

# A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO PROGRAMING

Book 3 supplemental  
SDL2 and SDL\_bgi Library

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Written by Alexander Maddern.

With many thanks to Daniel Moore for proof reading and corrections as well as the many ideas, examples and suggestions that have been provided.

This document is provided in the hope that it will provide a useful overview of the concepts that are covered and that many concepts will only be covered in part or brief. The author does not except liability for the accuracy of the content provided within this document. The reader should seek to obtain documentation for the specific programming languages and platforms used within this document. It is recommended to use a sandboxed virtual environment to test all of the examples that have been provided.

### Revisions

Version	Date	Notes
Draft V 0.1	09/03/2023	Essential SDL2 and SDL_bgi tutorial complete (C language only).

### TODO:

Add guide for FreeBASIC and Python3.

Add some basic API coding guides from the Space shooter demo and Quartz Clock demo.

## Preface

### Description from the Author: Guido Gonzato, PhD.

SDL\_bgi is a graphics library (GRAPHICS.H) for C, C++, WebAssembly, and Python. It's based on SDL2 and it's portable on many platforms.

Its name refers to BGI, the Borland Graphics Interface that was the 'de facto' standard in PC graphics back in DOS days; it was made popular by Borland Turbo C/C++ compilers. I wrote SDL\_bgi because I wanted a simple to use but fast graphics library for my experiments with fractals and cellular automata, using the BGI syntax I'm used to.

SDL\_bgi is functionally compatible with the BGI implementation in Turbo C 2.01 and Borland C++ 1.0; for instance, it compiles and runs the original bgidemo.c. SDL\_bgi also provides nearly full compatibility with another BGI implementation, WinBGIm (see links below). One of the aims of SDL\_bgi is the preservation of old software written for BGI; but not only that.

SDL\_bgi provides graphics primitives, and is much easier to use than plain SDL2; it should be especially useful for beginners, i.e. in introductory programming courses. SDL\_bgi is pretty fast, and in addition to BGI compatibility it provides extensions for ARGB colours, mouse support, vector fonts, and multiple windows. Native SDL2 functions can be used alongside SDL\_bgi functions. SDL\_bgi can also be used in programs written in C++ or Python.

SDL\_bgi is written in C, and it should compile on any platform supported by SDL2. It has been tested on GNU/Linux, MS Windows (MSYS2 and Mingw-w64, CodeBlocks, Dev-C++), macOS (High Sierra and Catalina), Raspios (ARM, i386), and WebAssembly (Emscripten). A few example programs in C and Python are provided in the demo/ directory.

From: <https://sourceforge.net/projects/sdl-bgi/files/>

SDL\_bgi is based on SDL2, and is portable to any platform supported by SDL2: Windows, macOS, GNU/Linux, and WebAssembly via Emscripten.

SDL\_bgi can be used to port old programs written for Turbo/Borland C to modern systems. And, of course, to write new graphics programs with minimal effort: BGI, once extremely popular, was probably the simplest way to implement presentation graphics in C programs. The same ease of programming can be obtained on modern systems. Programming fractals, cellular automata, geometry, physics models etc. is a breeze with SDL\_bgi.

From: <https://sdl-bgi.sourceforge.io/>

## Installing and using SDL2 and SDL-BGI (Graphics.h) Libraries.

NOTE! Many SDL-BGI apps will not run well under VirtualBox clients.

NOTE! It is important to have control over the Frames Per Second (FPS) for video like applications. This can be set via `edelay()` and the ticks counter that measures the loops per second by measuring the start time and end time for each main loop. `edelay()` is a busy wait, meaning that the CPU is in a tight busy loop. To make use of the OS task scheduler we can make limited use of the `SDL_Delay()` function which temporarily will place the application into an idle state reducing the CPU percentage use. `SDL_Delay()` is not fully compatible with `SDL_BGI` and should only be used in very limited circumstances as it can cause the application to stop responding.

### SDL2 Setup Windows

[https://lazyfoo.net/tutorials/SDL/01\\_hello SDL/windows/mingw/index.php](https://lazyfoo.net/tutorials/SDL/01_hello SDL/windows/mingw/index.php)

[https://lazyfoo.net/tutorials/SDL/01\\_hello SDL/index2.php](https://lazyfoo.net/tutorials/SDL/01_hello SDL/index2.php)

<https://github.com/libsdl-org/SDL/releases>

Download “SDL2-devel-2.26.2-mingw.zip” (or a later version if you are confident of the compatibility with SDL-BGI). Ensure that it is the development version (-devel-).

DLL runtime redistributables (only exported with your compiled application).

You can just use the DLL from the devel package for testing on other machines.

“SDL2-2.26.2-win32-x64.zip”

Unpack “SDL2-devel-2.26.2-mingw.zip”

Copy the contents of “x86\_64-w64-mingw32” to corresponding “C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\\*.\*\*”

\bin

\include

\lib

Dev > SDL2-devel-2.26.2-mingw > SDL2-2.26.2 > x86_64-w64-mingw32		
Name	Date modified	Type
bin	4/01/2023 12:57 AM	File folder
include	1/11/2018 1:06 AM	File folder
lib	4/01/2023 12:57 AM	File folder
share	1/11/2018 1:06 AM	File folder

Note that SDL2 will be in a sub directory of include.

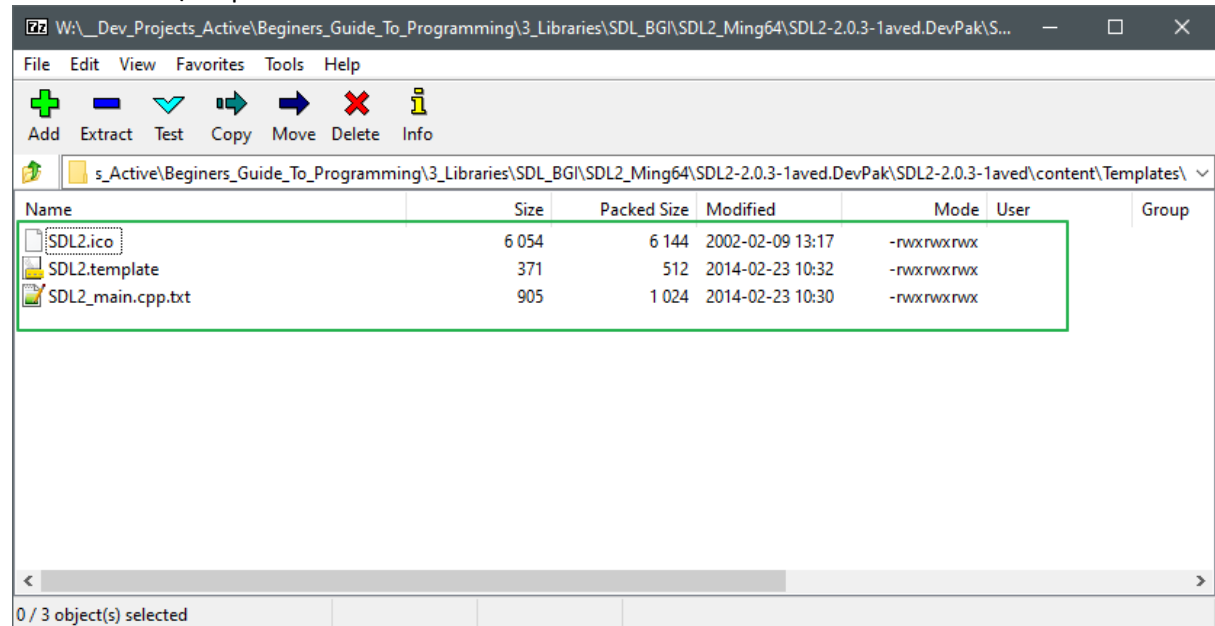
“MyDev-C++\include\SDL2\\*.h”

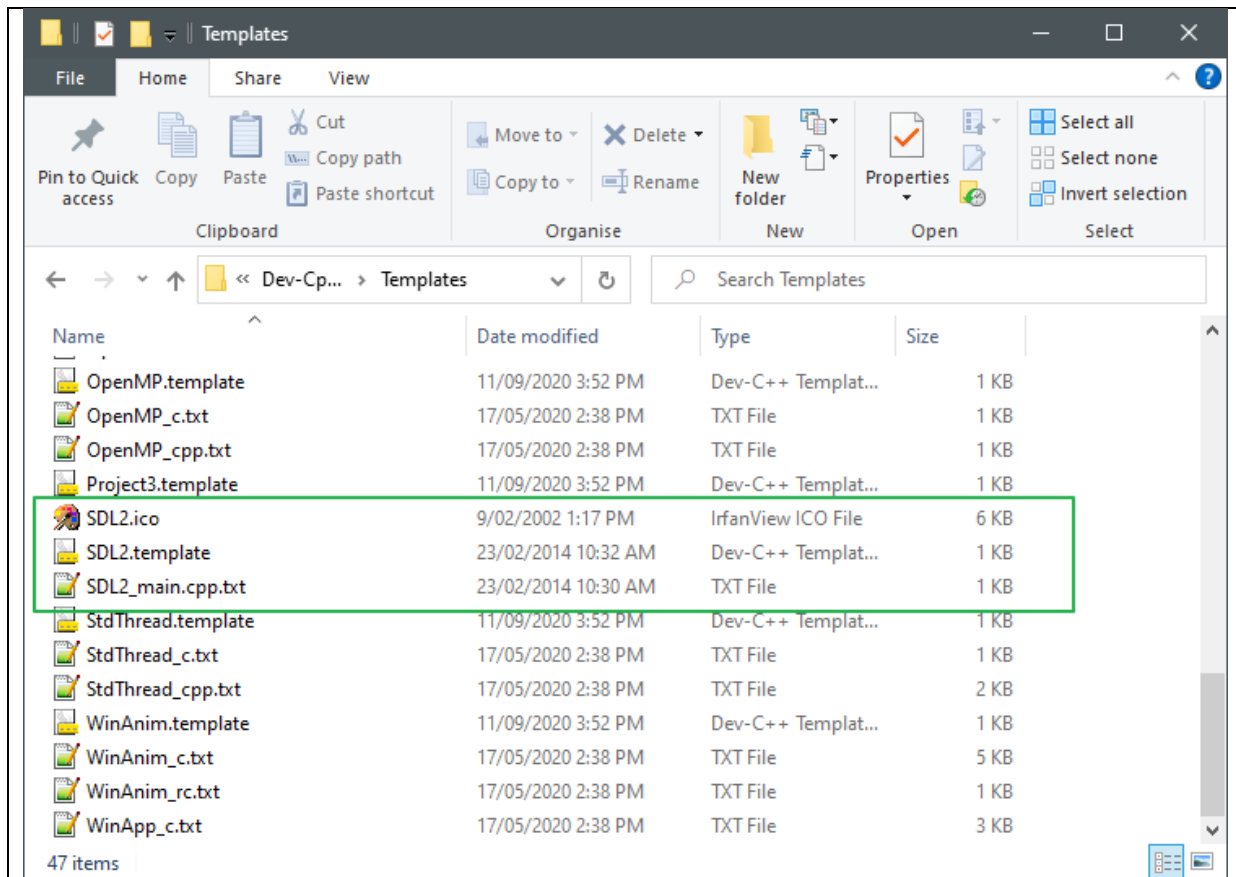
## Optional

Download “SDL2-2.0.3-1aved.DevPak” from <https://sourceforge.net/projects/devpacks/files/> or direct <https://sourceforge.net/projects/devpacks/files/SDL2-2.0.3-1aved.DevPak/download>

Open SDL2-2.0.3-1aved.DevPak (or unpack) using 7-Zip file manager.

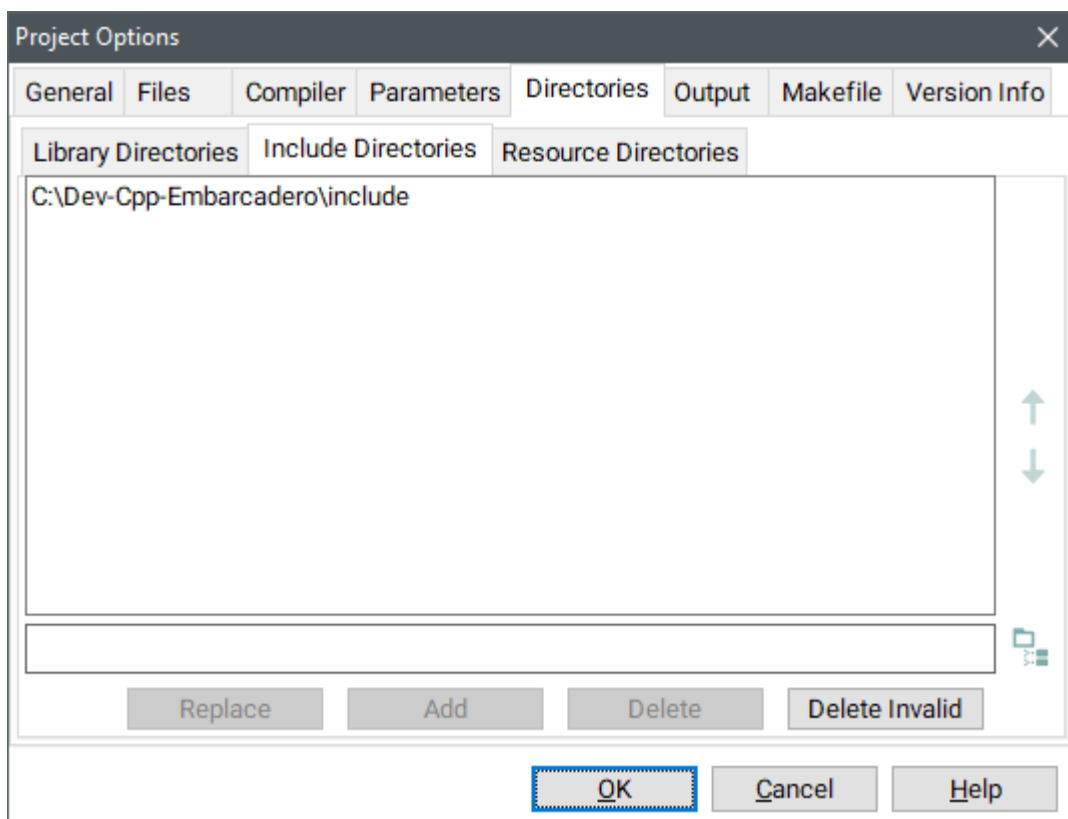
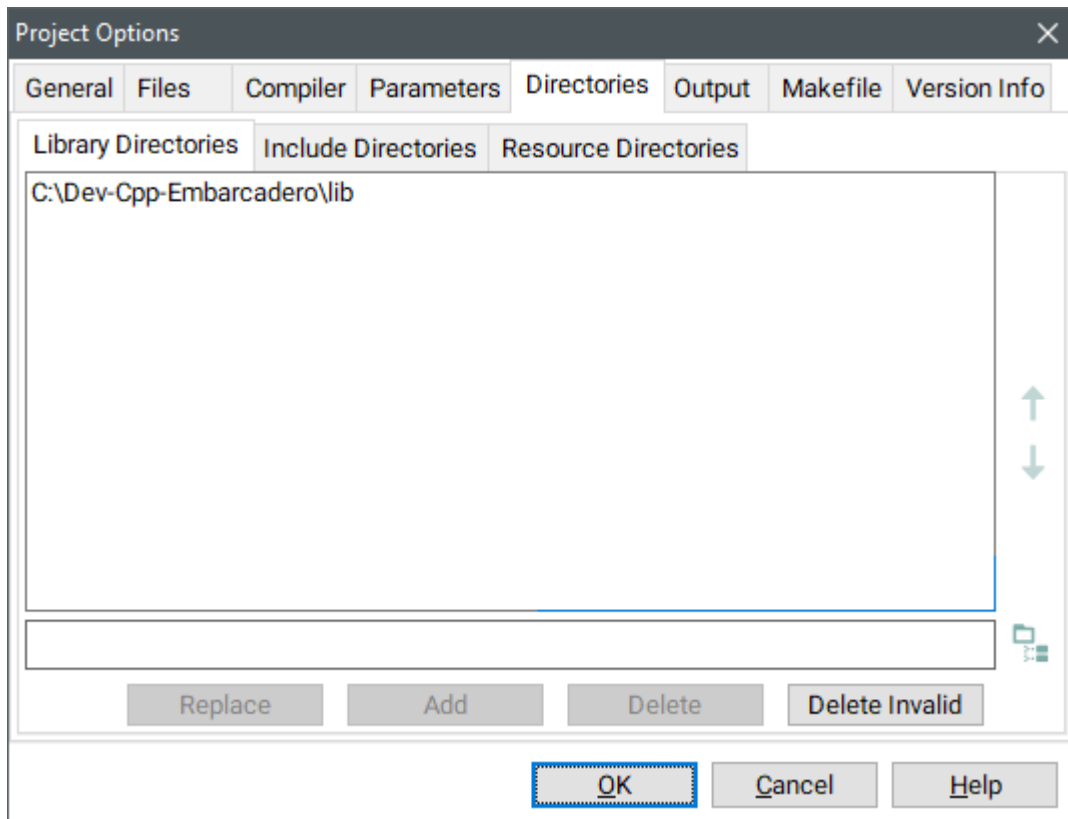
Copy the contents from SDL2-2.0.3-1aved.DevPak “.\templates” to “C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\templates”.





This will give you an SDL2 project option when start Dev-C++ but is not required, You can use the set up that I have described in this document for a better outcome using C language.

Start at new project and add the SDL2 paths to the project under Project -> Project Options...



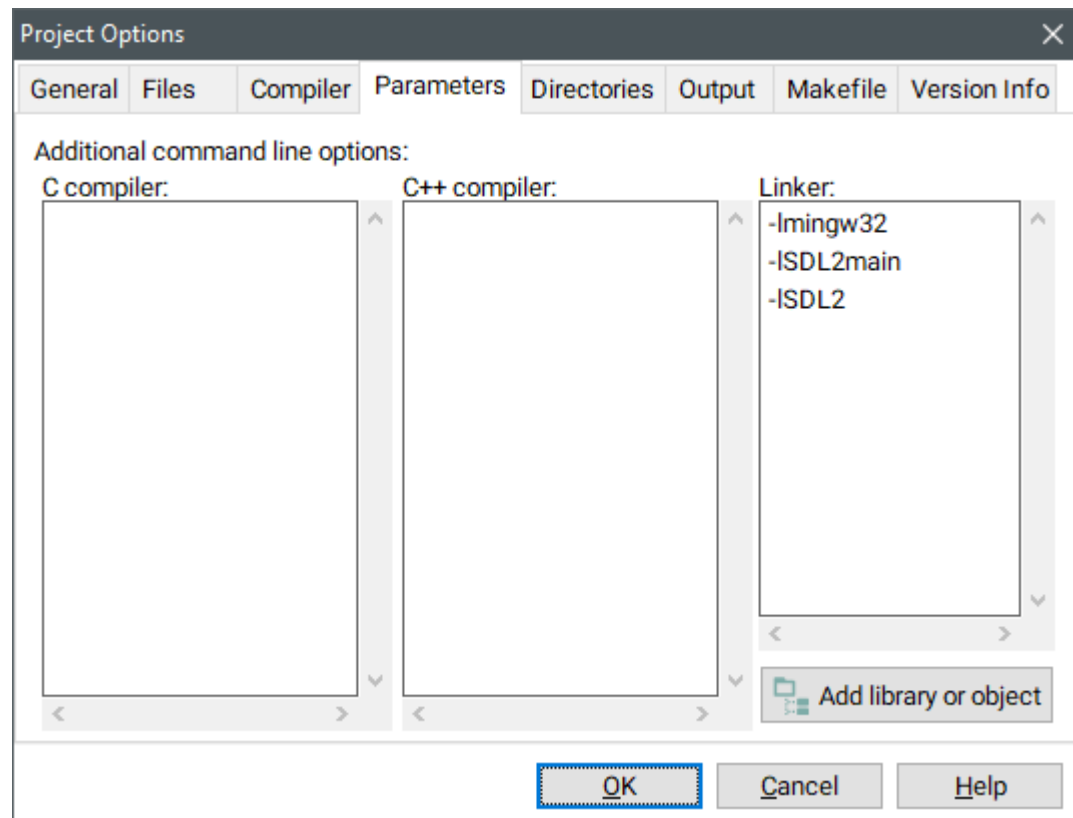
Add the following to linker options as shown in the image below (we will also add SDL-BGI later).



## Linker:

-lmingw32  
-lSDL2main  
-lSDL2

`sdl2-config --libs` is not used by the compiler on Windows.



Command line compile example:

```
// g++ $(OBJS) -IC:\mingw_dev_lib\include\SDL2 -LC:\mingw_dev_lib\lib -w -Wl,-  
subsystem,windows -lmingw32 -lSDL2main -lSDL2 -o $(OBJ_NAME)
```

**Copy “SDL2.dll”** from the downloaded “SDL2-devel-2.26.2-mingw.zip” or the “SDL2-2.26.2-win32-x64.zip (Runtime library)” into the project directory where your final exe will exist.

Use the following `#include` for basic SDL applications:

For more complex application some additional headers may be required.

```
#include <SDL2/SDL.h> // lSDL2main -lSDL2
```

SDL.h is in a sub directory of “C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\include” + “SDL2/SDL.h”

Create a main.c file in your project and copy the following source to test SDL2.

**Example 1: “SDL\_Helloworld\_1.c”**

```

//Using SDL and standard IO

// -lmingw32 -lSDL2main -lSDL2

#include <SDL2/SDL.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdbool.h>

//Screen dimension constants
const int SCREEN_WIDTH = 640;
const int SCREEN_HEIGHT = 480;

int main( int argc, char* args[] )
{
    //The window we'll be rendering to
    SDL_Window* window = NULL;

    //The surface contained by the window
    SDL_Surface* screenSurface = NULL;

    //Initialize SDL
    if( SDL_Init( SDL_INIT_VIDEO ) < 0 )
    {
        printf( "SDL could not initialize! SDL_Error: %s\n", SDL_GetError() );
    }
    else
    {
        //Create window
        window = SDL_CreateWindow( "SDL Tutorial", SDL_WINDOWPOS_UNDEFINED,
SDL_WINDOWPOS_UNDEFINED, SCREEN_WIDTH, SCREEN_HEIGHT, SDL_WINDOW_SHOWN );
        if( window == NULL )
        {
            printf( "Window could not be created! SDL_Error: %s\n", SDL_GetError()
);
        }
        else
        {
            //Get window surface
            screenSurface = SDL_GetWindowSurface( window );

            //Fill the surface white
            SDL_FillRect( screenSurface, NULL, SDL_MapRGB( screenSurface->format,
0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF ) );

            //Update the surface
            SDL_UpdateWindowSurface( window );

            //Hack to get window to stay up
            SDL_Event e;
            bool quit = false;
            while( quit == false )
            {
                while( SDL_PollEvent( &e ) )
                {
                    if( e.type == SDL_QUIT ) quit = true;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```
//Destroy window
SDL_DestroyWindow( window );

//Quit SDL subsystems
SDL_Quit();

return 0;
}
```

**Example 2 “SDL\_Helloworld\_2.c”**

```
#include <SDL2/SDL.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <time.h>
#include <stdbool.h>
//using namespace std; // C++

// -lmingw32 -lSDL2main -lSDL2

int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
    srand(time(NULL));
    SDL_Init(SDL_INIT EVERYTHING);
    SDL_Window *window = SDL_CreateWindow("Hello World!", 100, 100, 640, 480,
    SDL_WINDOW_SHOWN);
    SDL_Surface* screenSurface= SDL_GetWindowSurface(window);
    //    SDL_Surface* img =SDL_LoadBMP("");
    //    SDL_BlitSurface(img,NULL,screenSurface,NULL);
    bool exit=false;
    SDL_Event e;
    SDL_FillRect(screenSurface,NULL, SDL_MapRGB(screenSurface->format,128,0,120));
    SDL_UpdateWindowSurface(window);
    while(!exit)
    {
        while(SDL_PollEvent(&e)!=0)
        {
            if(e.type == SDL_QUIT)
            {
                exit=true;
            }
            if(e.type == SDL_KEYDOWN)
            {
                switch(e.key.keysym.sym)
                {
                    case SDLK_UP:
                        exit=true;
                        break;
                }
            }
        }
    }

    //SDL_FreeSurface(img);
    SDL_DestroyWindow(window);
    SDL_Quit();
}
```

```
return 0;  
}
```

If the 2 example applications worked, then we have set up SDL2 files and project correctly.

---

### SDL\_BGI Setup

<https://sdl-bgi.sourceforge.io/>

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/sdl-bgi/>

### Please Note! SDL\_BGI Vers 3

Download “SDL\_bgi-3.0.0-win.zip” from the following link.

<https://sdl-bgi.sourceforge.io/>

Unpack “SDL\_bgi-3.0.0-win.zip”.

Note binaries for Windows (MSYS2 + mingw-w64, CodeBlocks, Dev-C++), I am using “mingw-w64\SDL\_bgi.dll”.

### Take careful note of the placement of the following files.

Copy .\src **graphics.h** to C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\include

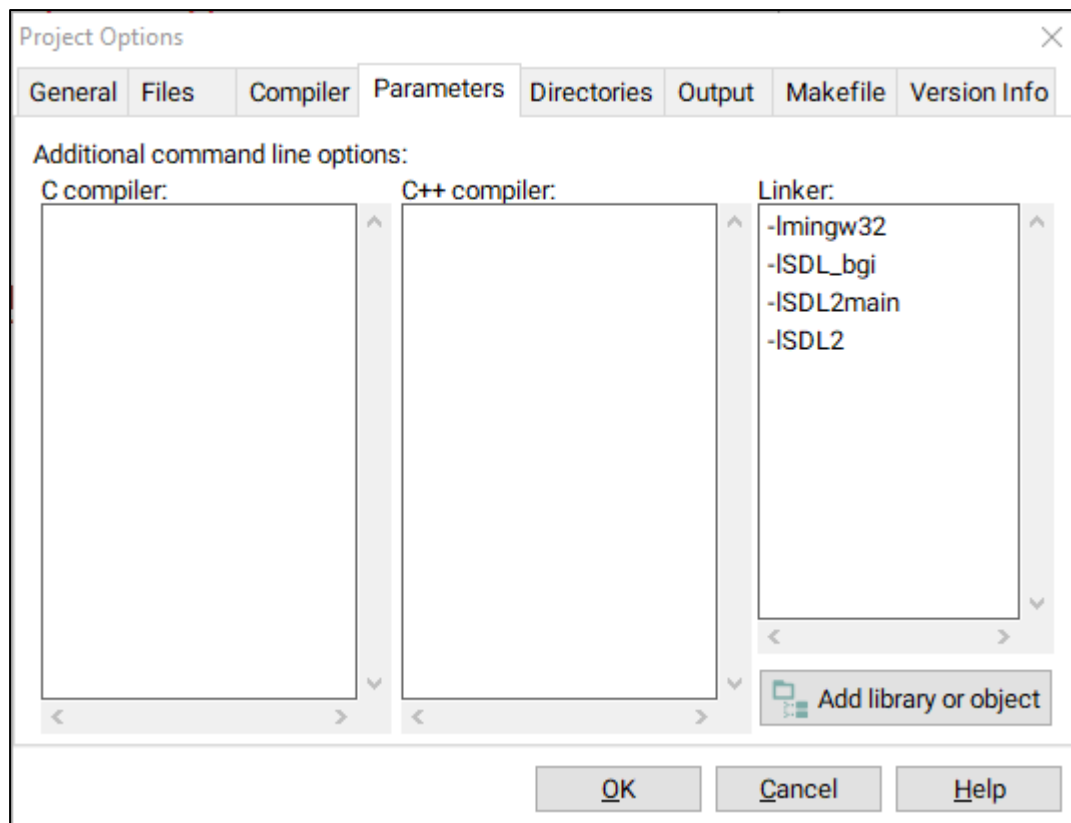
Copy .\src **SDL\_bgi.h** to C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\include\SDL2

Copy .\bin\Mingw64 SDL\_bgi.dll to C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\lib

Copy .\bin\Mingw64 SDL\_bgi.dll to C:\Dev-Cpp-Embarcadero\bin

Copy .\bin\Mingw64 SDL\_bgi.dll to you project directory (runtime).

Add -ISDL\_bgi to your project linker settings along with the SDL2 linker settings.



Use the following example to test SDL\_BGI:

(There are many examples in the downloaded SDL-BGI archive. Some of the source may require minor adjustments to run correctly as the examples seem to be for earlier SDL-BGI versions)

SDL2.h is included by the graphics.h so only graphics.h is required.

**Example: "SDL\_bgi-3.0.0\test\arc.c"**

```
/* arc example */
/* SDL_bgi-3.0.0\test\arc.c */

#include <graphics.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    /* request autodetection */
    int gdriver = DETECT, gmode;
    int midx, midy;
    int stangle = 45, endangle = 135;
    int radius = 100;

    /* initialize graphics and local variables */
    initgraph(&gdriver, &gmode, "C:\\TC\\BGI");

    midx = getmaxx() / 2;
    midy = getmaxy() / 2;
    setcolor(getmaxcolor());
}
```

```

/* draw arc */
arc(midx, midy, stangle, endangle, radius);

/* clean up */
getch();
closegraph();
return 0;
}

```

**Example: "SDL\_bgi-3.0.0\test\pieslice.c"**

```

/* pieslice example */
/* SDL_bgi-3.0.0\test\pieslice.c */

#include <graphics.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h> // Comment this line out!

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    /* request autodetection */
    int gdriver = DETECT, gmode;
    int midx, midy;
    int stangle = 45, endangle = 135, radius = 100;

    /* initialize graphics and local variables */
    initgraph(&gdriver, &gmode, "C:\\TC\\BGI");

    midx = getmaxx() / 2;
    midy = getmaxy() / 2;

    /* set fill style and draw a pie slice */
    setfillstyle(EMPTY_FILL, getmaxcolor());
    pieslice(midx, midy, stangle, endangle, radius);

    /* clean up */
    getch();
    closegraph();
    return 0;
}

```

NOTE! showinfo box() must be changed to showerror box()

**Example: mandelbrot.c**

```

/* mandelbrot.c  -*- C -*-
 * https://sdl-bgi.sourceforge.io/test/mandelbrot.c
 *
 * To compile:
 * gcc -o mandelbrot mandelbrot.c -lSDL_bgi -lSDL2
 *
 * By Guido Gonzato, May 2015-2022
 *

```

```

* This is an unoptimised, simple but effective program for plotting
* the Mandelbrot set. Left click to zoom in on a point, right click
* to zoom out, middle click to restore the initial boundary,
* ESC to quit.

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* Foundation, Inc., 675 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.
*
*/

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <graphics.h>

int max_iter = 100; // max iteration
int maxx, maxy;

void mandelbrot (double, double, double, double);
void explain (void);
void amber_palette (void);
void blue_palette (void);
void purple_palette (void);

// -----

void mandelbrot (double x1, double y1, double x2, double y2)
{
    int xx, yy, counter;
    double dx, dy, x, y, a, b, tx, d;

    dy = (y2 - y1) / maxy;
    dx = dy;

    x = x1;
    for (xx = 0; xx < maxx; xx++) {

        y = y1;
        for (yy = 0; yy < maxy; yy++) {

            counter = 0;
            a = b = 0.0;

            // iteration:  $z(n+1) = z(n)^2 + c$ ;  $z = ai + b$ ;  $c = yi + x$ 

            do {
                tx = a*a - b*b + x;
                b = 2*b*a + y;
                a = tx;

```

```

        d = a*a + b*b;
        counter++;
    } while (d <= 4.0 && counter < max_iter);

    setrgbcolor (counter);
    _putpixel (xx, yy);
    y += dy;

} // y
x += dx;

} // x

} // mandelbrot ()

// -----

void amber_palette (void)
{
    int c;

    // initialize rgb palette entries 0 - (max_iter - 1)
    for (c = 0; c < max_iter; c++)
        setrgbpalette (c, max_iter - c, 50 + 2 * c, c);
    setrgbpalette (max_iter, 0x30, 0, 0x30); // the Mandelbrot set is purple

} // amber_palette ()

// -----

void purple_palette (void)
{
    int c;

    for (c = 0; c < max_iter; c++)
        setrgbpalette (c, 50 + 2 * c, c, max_iter - c);
    setrgbpalette (max_iter, 0, 0, 0); // the Mandelbrot set is black

} // purple_palette ()

// -----

void blue_palette (void)
{
    int c;

    for (c = 0; c < max_iter; c++)
        setrgbpalette (c, 0, c, 50 + 2 * c);
    setrgbpalette (max_iter, 0, 0, 0); // the Mandelbrot set is black

} // blue_palette ()

// -----

//showinfobox
void help (void)
{
    showerrorbox ("Press '1', '2', or '3' to change the palette\n"
                  "left click to zoom in on a point\n")

```



```

        "right click to zoom out\n"
        "middle click or 'R' to restore the initial boundary\n"
        "'i' or '+', 'd' or '-' to increase/decrease max iterations\n"
        "arrow keys to move around\n"
        "'Q' to quit the program");
} // help ()

// -----

void explain (void)
{
    int
        i = 0,
        inc = 5,
        c;

    setbkcolor (COLOR (0, 0, 32)); // don't use a palette
    cleardevice ();
    setcolor (COLOR (255, 255, 0));

    settextstyle (TRIPLEX_FONT, HORIZ_DIR, 4);
    settextjustify (CENTER_TEXT, CENTER_TEXT);
    c = 2*textheight ("H");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 - 4*c,
        "Press '1', '2', or '3' to change the palette");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 - 3*c,
        "left click to zoom in on a point");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 - 2*c,
        "right click to zoom out");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 - c,
        "middle click or 'R' to restore the initial boundary");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2,
        "'i' or '+', 'd' or '-' to increase/decrease max iterations");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 + c,
        "arrow keys to move around");
    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 + 2*c,
        "'H' to get help");

    outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 + 3*c,
        "'Q' to quit the program");

    int
        ev;

    while (1) {

        setcolor (COLOR (i, 0, 0));
        outtextxy (maxx / 2, maxy / 2 + 4*c, "PRESS A KEY OR CLICK TO BEGIN");
        i += inc;
        if (255 == i)
            inc = -5;
        if (0 == i)
            inc = 5;
        delay(1);
        refresh ();

        event ();
        ev = eventtype ();
        if (ev == SDL_KEYDOWN || ev == SDL_MOUSEBUTTONDOWN)

```

```

        break;

    }
    cleardevice ();

    settextstyle (DEFAULT_FONT, HORIZ_DIR, 1);
    settextjustify (LEFT_TEXT, TOP_TEXT);

} // explain ()

// -----

int main (int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int palette, ch, init, redraw, flag;
    double xm, ym, xstep, ystep, xmin, ymin, xmax, ymax;
    char s[20];

    initwindow (0, 0); // fullscreen

    maxx = getmaxx ();
    maxy = getmaxy ();
    // initial coordinates of the middle point of the screen
    xm = -1.2;
    ym = 0.0;
    // initial range: xm +- xstep, ym +- ystep
    ystep = 1.2;
    xstep = ystep * maxx / (double) maxy;
    init = flag = redraw = 1;

    explain ();

    purple_palette ();
    palette = 1;

    ch = 'G';
    while (ch != 'q' && ch != 'Q') {

        xmin = xm - xstep;
        ymin = ym - ystep;
        xmax = xm + xstep;
        ymax = ym + ystep;

        if (redraw) {
            mandelbrot (xmin, ymin, xmax, ymax);
            refresh ();
            if (flag) {
                setcolor (WHITE);
                sprintf (s, "%d", max_iter);
                outtextxy (0, 0, s);
                flag = 0;
                refresh ();
            }
            redraw = 0;
        }

        ch = getevent (); // wait for a key, mouse click, or wheel motion

        switch (ch) {

```

```

case 'h':
case 'H':
    help ();
    break;

case WM_LBUTTONDOWN:
case WM_WHEELUP:
    xm = xmin + 2 * xstep * mousex () / maxx;
    ym = ymin + 2 * ystep * mousey () / maxy;
    xstep /= 2.0;
    ystep /= 2.0;
    init = 0;
    redraw = 1;
    break;

case WM_RBUTTONDOWN:
case WM_WHEELDOWN:
    xstep *= 2.0;
    ystep *= 2.0;
    init = 0;
    redraw = 1;
    break;

case WM_MBUTTONDOWN:
case 'r':
case 'R':
    if (0 == init) {
        xm = -1.2;
        ym = 0.0;
        ystep = 1.2;
        xstep = ystep * (double) maxx / (double) maxy;
        redraw = 1;
    }
    break;

case '1':
    purple_palette ();
    if (1 != palette) {
        redraw = 1;
        palette = 1;
    }
    break;

case '2':
    blue_palette ();
    if (2 != palette) {
        redraw = 1;
        palette = 2;
    }
    break;

case '3':
    amber_palette ();
    if (3 != palette) {
        redraw = 1;
        palette = 3;
    }
    break;

```

```

case 'i':
case '+':
    max_iter += 50;
    if (max_iter > PALETTE_SIZE)
        max_iter = PALETTE_SIZE;
    flag = redraw = 1;
    purple_palette ();
    blue_palette ();
    amber_palette ();
    break;

case 'd':
case '-':
    max_iter -= 50;
    if (max_iter < 50)
        max_iter = 50;
    flag = redraw = 1;
    purple_palette ();
    blue_palette ();
    amber_palette ();
    break;

case KEY_LEFT:
    xm -= (xmax - xmin) / 20;
    redraw = 1;
    break;

case KEY_RIGHT:
    xm += (xmax - xmin) / 20;
    redraw = 1;
    break;

case KEY_UP:
    ym -= (ymax - ymin) / 20;
    redraw = 1;
    break;

case KEY_DOWN:
    ym += (ymax - ymin) / 20;
    redraw = 1;
    break;

default:
    redraw = 0;
}

} // while

closegraph ();
return 0;

} // main(void) ()

// ----- end of file mandelbrot.c

```

### SDL2\_image SDL2\_Mixer

This is optional and for users that only want to make use of SDL2 directly without graphics.h (SDL-BGI)

Ensure that you are using a compatible version of SDL-Mixer and SDL-Image and that it is the development versions (-devel-).

[https://github.com/libsdl-org/SDL\\_image](https://github.com/libsdl-org/SDL_image)

[https://github.com/libsdl-org/SDL\\_mixer](https://github.com/libsdl-org/SDL_mixer)

SDL2\_image-devel-2.6.2-mingw.zip

SDL2\_image-devel-2.6.2-mingw.zip

SDL2\_mixer-devel-2.6.2-mingw.zip

Runtime Libraries, Redistributable DLLs. To be exported with your project executable.

SDL2\_image-2.6.2-win32-x64.zip

SDL2\_mixer-2.6.2-win32-x64.zip

Copy files from “.\SDL2\_image-2.6.2\x86\_64-w64-mingw32\Include, lib, bin”

to

Include, lib, bin folders in your Dev-C++ directory.

Do the same for .\SDL2\_mixer-2.6.2\x86\_64-w64-mingw32\

Also place SDL2\_image.dll and/or SDL2\_mixer.dll in the project directory.

Add -ISDL2\_image and -ISDL2\_mixer to the project linker options as well as the previous SDL2 linker options..

[-ISDL2\_image]

[-ISDL2\_mixer]

Use the following #include:

NOTE! SDL\_Image and SDL\_Mixer do not work with #include <graphics.h>.

```
#include <SDL2/SDL.h> // ISDL2main -ISDL2
```

```
#include <SDL2/SDL_image.h> // -ISDL2_image
```

```
#include <SDL2/SDL_mixer.h> // -ISDL2_mixer
```

I don't currently have a test example for SDL\_Image or SDL\_Mixer.

**Examples:**

This is currently outside of the scope of this tutorial as it is SDL-BGI focused.

You can find some examples to get started here:

<https://github.com/aminosbh/sdl2-mixer-sample>

<https://gist.github.com/fschr/a8476f8993e5b9a60aa1c7ec4af3704b>

---

## SDL2 Linux Setup

NOTE! SDL-BGI apps will not run well under VirtualBox clients.

<https://wiki.libsdl.org/SDL2/Installation>

Please note the most recent version of SDL2 available will depend upon the Ubuntu version you are using. The following list the latest version of SDL2 available on Focal 20.04.

To install the SDL runtime library only use “**sudo apt-get install libsdl2-2.0-0**” as “sudo apt-get install libsdl2” does not find the library.

The following is the GCC build environment required to compile C/C++ source code. Running the following if already installed will check for a package update.

```
sudo apt-get install build-essential
```

 (If not already installed)

Install SDL2 development (-dev) library.

```
sudo apt-get install libsdl2-dev
```

 (This will install the below libsdl2-2.0-0 runtime as well)

Many additional dependencies will also be installed.

libsdl2-2.0-0 (SDL2 Runtime library)

The following is for the runtime library only.

```
sudo apt-get install libsdl2
```

 (sudo apt-get install libsdl2-2.0-0)

Linking: -ISDL2 ( Code::Block does not use the -l linker prefix)

Or see the setup guide for Code::Blocks setup section.

Link libraries:

~~-ISDL\_bgi~~

-ISDL2main

-ISDL2

Other linker options:

`sdl2-config --libs`

### Optional, not required.

libsdl2-image-dev

libsdl2-mixer-dev

[-ISDL2\_image]

[-ISDL2\_mixer]

#install sdl2

```
sudo apt install libsdl2-dev
```

#install sdl image - if you want to display images

```
sudo apt install libjpeg-dev libwebp-dev libtiff5-dev libsdl2-image-dev
```

```
#install sdl mixer - if you want sound
sudo apt install libmikmod-dev libfishsound1-dev libsmpeg-dev liboggz2-dev
libflac-dev libfluidsynth-dev libsdl2-mixer-dev
```

```
#install sdl true type fonts - if you want to use text
sudo apt install libfreetype6-dev libsdl2-ttf-dev
```

Use

```
`sdl2-config --cflags --libs` -ISDL2 -ISDL2_mixer -ISDL2_image -ISDL2_ttf
```

to link them, for example:

```
g++ myProgram.cpp -o myProgram `sdl2-config --cflags --libs` -ISDL2 -ISDL2_mixer -ISDL2_image -
ISDL2_ttf
```

#### Examples:

This is currently outside of the scope of this tutorial as it is SDL-BGI focused.

You can find some examples to get started here:

<https://github.com/aminosbh/sdl2-mixer-sample>

<https://gist.github.com/fschr/a8476f8993e5b9a60aa1c7ec4af3704b>

Include file path:

```
/usr/include/SDL2/SDL.h
```

```
#include <SDL2/SDL.h>
```

You can try some of the test examples provided with the SDL2 source code.

<https://github.com/libsdl-org/SDL>

Or search SDL2 example github to find many repositories containing examples for a variety of tasks.

#### Example 1 “Basic SDL Hello world”

```
//Using SDL and standard IO

// -lmingw32 -lSDL2main -lSDL2

#include <SDL2/SDL.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdbool.h>

//Screen dimension constants
const int SCREEN_WIDTH = 640;
const int SCREEN_HEIGHT = 480;

int main( int argc, char* args[] )
{
    //The window we'll be rendering to
    SDL_Window* window = NULL;
```



```

//The surface contained by the window
SDL_Surface* screenSurface = NULL;

//Initialize SDL
if( SDL_Init( SDL_INIT_VIDEO ) < 0 )
{
    printf( "SDL could not initialize! SDL_Error: %s\n", SDL_GetError() );
}
else
{
    //Create window
    window = SDL_CreateWindow( "SDL Tutorial", SDL_WINDOWPOS_UNDEFINED,
SDL_WINDOWPOS_UNDEFINED, SCREEN_WIDTH, SCREEN_HEIGHT, SDL_WINDOW_SHOWN );
    if( window == NULL )
    {
        printf( "Window could not be created! SDL_Error: %s\n", SDL_GetError()
);
    }
    else
    {
        //Get window surface
        screenSurface = SDL_GetWindowSurface( window );

        //Fill the surface white
        SDL_FillRect( screenSurface, NULL, SDL_MapRGB( screenSurface->format,
0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF ) );

        //Update the surface
        SDL_UpdateWindowSurface( window );

        //Hack to get window to stay up
        SDL_Event e;
        bool quit = false;
        while( quit == false )
        {
            while( SDL_PollEvent( &e ) )
            {
                if( e.type == SDL_QUIT ) quit = true;
            }
        }

        //Destroy window
        SDL_DestroyWindow( window );

        //Quit SDL subsystems
        SDL_Quit();

        return 0;
    }
}

```

## SDL-BGI setup

<https://sdl-bgi.sourceforge.io/>

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/sdl-bgi/>

Use your web browser and download the following package.

[https://sourceforge.net/projects/sdl-bgi/files/sdl\\_bgi\\_3.0.0-1\\_amd64.deb](https://sourceforge.net/projects/sdl-bgi/files/sdl_bgi_3.0.0-1_amd64.deb)

Use the package install manager.

Double click in Lubuntu will use the Discover package manager by default.

Or right click on the file and choose a package manager for the install. QAppt, Discover.

Install using the terminal:

Navigate to the download location (or place the full file path in front of the package /home/user1/Downloads/sdl\_bgi\_3.0.0-1\_amd64.deb ). Run the following dpkg command to install the .deb package.

```
sudo dpkg -i sdl_bgi_3.0.0-1_amd64.deb
```

```
sudo apt-get install -f (Attempt to fix any missing dependencies)
```

Installed path: /usr/include/SDL2/SDL\_bgi.h

```
#include <SDL2/SDL_bgi.h>
```

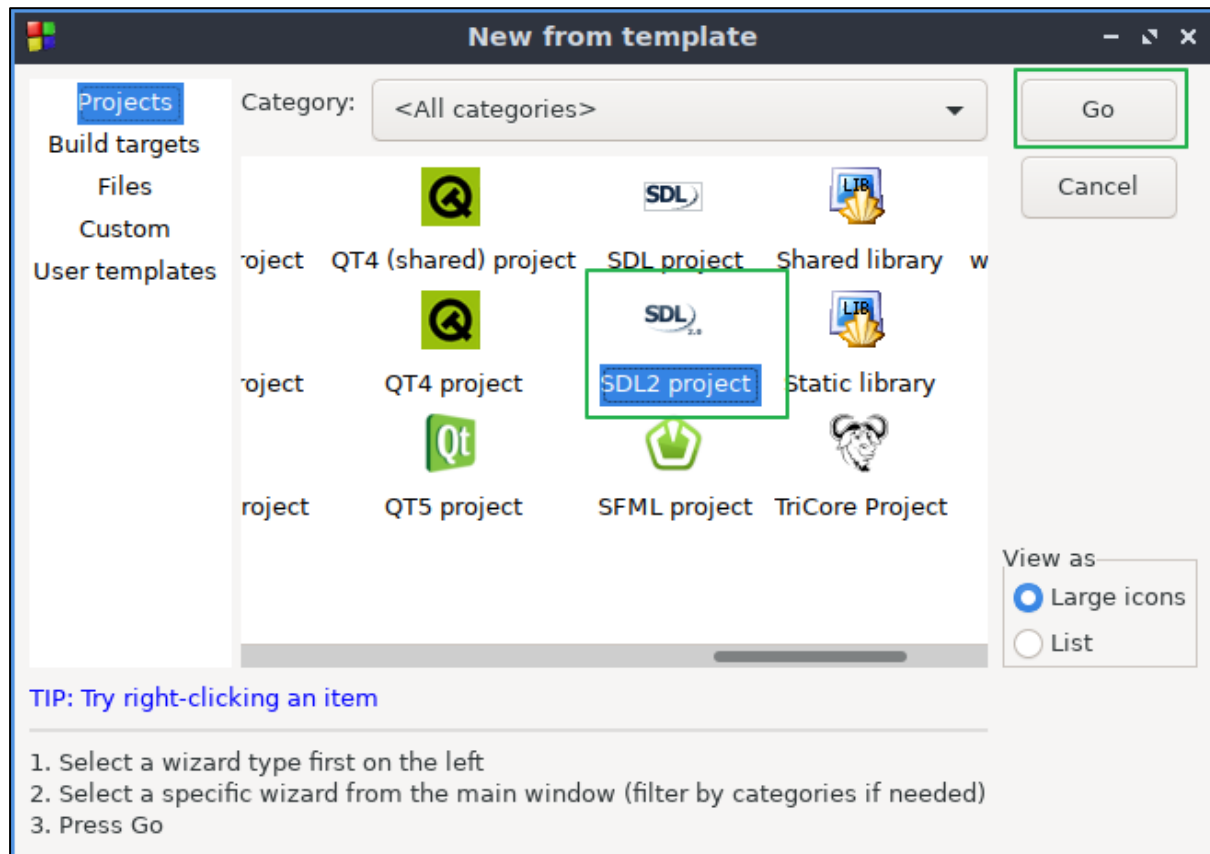
See the Code::Block setup section for how to set up an SDL2 and SDL-BGI project.

## Code::Blocks setup

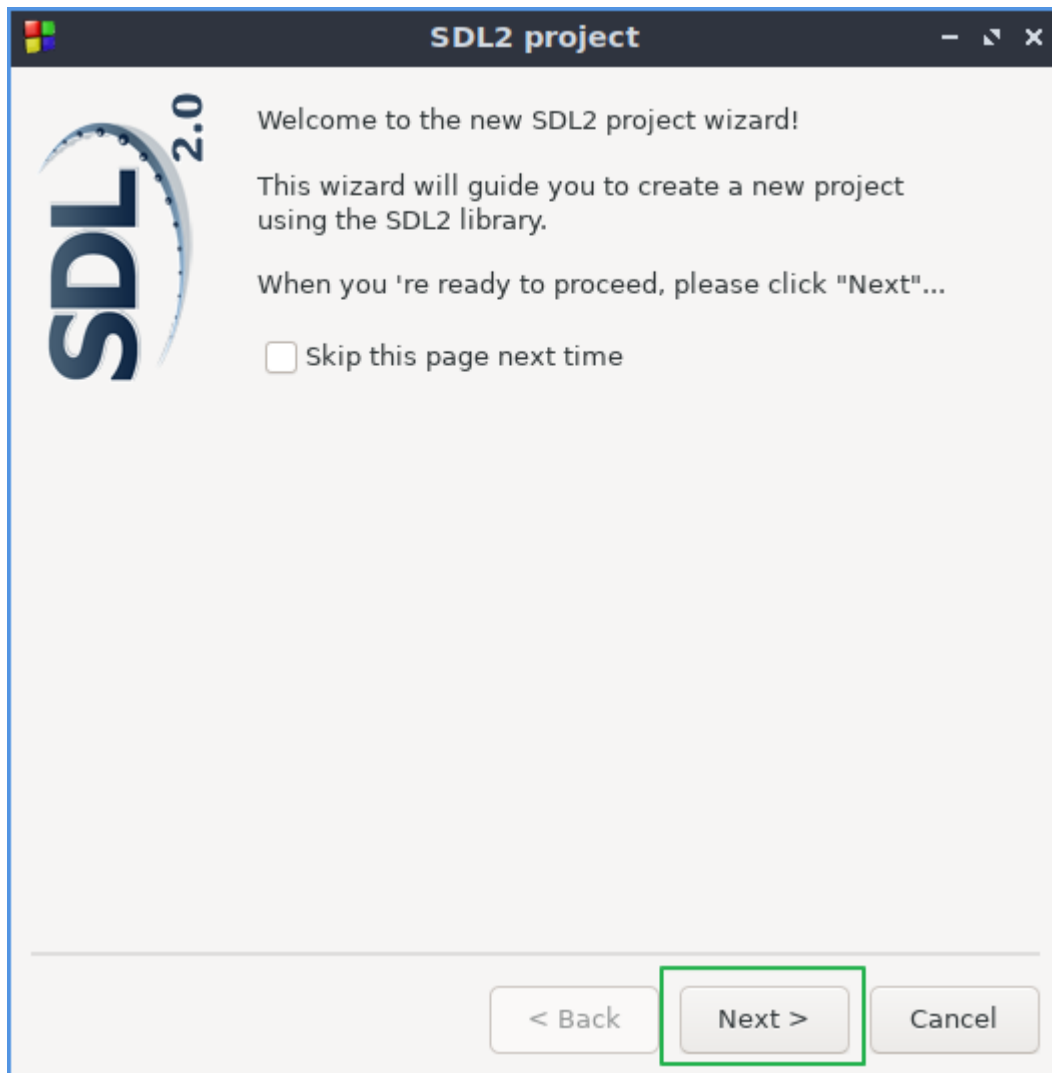
Start CodeBlocks and then click on Create a new project.

Select SDL2 project and Go.

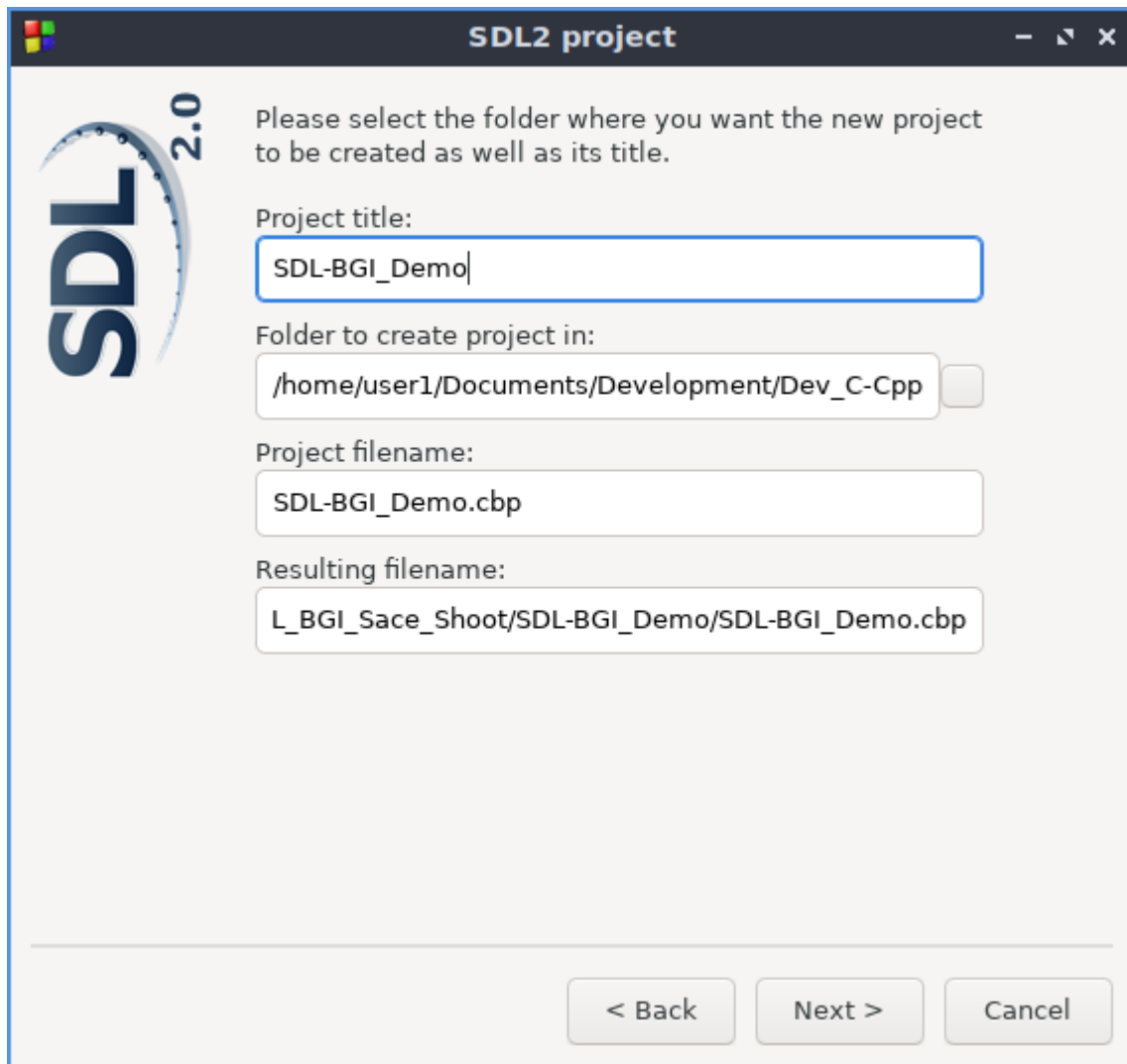
Note! It is possible to start a blank project and manually fill in the SDL2 and SDL-BGI options.



Click next on the SDL2 project wizard screen.



Fill out the project name and path details.



The image shows a window titled "SDL2 project" with a standard Windows-style title bar (minimize, maximize, close buttons). On the left side of the window is the SDL 2.0 logo. The main area contains the following text and input fields:

Please select the folder where you want the new project to be created as well as its title.

Project title:

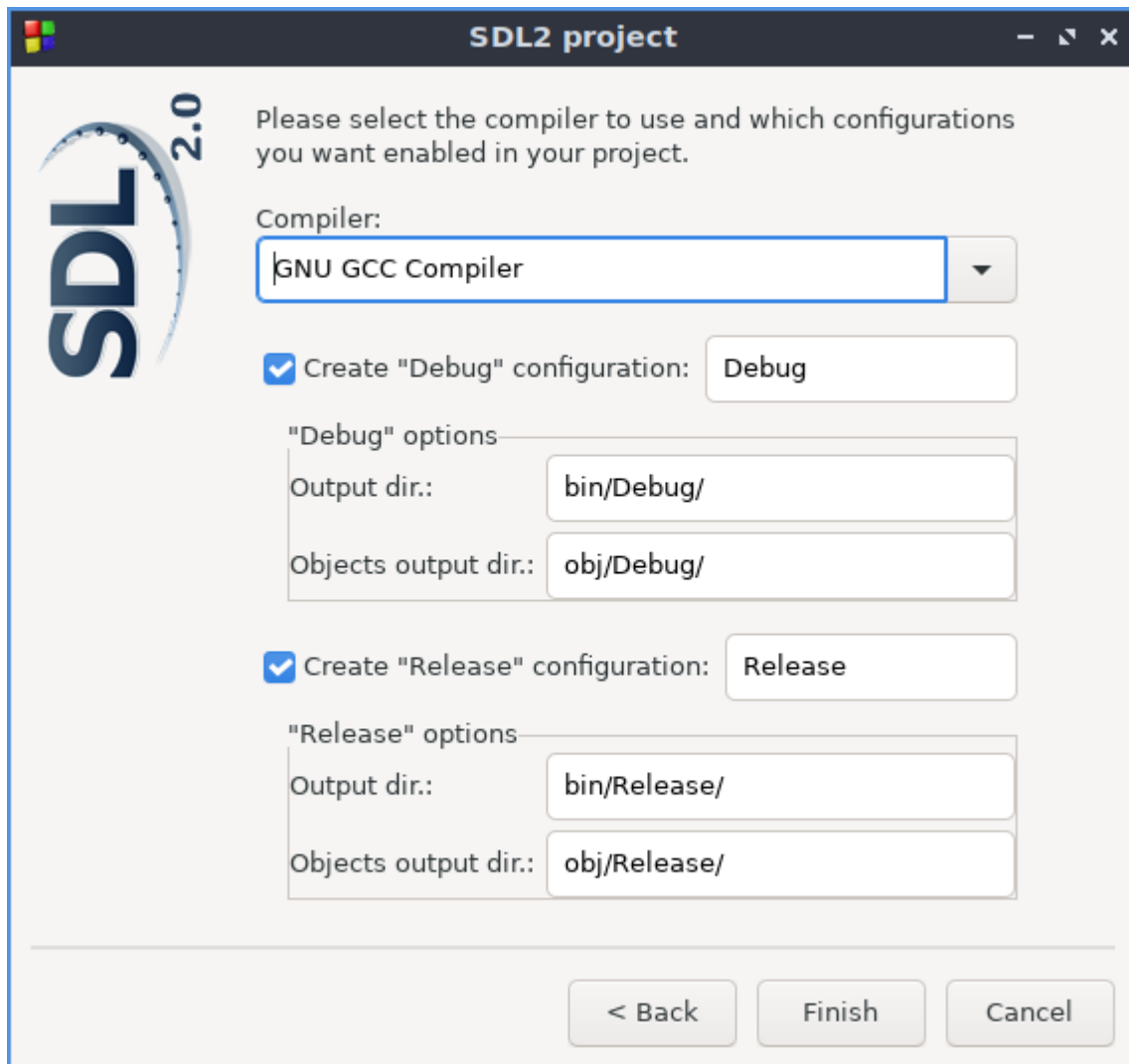
Folder to create project in:

Project filename:

Resulting filename:

At the bottom right, there are three buttons: "< Back", "Next >", and "Cancel".

Continue with the default compiler output options.

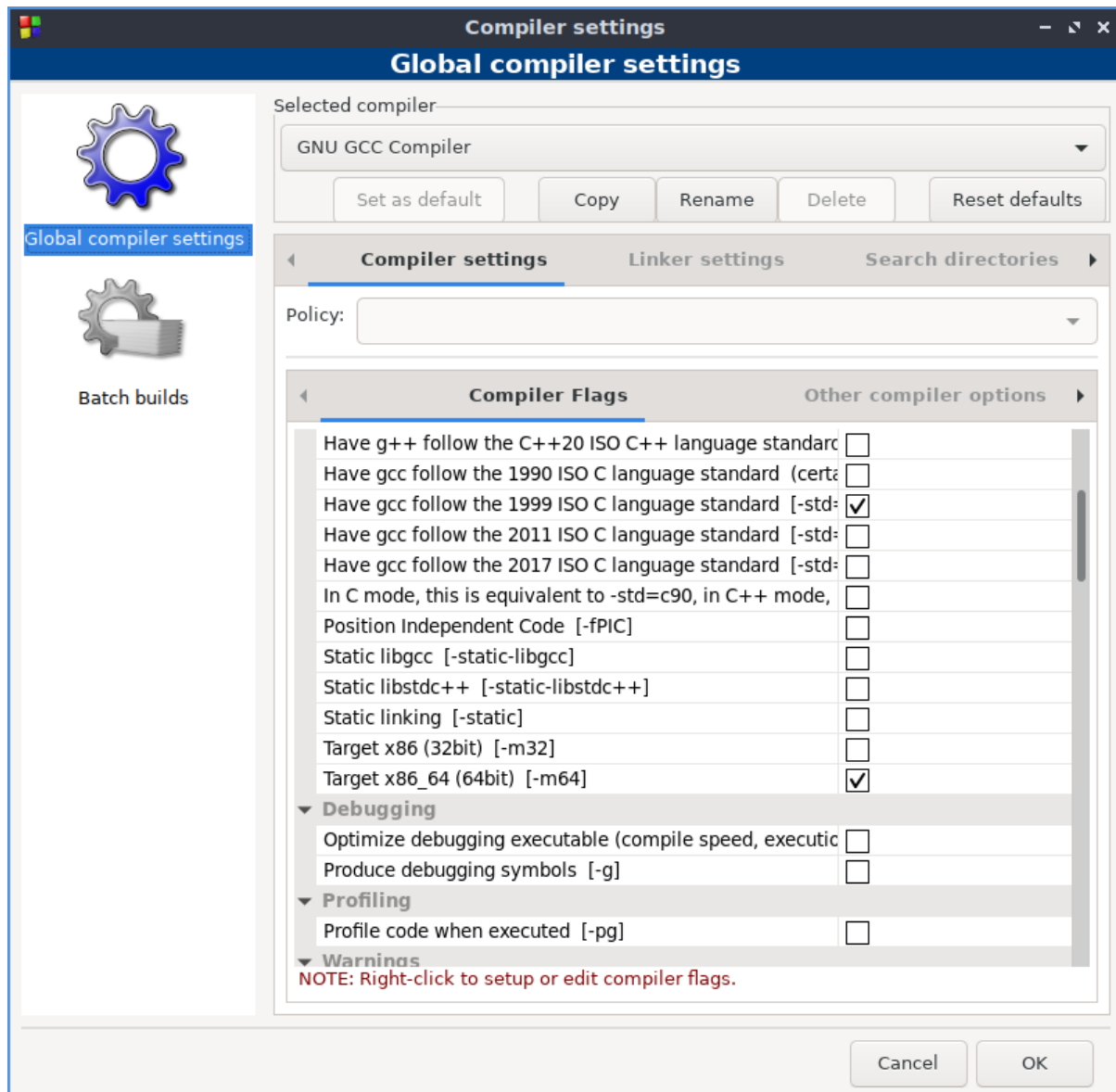


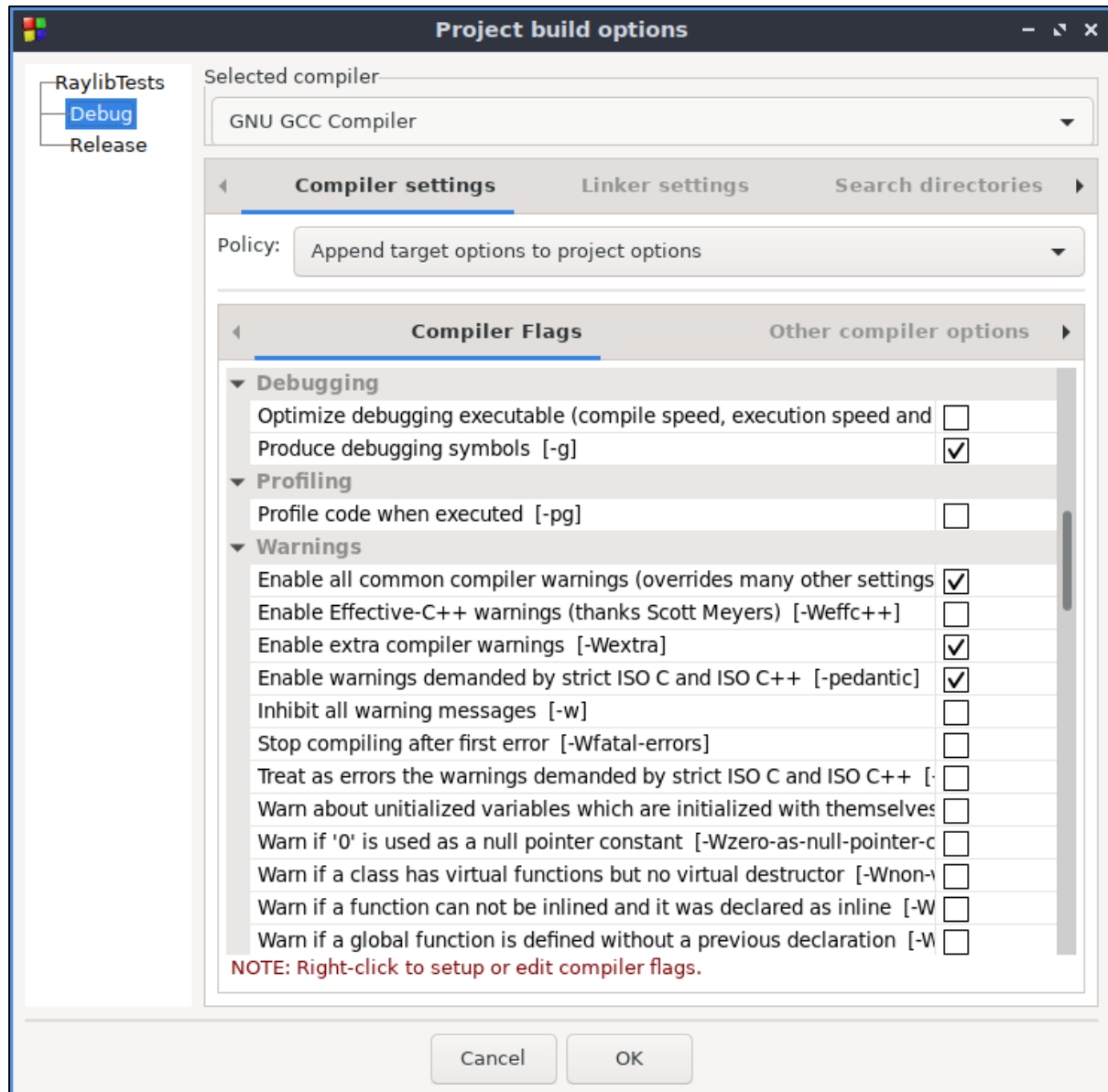
Select Build and Run to test the default SDL2 install. If the colour screen comes up then all is good :)

Manual settings check plus SDL-BGI.

From the menu select "Settings" -> "Compiler..."

Check the following **Global settings** for C99 and x64 bit compile.





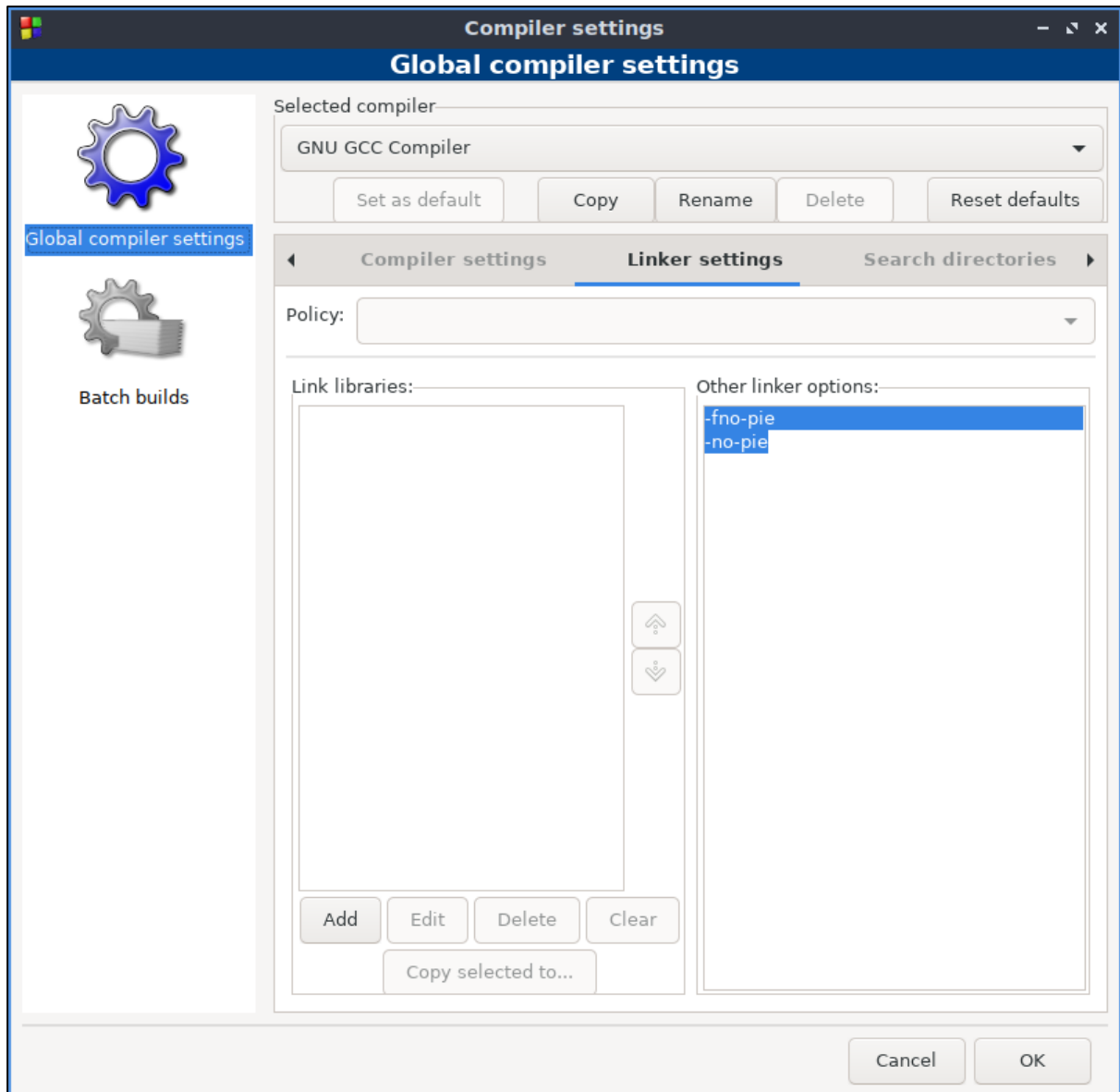
Select the “Linker setting” Tab and check that “Other linker options” contains the following 2 lines.

-fno-pie

-no-pie

Write each setting in line by line. This will create an executable ELF file.





**CORRECT THESE SETTINGS INFO!!!**

Next open "Project" -> "Build Options..."

Make sure to select the Global project option on the top left.

Select the "Linker setting" Tab and add the following to "Link libraries:"

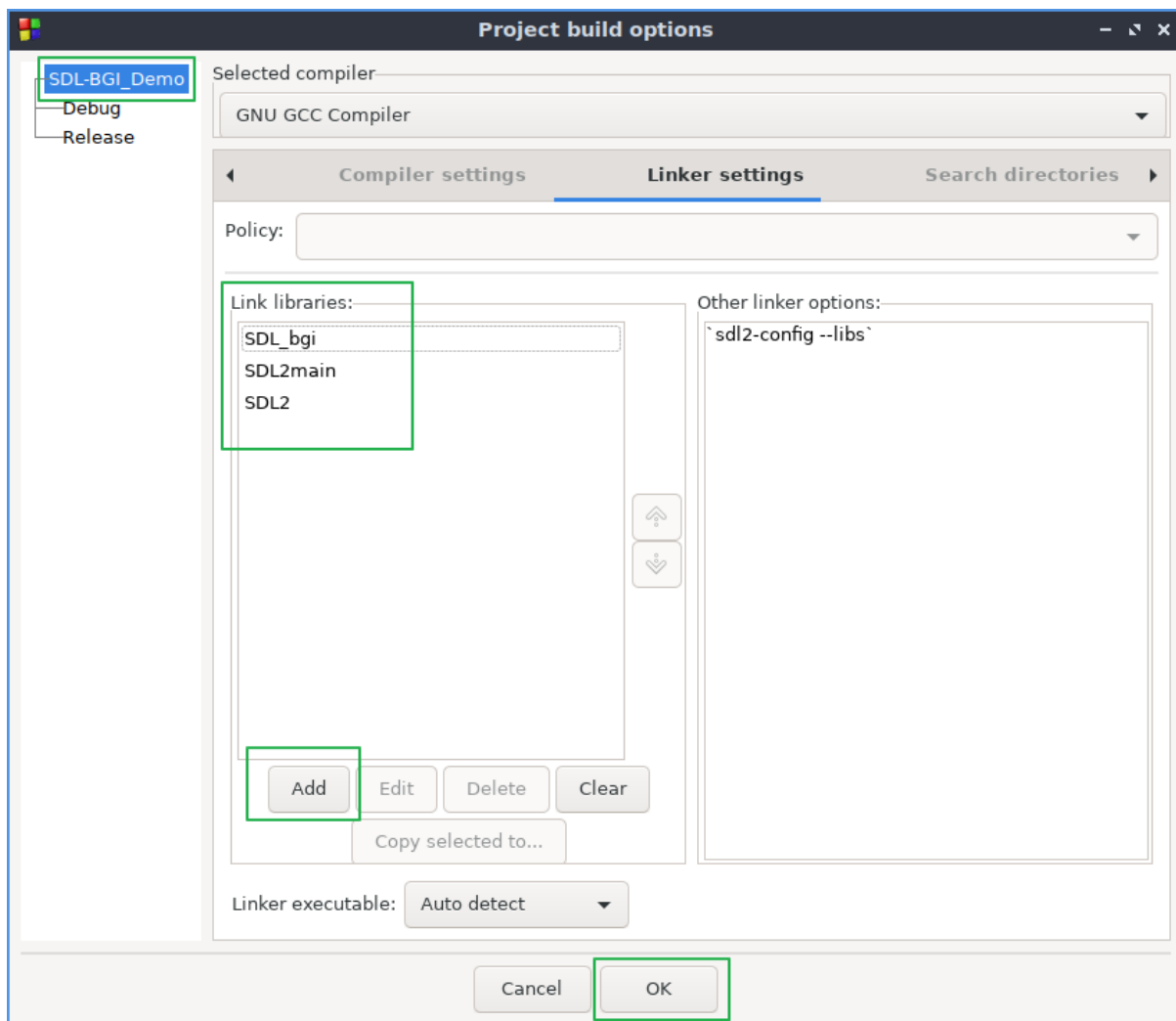
SDL\_bgi

SDL2main

SDL2

Under "Other linker options" add the following line.

`SDL2-config --libs`



You can click [OK] to save and close the panel.

At this point the Code::Blocks project should be set up and you can compile a basic example.

Remove the default main.cpp (SDL2 example) file from the project, and replace it with new empty file and save it as main.c

Add a test example to the new page to test SDL-BGI with.

#### Example: "SDL\_bgi-3.0.0\test\arc.c"

```
/* arc example */
/* SDL_bgi-3.0.0\test\arc.c */

#include <graphics.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    /* request autodetection */
    int gdriver = DETECT, gmode;
    int midx, midy;
    int stangle = 45, endangle = 135;
```

```

int radius = 100;

/* initialize graphics and local variables */
initgraph(&gdriver, &gmode, "C:\\TC\\BGI");

midx = getmaxx() / 2;
midy = getmaxy() / 2;
setcolor(getmaxcolor());

/* draw arc */
arc(midx, midy, stangle, endangle, radius);

/* clean up */
getch();
closegraph();
return 0;
}

```

Demo examples can be found in the source code directory under:

SDL\_bgi-3.0.0-win\SDL\_bgi-3.0.0\demo

SDL\_bgi-3.0.0-win\SDL\_bgi-3.0.0\test

Some of the demo files may not work as expected and will need slight modification. Many of the examples are targeted toward windows or DOS under the Borland turbo C. You will need to check what function is being called from the missing header and use a header and function that is equivalent under Linux. Sometimes it is only required to remove a header from the example to get the correct function. For example in the following the `#include <conio.h>` is not required for the `getch();` function as it is already declared in `graphics.h`.

**Example: "SDL\_bgi-3.0.0\test\pieslice.c"**

```

/* pieslice example */
/* SDL_bgi-3.0.0\test\pieslice.c */

#include <graphics.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h> // Comment this line out!

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    /* request autodetection */
    int gdriver = DETECT, gmode;
    int midx, midy;
    int stangle = 45, endangle = 135, radius = 100;

    /* initialize graphics and local variables */
    initgraph(&gdriver, &gmode, "C:\\TC\\BGI");

    midx = getmaxx() / 2;
    midy = getmaxy() / 2;

    /* set fill style and draw a pie slice */
    setfillstyle(EMPTY_FILL, getmaxcolor());
    pieslice(midx, midy, stangle, endangle, radius);
}

```

```

/* clean up */
getch();
closegraph();
return 0;
}

```

In the above example the 2 libraries:

```

#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>

```

Have not been used in the example and can also be commented out, although in most cases the 2 STD library headers will be used in any substantial code.

NOTE!

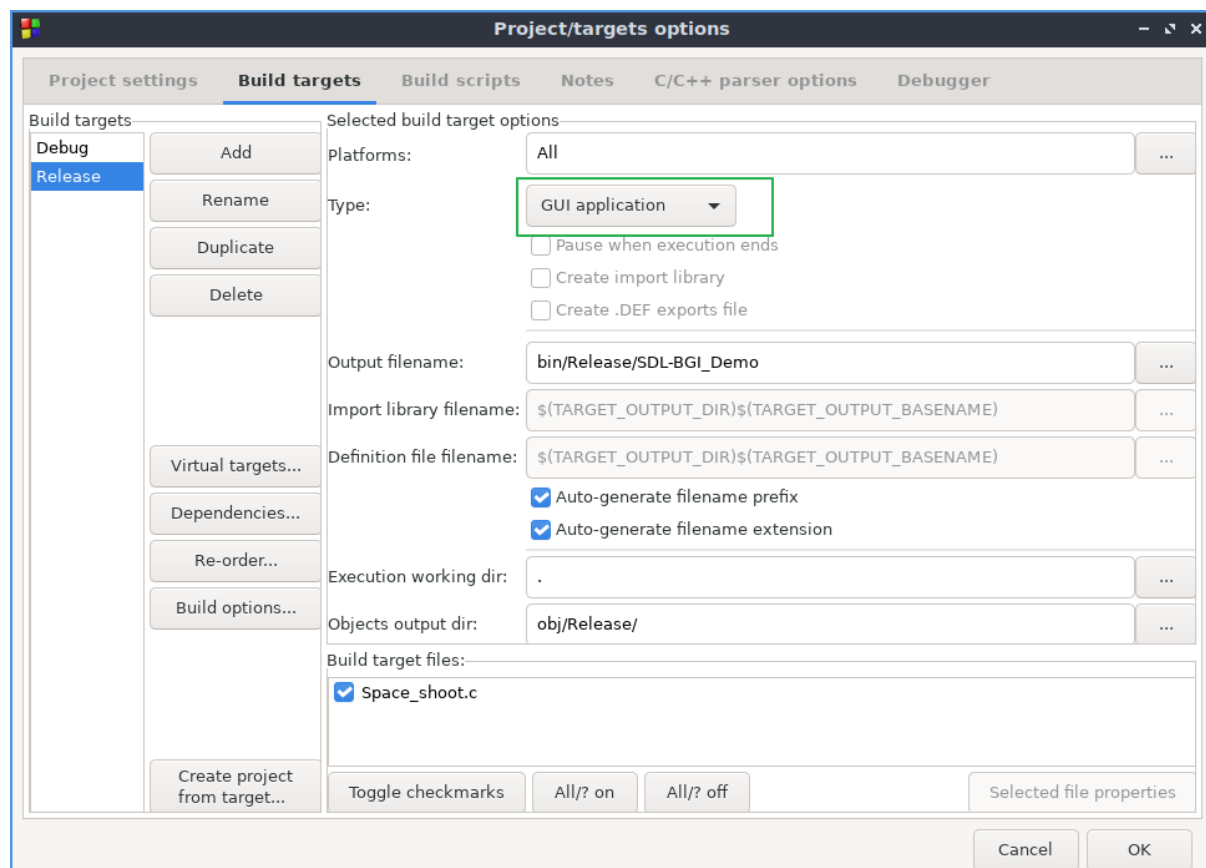
By default this is set to be run from the command console for debugging purposes.

When wanting a standalone graphical window ensure all calls to the console are removed.

Open "Project" -> Properties..."

Switch to "Build targets" tab and change "Console application" to "GUI application".

Can also use "Native application".



Also note that as a standalone application the “assets” folder will need to be in the same directory as the compiled executable.

```
/bin/Debug/SDL-BGI_Demo
```

```
/bin/Debug/assets/*.*
```

When exporting compiled applications to another Linux computer you will need to offer instructions to install the required runtime libraries to use your application (SDL2 and SDL-BGI). Alternatively you can create an installer that adds the libraries as a dependency when instating.

I am working on instructions for how to create basic application installers for Windows and Linux in another tutorial.

---