Step-by-step installation of the daily version on Windows

This page shows step-by-step how to install Ancestris on a Windows system.

The sections below are independent and do not all need to be done.

Screens shown might look different from those of the current Ancestris web site or the current Ancestris software version.

Knowing which Java version you use

Command prompt

Alternatively, these steps let you identify which version of Java is running on your system.

1 - Open a Windows PowerShell window and enter `CMD` or open a Command Prompt window.

2 - Type `java -version` at the prompt. You will obtain a display as below, which shows that Java Version 8 (aka 1.8) 64-Bit is installed. Otherwise, it means java is not installed. **Follow these instructions** to install it.

```
java version "1.8.0_221"
Java(TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 1.8.0_221-b11)
Java HotSpot(TM) 64-Bit Server VM (build 25.221-b11, mixed mode)
```

> If it shows "64 Bit", you have Java 64-Bit installed and you will be able to run ancestris64.exe to launch Ancestris
> If it does not show 64-Bit, you have installed Java 32-Bit and you will not be able to launch Ancestris with ancestris64.exe. It will not find Java. You will need to launch Ancestris with ancestris.exe.

3 - Type `exit` once or twice to close the command window.

Install Ancestris daily version

Follow the instructions below from your Windows system.

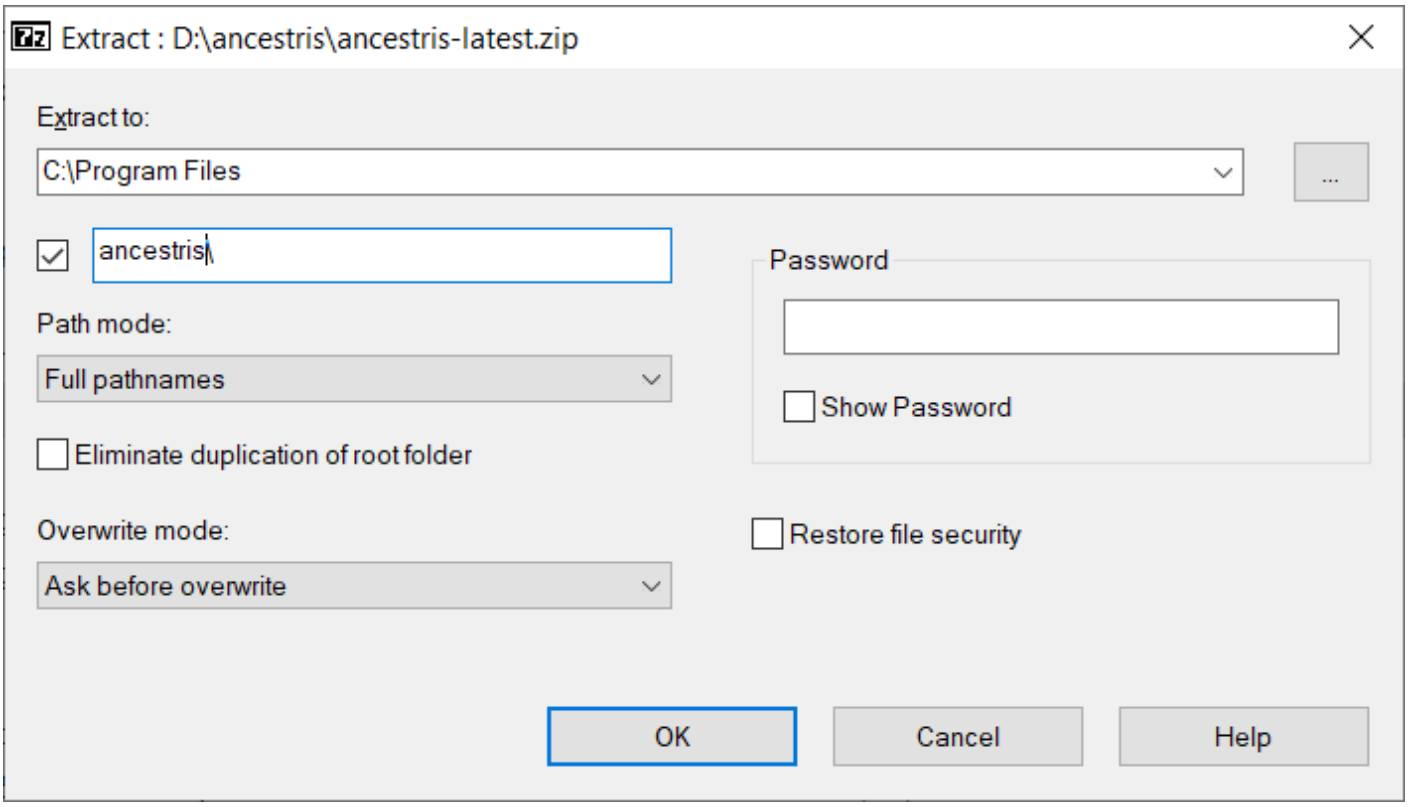
1/6 - Download Ancestris

- Go to **https://www.ancestris.org**
- Click on 'DOWNLOAD' in the Menu
- Then click on the **ANCESTRIS 14** button of the Windows panel.
- Downloading may take 2 to 3 minutes



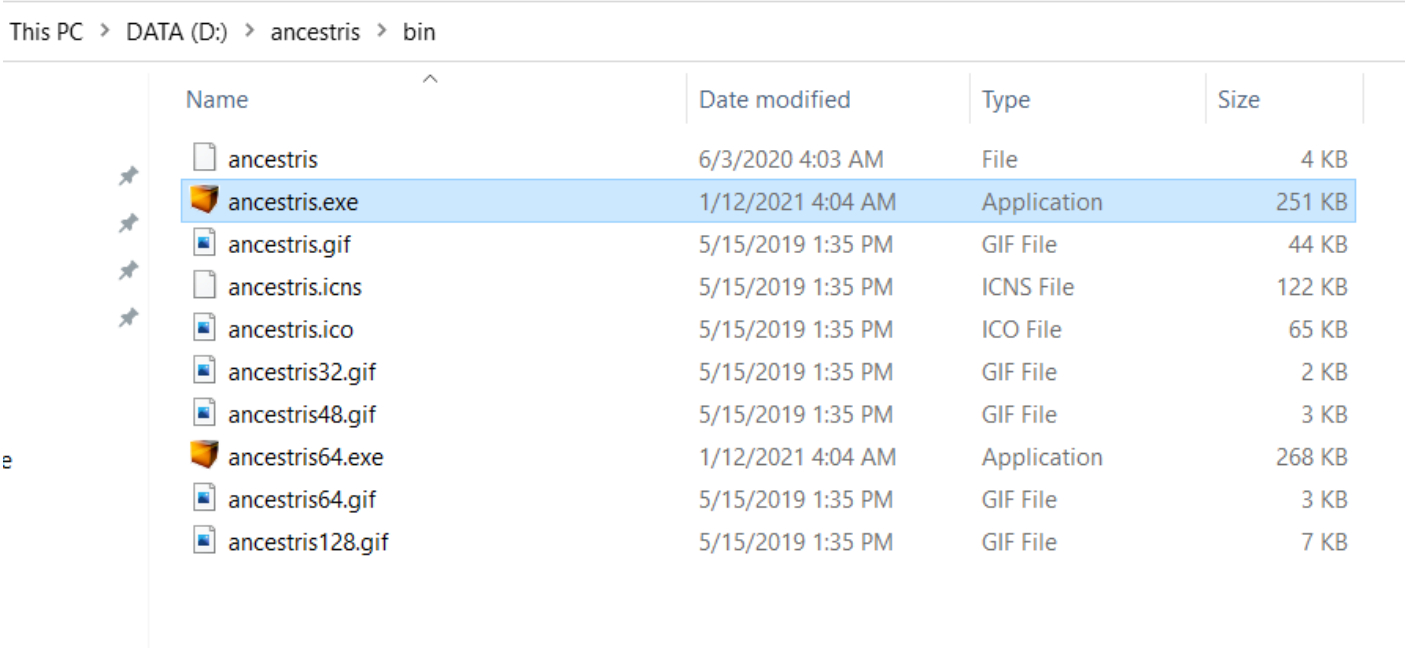
2/6 - Extract the Ancestris file

- Ancestris does not need to be installed as it runs directly from its `.exe` file.
- So right-click the downloaded `ancestris-latest.zip` file, choose 'Extract All' and select a destination folder where the `.exe` file can run.
- On *Windows 7*, unzip into the `C:\Program Files` folder otherwise Ancestris won't run.



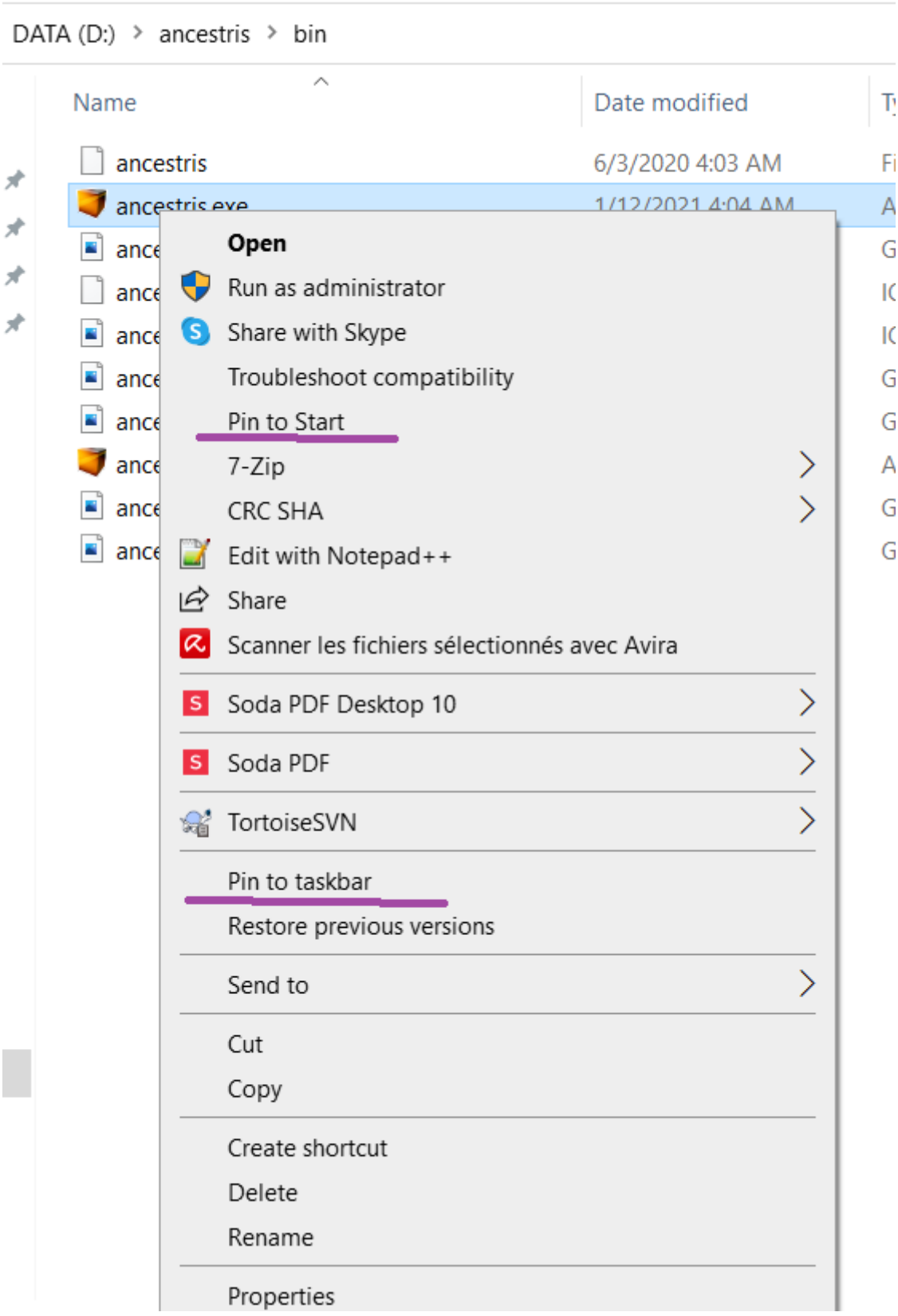
3/6 - Check the Ancestris file to run

- In the destination folder, open the `ancestris` folder and then the `bin` folder; there the `ancestris64.exe` file will run Ancestris on a 64-bit system, while the `ancestris.exe` file will run it on a 32-bit system.



4/6 - Add an Ancestris shortcut

- Right-click on the `ancestris64.exe` or `ancestris.exe` file and choose 'Pin to Start' or 'Pin to taskbar' to add a shortcut to the Start menu or the Taskbar.



- Then **set the icon of the resulting Ancestris shortcut**. For that, you need to right-click on the shortcut and replace the icon with the `ancestris.gif` file.

5/6 - Click the shortcut and Ancestris then starts



6/6 - The Welcome page then appears. You are now ready to use Ancestris.



If Ancestris does not start, it might be related to a Java version issue. You may have to swap the Java version.

Please follow these instructions.

Revision #35
Created 5 June 2020 16:32:35 by frederic
Updated 30 November 2025 19:39:37 by frederic