How to check what Java version you have,

and How to install the latest version?

Checking what is the current version

MacOS

In the finder, type "terminal" and launch the application named "terminal.app":



In the terminal window, type "java –version":



The java version in the above screen shot is 1.6. If you have anything older than that

(1.5 or 1.4), you should install the new version.

Windows

Click on "Start->Run" or Window+R (if you have Vista) and type "cmd".



In the command window, type "java -version".



The java version in the above screen shot is 1.6. If you have anything older than that

(1.5 or 1.4), you should install the new version.

Unix

If you have Unix, you really should know how to do it.

Installing the latest version

MacOS

For some unknown reason, updating the java version for MacOS is pretty annoying.

You should start by downloading the latest version for this website:

http://developer.apple.com/java/download/ and install it.

Then, you need to update the Java preferences in order to use the new version as the default Java runner.

In the Finder, type "Java Preferences". You should receive the following window:

Java Applet Plugir	1	
Java SE 6	64-bit	Web browsers use this order to determine which version of the Java Virtual Machine to use for applets and will load the first compatible architecture in this list.
J2SE 5.0	64-bit	
J2SE 5.0	32-bit	
J25E 1.4.2	32-bit	(Ontions) (Pastara Dafaults
		Coptions
Drag to change th	e preferred versio	n
aug Applications		
Java Applications		
Java Applications	64-bit	lava applications. Web Start applications, and command line
Java SE 6	64-bit	Java applications, Web Start applications, and command line tools use this order to determine the most appropriate
Java SE 6 J2SE 5.0 12SE 5.0	64-bit 64-bit 32-bit	Java applications, Web Start applications, and command line tools use this order to determine the most appropriate version of the Java Virtual Machine to use.
Java SE 6 J2SE 5.0 J2SE 5.0 J2SE 1.4.2	64-bit 64-bit 32-bit 32-bit	Java applications, Web Start applications, and command line tools use this order to determine the most appropriate version of the Java Virtual Machine to use.
Java SE 6 J2SE 5.0 J2SE 5.0 J2SE 1.4.2	64-bit 64-bit 32-bit 32-bit	Java applications, Web Start applications, and command line tools use this order to determine the most appropriate version of the Java Virtual Machine to use.

Make sure that the first item in the lower list ("Java Applications") is Java 6.

Windows

Download and install the latest version from here:

http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp