

# Writing Installation Descriptions

## Structure

An IzPack installation description is a XML file, consisting of the root element *<installation>* and a number of embedded elements that can be included.

Example:

## Sample IzPack installation description

```
<izpack:installation version="5.0"
    xmlns:izpack="http://izpack.org/schema/installation"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xsi:schemaLocation="http://izpack.org/schema/installation
http://izpack.org/schema/5.0/izpack-installation-5.0.xsd">

    <info>
        <appname>Test</appname>
        <appversion>0.0</appversion>
        <appsubpath>myapp</appsubpath>
        <javaversion>1.6</javaversion>
    </info>

    <locale>
        <langpack iso3="eng" />
    </locale>

    <guiprefs width="800" height="600" resizable="no">
        <splash>images/peas_load.gif</splash>
        <laf name="substance">
            <os family="windows" />
            <os family="unix" />
            <param name="variant" value="mist-silver" />
        </laf>
        <laf name="substance">
            <os family="mac" />
            <param name="variant" value="mist-aqua" />
        </laf>
        <modifier key="useHeadingPanel" value="yes" />
    </guiprefs>

    <panels>
        <panel classname="TargetPanel" />
        <panel classname="PacksPanel" />
        <panel classname="InstallPanel" />
        <panel classname="FinishPanel" />
    </panels>

    <packs>
        <pack name="Test Core" required="yes">
            <description>The core files needed for the application</description>
            <fileset dir="plain" targetdir="{INSTALL_PATH}" override="true" />
            <parsable targetfile="{INSTALL_PATH}/test.properties" />
        </pack>
    </packs>

</izpack:installation>
```

## Root element

An IzPack installation description must be always embedded into the root element **<installation>**.

Parameters:

Attribute	Description	Required
version	The attribute defines the version of the XML file layout and is used by the compiler to identify if it is capable of compiling the XML file correctly. This should be set to the lowest version of izPack that will support the features used in the install.xml file. For a new project, this would be the major and minor parts of the current version. For izPack version 5.0.0-rc1, use version="5.0"	yes

## Embedded elements

There is a number of possible embedded elements to describe the installation:

- [Header - <info>](#)
- [GuiPrefs](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [External jar files](#)
- [Properties](#)
- [Variables](#)
- [Dynamic Variables](#)
- [Dynamic Installer Requirements](#)
- [Conditions](#)
- [Panels](#)
- [Packs](#)
- [Jar](#)
- [Listeners](#)
- [Customizing](#)