

Getting Started

[Install the Go tools](#)
[Test your installation](#)
[Uninstalling Go](#)
[Getting help](#)

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[Test your installation ¶](#)
[Uninstalling Go ¶](#)
[Getting help ¶](#)

Download the Go distribution

Download Go

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downloads page

[Official binary distributions](#) are available for the FreeBSD (release 10-STABLE and above), Linux, Mac OS X (10.8 and above), and Windows operating systems and the 32-bit (386) and 64-bit (amd64) x86 processor architectures.

If a binary distribution is not available for your combination of operating system and architecture, try [installing from source](#) or [installing gccgo instead of gc](#).

System requirements

Go [binary distributions](#) are available for these supported operating systems and architectures. Please ensure your system meets these requirements before proceeding. If your OS or architecture is not on the list, you may be able to [install from source](#) or [use gccgo instead](#).

Operating system	Architectures	Notes
FreeBSD 10.3 or later	amd64, 386	Debian GNU/kFreeBSD not supported
Linux 2.6.23 or later with glibc	amd64, 386, arm, arm64, s390x, ppc64le	CentOS/RHEL 5.x not supported. Install from source for other libc.
macOS 10.8 or later	amd64	use the clang or gcc [†] that comes with Xcode [‡] for

cgo support

Windows XP SP2 or
later

amd64, 386

use MinGW gcc[†]. No need for cygwin or msys.

[†]A C compiler is required only if you plan to use [cgo](#).

[‡]You only need to install the command line tools for [Xcode](#). If you have already installed Xcode 4.3+, you can install it from the Components tab of the Downloads preferences panel.

Install the Go tools

If you are upgrading from an older version of Go you must first [remove the existing version](#).

Linux, Mac OS X, and FreeBSD tarballs

[Download the archive](#) and extract it into `/usr/local`, creating a Go tree in `/usr/local/go`. For example:

```
tar -C /usr/local -xzf go$VERSION.$OS-$ARCH.tar.gz
```

Choose the archive file appropriate for your installation. For instance, if you are installing Go version 1.2.1 for 64-bit x86 on Linux, the archive you want is called `go1.2.1.linux-amd64.tar.gz`.

(Typically these commands must be run as root or through `sudo`.)

Add `/usr/local/go/bin` to the `PATH` environment variable. You can do this by adding this line to your `/etc/profile` (for a system-wide installation) or `$HOME/.profile`:

```
export PATH=$PATH:/usr/local/go/bin
```

Installing to a custom location

The Go binary distributions assume they will be installed in `/usr/local/go` (or `c:\Go` under Windows), but it is possible to install the Go tools to a different location. In this case you must set the `GOROOT` environment variable to point to the directory in which it was installed.

For example, if you installed Go to your home directory you should add commands like the following to `$HOME/.profile`:

```
export GOROOT=$HOME/go1.X
export PATH=$PATH:$GOROOT/bin
```

Note: `GOROOT` must be set only when installing to a custom location.

Mac OS X package installer

[Download the package file](#), open it, and follow the prompts to install the Go tools. The package installs the Go distribution to `/usr/local/go`.

The package should put the `/usr/local/go/bin` directory in your `PATH` environment variable. You

may need to restart any open Terminal sessions for the change to take effect.

Windows

The Go project provides two installation options for Windows users (besides [installing from source](#)): a zip archive that requires you to set some environment variables and an MSI installer that configures your installation automatically.

MSI installer

Open the [MSI file](#) and follow the prompts to install the Go tools. By default, the installer puts the Go distribution in `c:\Go`.

The installer should put the `c:\Go\bin` directory in your PATH environment variable. You may need to restart any open command prompts for the change to take effect.

Zip archive

[Download the zip file](#) and extract it into the directory of your choice (we suggest `c:\Go`).

If you chose a directory other than `c:\Go`, you must set the `GOROOT` environment variable to your chosen path.

Add the `bin` subdirectory of your Go root (for example, `c:\Go\bin`) to your PATH environment variable.

Setting environment variables under Windows

Under Windows, you may set environment variables through the "Environment Variables" button on the "Advanced" tab of the "System" control panel. Some versions of Windows provide this control panel through the "Advanced System Settings" option inside the "System" control panel.

Test your installation

Check that Go is installed correctly by setting up a workspace and building a simple program, as follows.

Create your [workspace](#) directory, `$HOME/go`. (If you'd like to use a different directory, you will need to [set the GOPATH environment variable](#).)

Next, make the directory `src/hello` inside your workspace, and in that directory create a file named `hello.go` that looks like:

```
package main

import "fmt"

func main() {
    fmt.Printf("hello, world\n")
}
```

Then build it with the go tool:

```
$ cd $HOME/go/src/hello
$ go build
```

The command above will build an executable named `hello` in the directory alongside your source code. Execute it to see the greeting:

```
$ ./hello
hello, world
```

If you see the "hello, world" message then your Go installation is working.

You can run `go install` to install the binary into your workspace's `bin` directory or `go clean` to remove it.

Before rushing off to write Go code please read the [How to Write Go Code](#) document, which describes some essential concepts about using the Go tools.

Uninstalling Go

To remove an existing Go installation from your system delete the `go` directory. This is usually `/usr/local/go` under Linux, Mac OS X, and FreeBSD or `c:\Go` under Windows.

You should also remove the Go `bin` directory from your `PATH` environment variable. Under Linux and FreeBSD you should edit `/etc/profile` or `$HOME/.profile`. If you installed Go with the [Mac OS X package](#) then you should remove the `/etc/paths.d/go` file. Windows users should read the section about [setting environment variables under Windows](#).

Getting help

For help, see the [list of Go mailing lists, forums, and places to chat](#).

Report bugs either by running "**go bug**", or manually at the [Go issue tracker](#).

Build version go1.10.2.

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