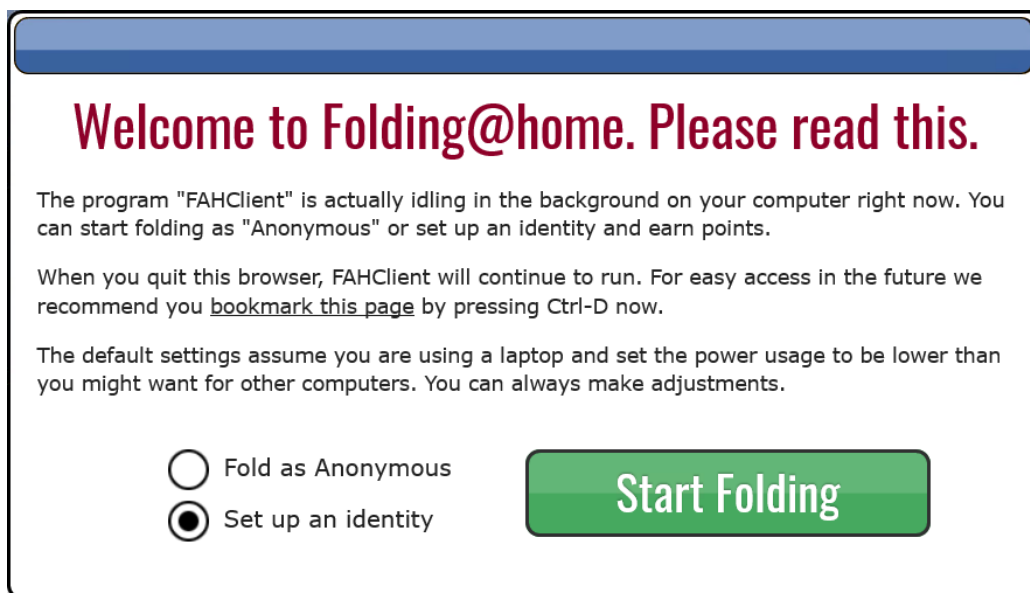
Once it is installed, be sure **Start Folding@home** is checked and click **Finish**.



If you are running a personal firewall, you may be prompted to allow the program “fahclient” to access the network. You should click the appropriate option to allow it.

## **CONFIGURATION**

On the **Welcome to Folding@home** screen, select **Set up an identity** and click **Start Folding**.



On the **Change Identity** screen, set the following options:

- **Name:** You can put whatever you want here. You do NOT have to use your real name. You can also leave it as Anonymous. Note that names cannot contain spaces.
- **Team Number:** 260865
- **Passkey:** Leave this blank

Click the **Save** button.

**Change Identity**

Name: HarryPotter ×

Team Number: 260865

Passkey:

If you choose a name, you can earn points for completing work units (WU).  
*Note: All fields are optional.*

If you have joined a team you should enter your team number above. Then the points you earn to be added to your team's total.  
For more information about teams and points see the [Stats Page](#).

Passkeys are used to add an extra level of security for those competing for points. Getting a passkey will also allow you to earn bonus points for completing work early.  
[Get a Passkey](#).  
For more information see [Passkey FAQ](#).

Cancel Save

You will then be presented with the Web Control screen. There is a lot to see here including a few settings you can configure.

- **Arrow 1:** This is your name and Team number. You can change this by clicking the “Change Identity” link.
- **Arrow 2:** This is the current status. When your system has been issued a Work Unit, this is where you will see the completion percentage of processing that unit.
- **Arrow 3:** Here are two options you can select.
  - **Power:** This is how much of your computer’s power you want to use towards the Folding@Home process. It is recommended to set this to **Light**.
  - **When:** You can choose when your computer processes Folding@Home Work Units. It is recommended you choose **Only when idle**. This way it will not interfere with you using your computer for other purposes.
- **Arrow 4:** When you installed the software, it began the folding process. If you want to stop the process, press the **Stop Folding** button.
- **Arrow 5:** There are different diseases that you can choose to fight. To fight COVID-19, select the option **COVID-19**.
- **Arrow 6:** This shows you the name of the team. The Winthrop team is **Fold ‘em Winthrop Wings**. This also shows how many points you are contributing to the overall total. It will only show points when it is actually processing a Work Unit.

The screenshot shows the 'WEB CONTROL' interface for Folding@Home. At the top, there are share icons and links for 'Learn', 'News', and 'Help'. The main content area includes:

- Team Information:** 'I'm folding as: Harry Potter Team 260865' with a 'Change Identity' link.
- Project:** 'I support research fighting COVID-19' with a dropdown menu.
- Points:** 'Points earned 38,972 (See stats)'. Below it, it says '0 go to Team Fold'em Winthrop Wings's total of 1,377,850.'.
- CPU Usage:** A progress bar labeled 'CPU:3' showing '0.00%'.
- Status:** 'Ready' with 'Ready.' below it.
- Performance Metrics:**

Points per day	Work Unit (PRCG)	Work Unit (ETA)	Estimated Points
--	0 (0, 0, 0)	0.00 secs	0
- Message:** 'My computer has unknown time to complete this work unit.'
- Power and When Settings:**
  - Power:** A slider set to 'Light' (between 'Light' and 'Medium').
  - When:** Radio buttons for 'While I'm working' (selected) and 'Only when idle'.
- Stop Folding:** A large red button labeled 'Stop Folding'.
- Disclaimer:** 'Quitting the browser will not stop folding. Folding happens in a background process on your computer through the program FAHClient even when Web Control is closed.'

That's it! You are now folding and helping in the fight against COVID-19. You can close the window and Folding@Home will continue to process in the background.

If you want to change any settings, you can at anytime. To do so, start a web browser and go to <https://client.foldingathome.org>.

From there, you can change settings, see the current progress on a Work Unit, or stop the folding process if needed.

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