

Downloading Visual Studio for Windows

Most of this handout was written by past TAs, although the precise authorship has been lost.

In CS106B, you have the option of writing your programs on the Mac or PC. For the Windows environment on a PC, you will write your programs using Microsoft's Visual Studio application. You can use Visual Studio on the computers in the public clusters on campus, or you can download a copy for your own machine, as described in the following section. If you're planning to work on one of the public-cluster computers, you should be able to skip this handout and go directly to the assignment.

If you want to download your own copy of Visual Studio, you need to execute a somewhat complicated procedure that involves downloading disk images of the installer CDs, burning them to physical CDs, and then using those CDs to install the program. Don't worry—we'll walk you through the process below. It may be a fair number of steps, but just pay careful attention at each step and you'll get through it fine.

1. To get started, you'll need to get an ELMS account to be able to get access to Visual Studio 2005. Go to the website <http://msdn.stanford.edu/> and fill out the form to register for an ELMS account. If you are unable to access the website (for example if you are not on campus), send an e-mail to Pat Burke (pburke@ee) and he will create one for you. **Make sure to include your student ID and a valid Stanford e-mail address in the e-mail.**
2. Once you have received an e-mail saying that you have been registered for ELMS, the e-mail will direct you to a website to obtain the software and give you a user id and a password to login. If you e-mailed Pat to get an ELMS account set up, please allow some time for this e-mail to arrive, since he must manually register you.
3. Using a web browser, go to the website designated in the e-mail and log in using the user id and password.
4. Click on the "Software" button in the upper-left region of the page. Type "Visual Studio 2005 Professional" in the search box on the resulting page and press Enter. Click on "Visual Studio 2005 Professional Edition CD1".
5. Click the "Add to Cart" button. Agree to the EULA. Click "Continue Shopping". Repeat step 4, except this time click on "Visual Studio 2005 Professional Edition CD2".
6. Click the "Add to Cart" button. Agree to the EULA. This time, click "Check Out" instead of "Continue Shopping." Enter your information in the requested fields and click "Next."
7. Click the "Download" button next to CD1. Then on the resulting page click the "Download" button and save the file to disk.
8. **Now, here's where you have to be especially careful.** Return to the previous web page and repeat step 7 for CD2. Note that despite the fact that you are downloading CD2, the file you are going to download may have the same name as the file you just downloaded for CD1! **You do not want to overwrite your first download**, so if the file name for CD2 is the same as CD1, you should change the name for the downloaded file for CD2 so that it is different than the file you downloaded previously for CD1.
9. After you've downloaded the files for CD1 and CD2, close your web browser and double click on the first download. Select the location for the new file and click

“Continue.” Then, wait for the download to complete. This may take a while as the file the program is downloading fairly large.

10. Double click on the second download. You may get a message telling you that you have previously completed this download. **This is not true. Click “No” to download the second CD.** Select where you would like to put the download and hit “Continue.” Again, this may take a while.
11. The two files you have downloaded are called ISO files. To be useful, they need to be written (i.e., “burned”) to CDs using special software. That means for this step you will need to have two *blank* CDs and a CD/DVD drive that can write CDs. You can purchase blank CDs at the Stanford bookstore. Chances are your computer already has such software (most versions of Windows Vista have such software built in, but Windows XP often does not). If you are not sure, double click on the first CD file (`en_vs_2005_pro_cd1`). If a program opens to burn it to a CD, follow the steps in the program to write the file to CD. Repeat the same process for the second file (you should have written two CDs by the time you’re done). Otherwise, if your computer does not bring up a program for writing the ISO file to a CD, you can obtain a program called ISO Recorder to write ISO files. Steps 11 a-f below describe how to obtain, install and use ISO Recorder, if you need it. If you already have software to write CDs on your computer, you can skip to Step 12 below.
 - a) Download and install the version of ISO Recorder appropriate for your version of Windows (you will most likely want to download the 32-bit version of the software on whichever version of Windows, XP or Vista, that you are using).
 - b) Insert a blank CD into the CD writing drive on your computer.
 - c) Locate the downloaded file corresponding to Visual Studio CD 1 (probably named `en_vs_2005_pro_cd1.iso`) and right click on it. Select “copy image to cd.”
 - d) Make sure the drive name is correct under “Recorder” and click “Next.”
 - e) Wait for the process to finish and remove the disc.
 - f) Repeat Steps 11 b-e above for the Visual Studio CD 2 (the file for that CS is probably named `en_vs_2005_pro_cd2.iso`).
12. If needed, you can also find a [visual step-by-step tutorial](#) on how to use the ISO Recorder software to write CDs on the product’s website.
13. Once you have the two disk images written to CDs, you should then insert the CD corresponding to Visual Studio CD 1 in your computer (and open the disc if it does not do so automatically in about 20 seconds). You should see a dialog box come up with several options. Click on the first one, “Install Visual Studio 2005”. Follow the resulting prompts, and wait for the installation to complete (it may take awhile and will eventually ask you for the second CD). Congratulations! You now have Visual Studio installed on your computer. If your computer is running Windows Vista, you have one extra step to do (detailed below) to install two service packs.

If you have any problems, please let the course staff know.

Additional instructions for Windows Vista users

If you are running Windows Vista, you will also have to download and install two service packs. You should first install [Visual Studio 2005 Service Pack 1](#). Secondly, you should install [Visual Studio 2005 Service Pack 1 Update for Windows Vista](#).