Code::Blocks

Code::Blocks is a cross-platform (works with Windows, Mac OS X and Linux) integrated development environment (IDE) for writing C++ programs.

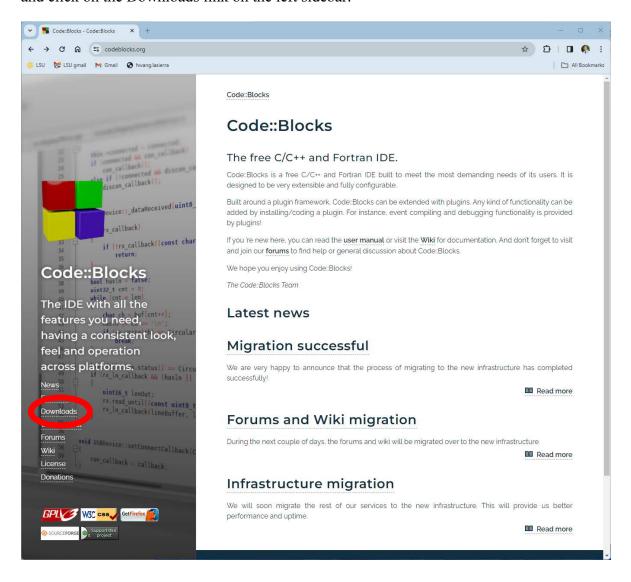
This document describes how to install Code::Blocks and write your first C++ program using Code::Blocks.

1. Download Code::Blocks

Go to Code::Blocks' main page at

https://www.codeblocks.org/

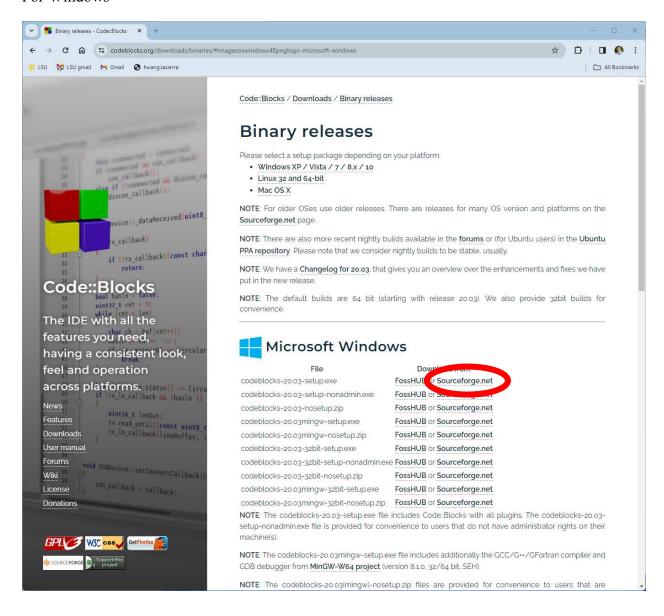
and click on the Downloads link on the left sidebar.



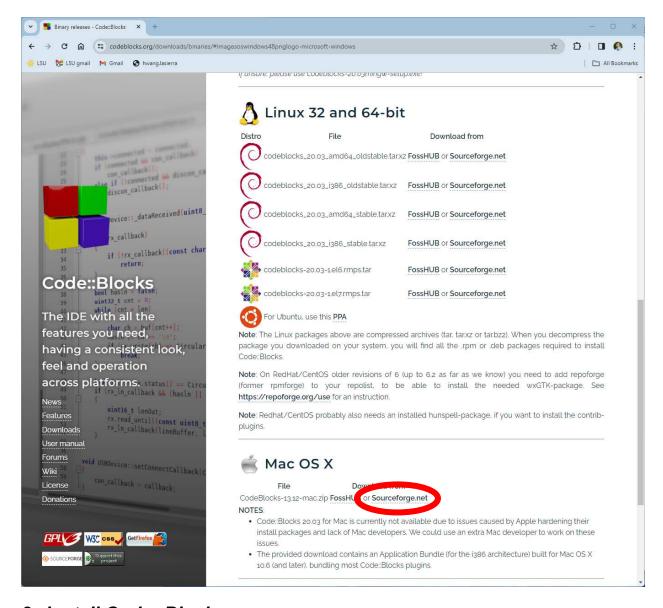
In the Downloads page, click on the Download the binary release link.

In the **Binary releases** page, click on the download link for the most current version for your operating system.

For Windows



For Mac OS X

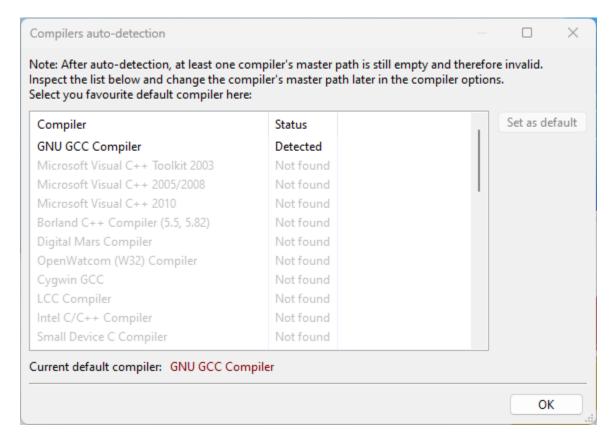


2. Install Code::Blocks

For Windows

After the download, run the installation file **codeblocks-20.03mingw-setup.exe**. Accept all the defaults. It'll take about a minute or two.

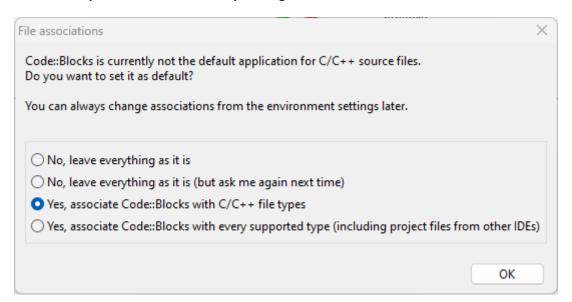
After the installation, it will auto detect a C++ compiler that is already installed on your computer. It must find one or else it will not work.



Click OK.

3. Run Code::Blocks

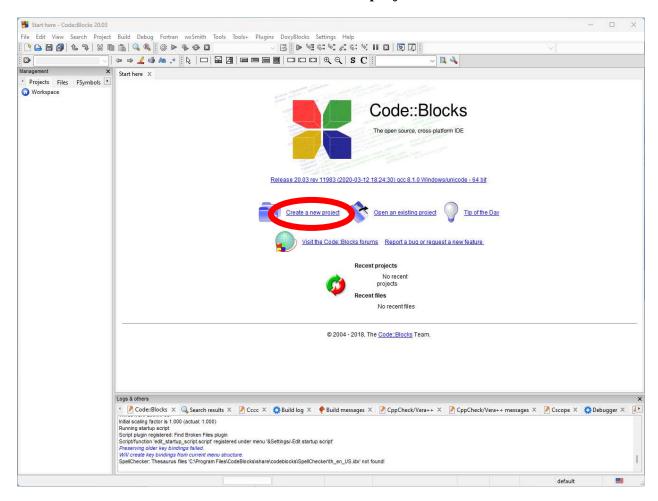
The first time you run Code::Blocks you might see this window



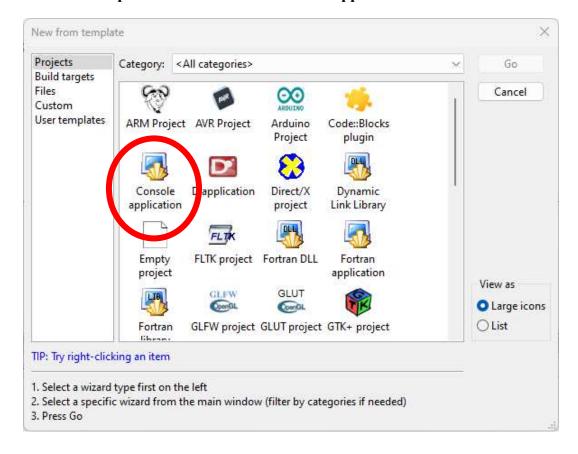
You can select to associate C++ files with Code::Blocks. Click **OK**.

4. Writing your first C++ program

In the main Code::Blocks window click Create a new project.



In the New from template window select the Console application icon and then click Go.



In the next window, you can check the **Skip this page next time** option and click **Next**.

Console application ×



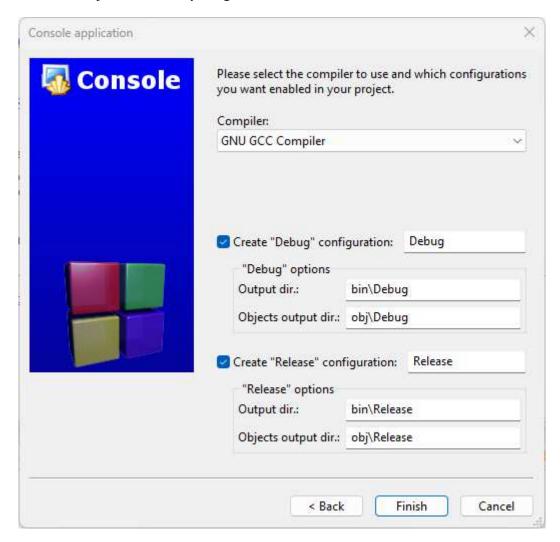
In the next window, make sure the C++ option is selected and click Next.



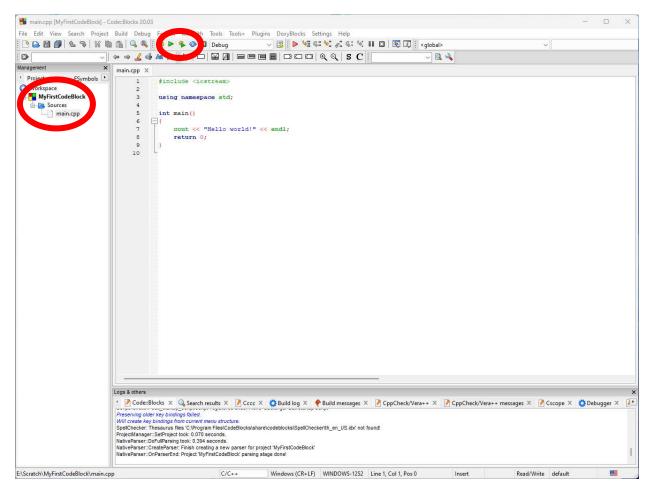
In the next window type in your project title and the location where you want to store the project, and then click **Next**. Don't change the last two fields. In the example below, the project title is **MyFirstCodeBlock** and I'm storing it on the **E:** drive under the **Scratch** directory.



In the next window just leave everything as it is and click **Finish**.



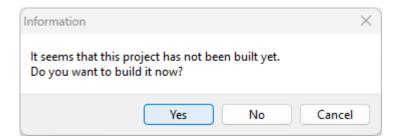
You will see this main workspace window. Open up the **Sources** folder and double-click on the **main.cpp** file. It will show the contents of the file on the right.



Click on the green/yellow **Build and run** icon to build and run the program.

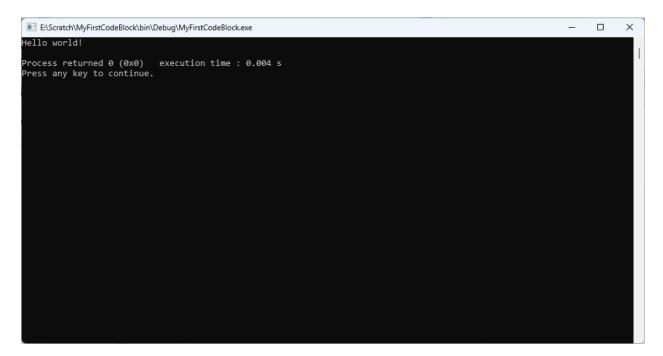
It is very important that each time after you have made changes to your program that you do a build before you run it otherwise, the run will not reflect your changes. In other words, the run command does not re-compile your program with the changes.

If you see the message then click **Yes** to build the program.



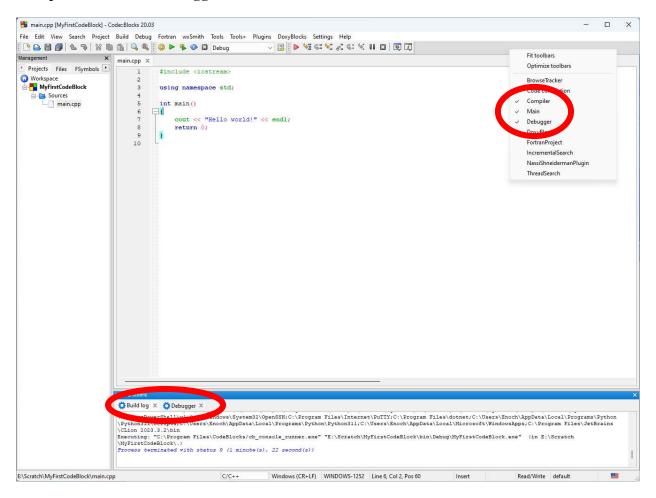
You can also access these commands from the menu under **Build**.

A console window will appear to display the outputs from your program. Press any key to close this window.



5. Customizing the IDE toolbars

Code::Blocks contains many other tools that we will not use, so we can remove them from the IDE window. Right-click on the toolbar area. In the pop-up menu uncheck all items except for **Compiler**, **Main** and **Debugger**.



We can also remove several of the information windows at the bottom, such as Search results, Cccc, Build log, Build messages, CppCheck/Vera++, CppCheck/Vera++ messages, Cscope, DoxyBlocks, Fortran info, Closed files list and Thread search.

6. Multiple files

To add another file to your project, click on the **New** icon and select **File...**.

In the next window select whether you want a header file (.h) or a source file (.cpp).

In the next window type in the filename and the full path. It's easier if you just click on the ... icon and then just type in the filename. This way the full path will be automatically filled in for you.

Make sure you check the **Add file to active project** for both Debug and Release.

