Installing Python on Windows

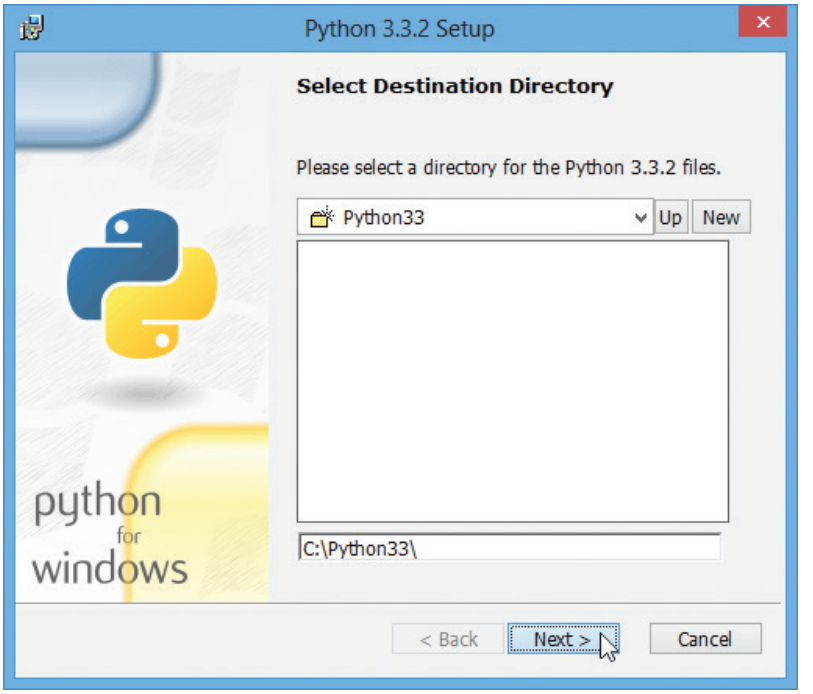
Before you can begin programming in the Python language you need to install on your computer the Python interpreter and the standard library of tested code modules that comes along with it. This is available as a free download at **http://python.org/downloads** For Windows users there is an MSI installer available in both 32-bit and 64-bit versions.

Installers for Mac OS X in both 32-bit and 64-bit versions are also available for download at **python.org/downloads**

1. Launch a web browser then navigate to **python.org/downloads** and download the appropriate installer version for your system – in this example it's an installer file snappily named "Python 3.3.2 Windows X86-64 MSI Installer"

2. When the download completes run the installer and choose whether to install for all users or just yourself, then click the Next button to proceed

3. Now, accept the suggested default installation location, which will be a directory on your root **C:** drive named "Python" and version number – in this example it's a directory at **C:\Python33** for Python version 3.3.2



Hot tip

Support for MSI installer files is included with all recent versions of Windows and free from **microsoft.com/downloads** – search for "Windows Installer".