Volta Node toolchain manager

CONCEPTS

Volta swaps tool versions per directory: a pin in package.json wins, otherwise your default applies. No shell hook or use command needed.

node / npm / tsc you type a command
↓ shim on PATH
Volta shim in ~/.volta/bin
↓ looks up
package.json "volta" else your default
↓ runs
Pinned binary right Node engine

Global packages are pinned to the Node they were installed with and keep it until you reinstall them.

Commit the "volta" block in package.json so the whole team and CI get the same toolchain.

INSTALL VOLTA

`curl https://get.volta.sh | bash`
Install on Linux, macOS, WSL

`winget install Volta.Volta`
Install on Windows

`volta setup`
Add shims to PATH for your user

Manual setup: export VOLTA_HOME=$HOME/.volta and put $VOLTA_HOME/bin first on PATH.

DEFAULT TOOLS

`volta install node`
Default to the latest LTS Node

`volta install node@<version>`
Default to an exact or partial version

`volta install npm@<version>`
Default npm instead of the bundled one

`volta install yarn@<version>`
Default Yarn

DEFAULT TOOLS (cont.)

`volta install <package>`
Install a global package binary

`volta uninstall <package>`
Remove a global package or tool

`volta fetch <tool>@<version>`
Download to cache only, no default

install changes your default everywhere outside pinned projects; use pin for a single project.

PIN PER PROJECT

`volta pin node@<version>`
Pin Node in package.json

`volta pin node@lts`
Pin the current LTS Node

`volta pin npm@<version>`
Pin npm

`volta pin yarn@<range>`
Pin Yarn

What pin writes

```
"volta": {
  "node": "20.16.0",
  "npm": "10.8.1"
}
```

INSPECT

`volta list`
Show the active toolchain

`volta list all`
Everything installed

`volta list node`
Installed Node versions

`volta list --default`
Show your defaults only

`volta which <binary>`
Real path behind a shim

RUN ONCE

`volta run --node <version> <cmd>`
Run with another Node