System Requirements

MAGIC Tool runs on any operating system with Sun Java installed (e.g. Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, Sun workstations). RAM requirements depend on the number and size of files you wish to analyze. 512 MB of RAM is minimal for analyzing full-size microarrays; 1 or 2 GB of RAM is desirable. The program itself is small, but the files it creates can be quite large.

Installing Java

If you intend to install MAGIC Tool on your computer, you will need the Sun version of Java.

    a. On a PC, go to http://java.com, and click on "Get It Now". The correct version of the code should download and begin to install automatically. Complete installation instructions, with screen shots, are at http://java.com/en/download/help/win_auto.jsp .

    b. On Mac, Java is already included. If you have trouble running MAGIC Tool, you may want to be sure your operating system and Java are up to date.

Installing MagicTool (versions 1.5 and later)

1. Go to www.bio.davidson.edu/magic, and follow the links to download the software, or go directly to http://www.bio.davidson.edu/projects/magic/agreement.html.

2. Download the desired version of MAGIC Tool .zip file to the folder where you would like the software installed. This may be the C: drive on a Windows computer, or an Applications folder on a Mac, for example. Avoid folders with spaces and dots (periods) in their names.

3. Double click on the .zip file to unzip it. This should automatically create a folder by the same name as the .zip file, and the program will be inside this folder.

4. Double click on the launcher file that is appropriate for your operating system to start MAGIC Tool. The launcher with extension .bat is for Windows, and the launcher with no extension is for Mac. You will know MAGIC Tool is starting when the magic wand waves across the logo on the screen.

    If the launcher does not start the program, it may be because Java is not installed properly on your machine. Be sure you have completed the instructions for Installing Java before proceeding. You may need to update your version of Java if you have not installed it recently.

5. (optional) Do this step if you are running on a workstation other than Windows or Mac, or if you are comfortable working with the command line and prefer not to use the launcher. You can run MagicTool in the following way:

Navigate (using the cd command) to the folder MagicTool.jar is in. (On Windows machine, use the Command Prompt under All Programs, Accessories. On Mac OS X, use the Terminal application under Utilities.)

When you are in the right folder, type
java -jar -Xms200m -Xmx800m MagicTool.jar

The numbers 200 and 800 in this command can be increased if you have plenty of available memory and are working with large files.