Setting up the Development environments for the Development of Theme

With introduction of Liferay Digital Experience Platform (DXP) 7, creation of custom themes became a complex process, compared to Liferay 6.2 where themes can be easily created using Liferay developer studio and Eclipse. Before one starts building a theme, one needs to set up the development environments. This section will cover those preparatory steps:

- *Installation of NodeJS*
- *Installation of Gulp*
- *Installation of Ruby gem*

Installation of nodeJS
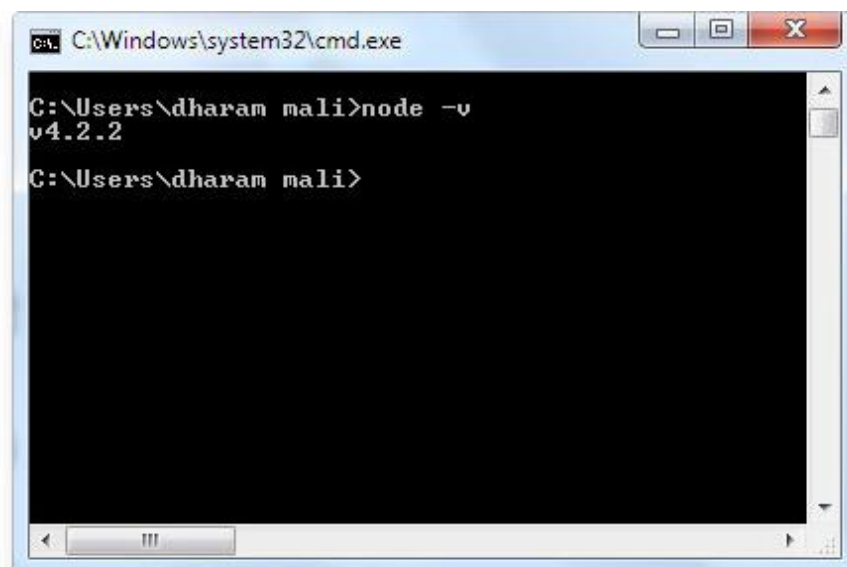
Uninstall latest version of node & Ruby and Rails if installed

Install Node v4.2.2 via the link:

https://nodejs.org/download/release/v4.2.2/node-v4.2.2-x64.msi

Open the Command Prompt and Check the node version and type command

node –v

and check for output – v4.2.2

Setup NPM environment by following below steps:

→Open it in Command Prompt (CMD)
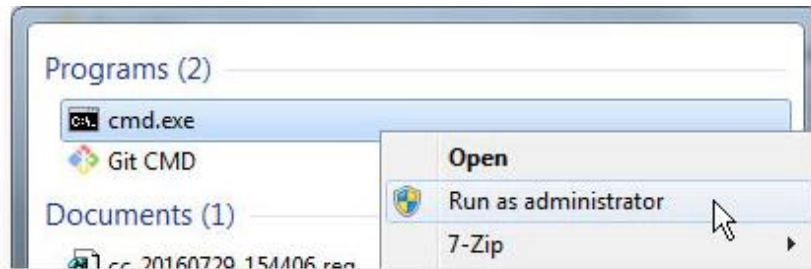
→Go to C:\Users\ {current User} for Example: C:\Users\dharam.mali

→Type

 copy NUL .npmrc

→You can see-> .npmrc file is created at C:\Users\dharam.mali

→Open .npmrc file and add following path:

prefix=c:\Users\dharam.mali\.npm-packages

 Set environment variables for Node and NPM as follows:

→NPM_PACKAGES (Add new System Variable) = C:\Users\ dharam.mali\.npm-packages

→NODE_PATH (Add new System Variable) = %NODE_PATH%;c:\Users\dharam.mali\.npm-packages\node_modules

→Add to (user variable) PATH = %NPM_PACKAGES%

   Close the Command Prompt (CMD) and open again with Administrator.

Installation of Gulp

Now Install Yeoman and gulp globally by executing the following command:

npm install -g yo gulp

(It will take some time)

Now you're ready to install the Themes Generator. Install it by executing this command:

npm install -g generator-liferay-theme

Once everything is installed without error, then install Sass on Windows.
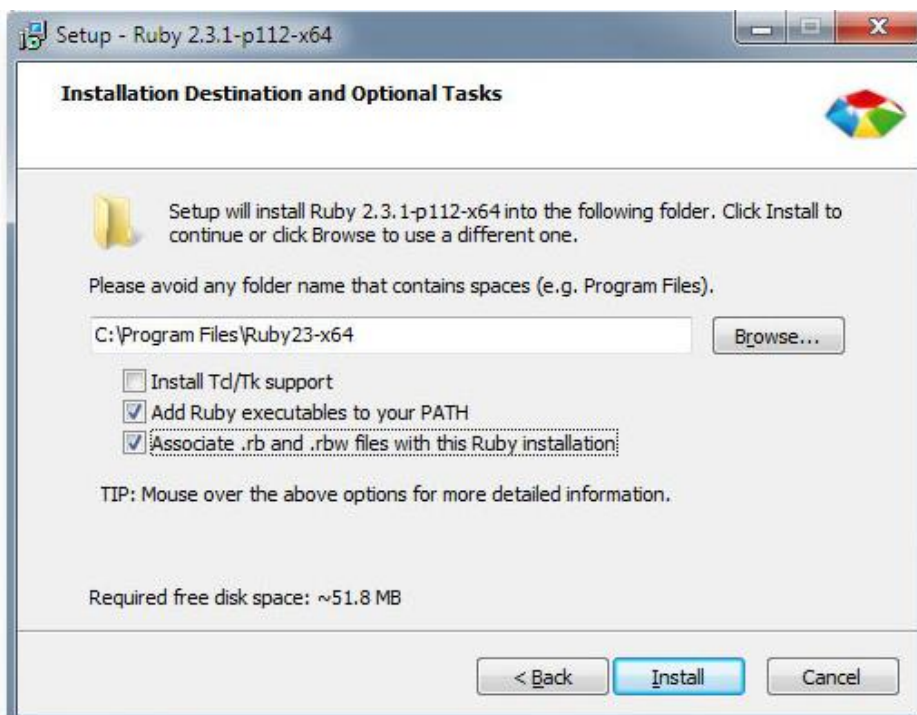

Installation of Ruby gem

Install Ruby Sass and Compass by below steps

→Download Ruby from: http://rubyinstaller.org/downloads/

→Use the latest version: Ruby 2.3.1 (x64)

Installation:

a. Install it in Program file

b. Make sure to tick

i. "Add Ruby executable to you PATH

ii. Associate .rb and……

iii. Open CMD with administrator, type

gem -v

output: 2.5.1

→Now install SASS Compiler for CSS

a. To avoid error we will change source path for Ruby,

→Open CMD with administrator, type:

gem sources -a http://rubygems.org/

b. Install

gem install sass compass

Everything is installed properly

The development environments for theme development are ready now. You are all set to start actual theme development.