

What's New in Visual Studio:

CMake Debugger, Diagnostics Improvements, Video Games, and More

DAVID LI & MRYAM GIRMAY







Meet the Speakers



David Li

Game Developer Product Manager Visual Studio



Mryam Girmay

Productivity Product Manager Visual Studio





Agenda

- 1. Conformance & Safety
- 2. Performance

3. Productivity



Welcome to CppCon 2023!

Come by our booth and join #visual_studio channel on CppCon Discord https://aka.ms/cppcon/discord

- Meet the Microsoft C++ team
- Ask any questions
- Discuss the latest announcements



Take our survey

Win prizes

https://aka.ms/cppcon/vs

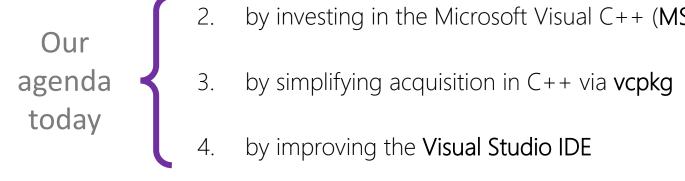






Mission of the C++ product team at Microsoft

Empower every C++ developer and their teams to achieve more



- by participating in the creation of the C++ Standards
- by investing in the Microsoft Visual C++ (MSVC) Compiler & Libraries

- by continuing to enhance the C++ experience for Visual Studio Code



Visual Studio Code





Thu 10/05 – 3:15pm

How Visual Studio Code Can Help You Develop More Efficiently in C++ Alexandra Kemper & Sinem Akinci

```
G helloworld.cpp X
                                                                               ₽> ~ ∰ II ···
1 #include <iostream>
     #include <vector>
     #include <string>
      using namespace std;
     int main()
 8
         vector<string> msg{"C++", "World", "from", "VS Code", "and the C++ extension!"};
 9
         msg.insert(msg.begin(), "Hello! ");
11
         for (const string &word : msg)
12
13
            cout << word << " ";
14
 15
         cout << endl;
 16
```

https://aka.ms/cpp/

#1 most used code editor

[StackOverflow Developer Surveys]

<u>Free</u>, open-source code editor Runs on Windows, macOS, and Linux C++ IntelliSense, debug & code browsing CMake, vcpkg and git integrations SSH/container/WSL remote experiences

and much, much more...





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3. Productivity

At CppCon last year



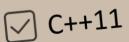




Visual Studio



* with /permissive-





with /std:c++latest

ESS Feature complete

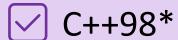
- C++23
 - Deducing this (compiler support)
 - <stacktrace>
 - std::expected
 - Many ranges features

◆ Coming next for C++23

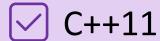
- Standard library modules
- Deducing this (modules) support)
- Coroutines
- std::ranges::to







* with /permissive-





with /std:c++latest

ESS Feature complete

- C++23
 - Standard library modules
 - std::print
 - Ranges:
 - to
 - zip and enumerate
 - cartesian_product
- Coming next for C++23
 - Deducing this (modules support)
 - 9 remaining C++ STL features



In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.6,

C++20 for C++/CLI

- Use /std:c++20 in your C++/CLI projects.
- Most C++20 features are supported except for support for module import under /clr.

Visit https://aka.ms/cpp20-cppcli for more details



In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.8 Preview 2,

C11 Threads Support

- Implementation of the optional C11 threading library.
- Includes:
 - Mutexes
 - Condition variables
 - Thread-specific storage

Visit https://aka.ms/c11-threads for more details



Static Analysis

- 10+ new checks:
 - High-confidence lifetime checks.
 - Date calculations not considering leap years.
 - Evaluation order related problems.
 - And more...
- Added "Key Events" to more analyses to provide reasoning behind warnings.
- Performance improvements (up to 20%) and significantly decreased memory usage.





In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.7,

Address Sanitizer continue_on_error Mode Now Available

- A new "checked build" for C and C++
- Diagnoses and reports hidden memory safety errors, with zero false positives, as your app runs
- Does not stop on first error: you can run your entire test suite collecting all memory safety issues.
- Enable developers to implement a simple new gate for shipping C++ on Windows.

Visit https://aka.ms/asan-coe for more details





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In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.4,

Native ARM64 Toolchain

- Develop for ARM64 on ARM64 with no emulation
- Includes ARM64 versions of Ninja and CMake
- Available with the C++ Desktop and Game Development Workloads

Visit https://aka.ms/ARM64-native for more details



In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.7,

New MSVC Backend Optimizations

- Host of new backend improvements
- Both machine-independent and ARM64-specific
- ARM64 improvements cover both scalar and vector (NEON) instructions

Visit https://aka.ms/cpp/back-mi and https://aka.ms/cpp/back-arm64 for more details



```
void absolute_difference(
           int * __restrict a, int * __restrict b,
           int * __restrict c, int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        a[i] = (b[i] - c[i]) > 0
             ? (b[i] - c[i])
             : (c[i] - b[i]);
```

```
; Before
```

```
Microsoft
```

```
xmm0, XMMWORD PTR
movdqu
[r11+rax]
add
          ecx, 4
         xmm1, XMMWORD PTR [rax]
movdqu
         rax, QWORD PTR [rax+16]
lea
movdqa
         xmm3, xmm0
psubd
         xmm3, xmm1
psubd
         xmm1, xmm0
         xmm2, xmm3
movdqa
pcmpgtd
         xmm2, xmm4
movdqa
         xmm0, xmm2
andps
         xmm2, xmm3
andnps
         xmm0, xmm1
orps
         xmm0, xmm2
          XMMWORD PTR [r10+rax-16],
movdqu
xmm0
          ecx, edx
cmp
jl
          SHORT $LL4@s32_1
```



; Before

```
xmm0, XMMWORD PTR
movdqu
[r11+rax]
add
          ecx, 4
movdqu
          xmm1, XMMWORD PTR [rax]
                                         ; After
          rax, QWORD PTR [rax+16]
lea
movdqa
         xmm3, xmm0
                                         vmovdqu
                                                    xmm1, XMMWORD PTR [r10+rax]
psubd
         xmm3, xmm1
                                         vpsubd
                                                    xmm1, xmm1, XMMWORD PTR [rax]
psubd
         xmm1, xmm0
                                         vpabsd
                                                    xmm2, xmm1
movdqa
         xmm2, xmm3
                                         add
                                                    edx, 4
pcmpgtd
         xmm2, xmm4
                                         vmovdqu
                                                    XMMWORD PTR [rbx+rax], xmm2
movdqa
         xmm0, xmm2
                                                    rax, QWORD PTR [rax+16]
                                         lea
andps
          xmm2, xmm3
                                                    edx, ecx
                                         cmp
andnps
         xmm0, xmm1
                                         jl
                                                    SHORT $LL4@s32 1
          xmm0, xmm2
orps
          XMMWORD PTR [r10+rax-16],
movdqu
xmm0
          ecx, edx
\mathsf{cmp}
          SHORT $LL4@s32_1
jl
```



```
bool did_meow();
bool did_not_meow() {
    return !did_meow();
}
```



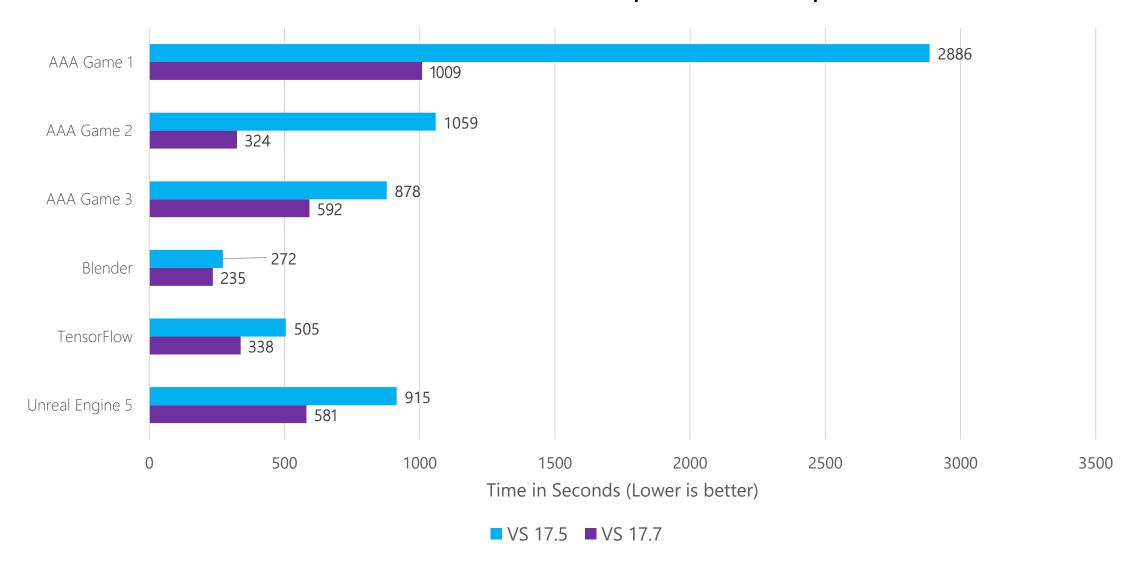
```
; Before
```



```
; Before
                             ; After
bl
             ?did_meow
                                           ?did_meow
                             bl
uxtb
             w8,w0
                                          w8,w0,#1
                             eor
             w8,#0
cmp
                             uxtb
                                          w0,w8
cseteq
             WO
                             ldr
                                          lr,[sp],#0x10
             lr,[sp],#0x10
ldr
```



MSVC LTCG Build Time Speed Up





In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.7,

Build Insights now integrated with Visual Studio 2022

• Capture .etl Trace from Visual Studio

Analyze MSBuild and CMake projects

- Discover
 - Expensive #includes
 - Visualized #include tree
 - Function Generation Time
 - Force Inlinees
- Navigate to files
- Open .etl trace with Windows Performance Analyzer

Included Files Include Tree Functions Events Diagnostics Session: 144.009 seconds Build: 143.069 seconds Filter Files File Path Time [sec, %] ▼ Parse Count Project C:\Users\davidli1\source\repos\umoria\src\headers.h 81,397 (56.9%) 200 37.067 (2 C:\Program Files (x86)\Windows Kits\10\include\10.0.22621.0\um\... Go To Source File C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\2022\Preview\VC\Tools\... 26.411 (1 Сору 26.266 (1 C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\2022\Preview\VC\Tools\... Copy as Markdown 25.870 (1 C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\2022\Preview\VC\Tools\... C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\2022\Preview\VC\Tools\... 25.562 (17.9%) 200 25.237 (17.6%) C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\2022\Preview\VC\Tools\... 200 16 365 (11 4%) C.\ Program Files\ Microsoft Visual Studio\ 2022\ Preview\ \/C\ Tools\ 200Open in WPA

Visit https://aka.ms/BuildInsightsIntegration for more details



Get to Code Faster

Getting to Code Scenarios

VS2022 17.4.12 (time in seconds)

VS2022 17.8 Preview 2

(time in seconds)

Load Solution (1st Time)

 $17.5s \longrightarrow 13.4s$

Colorize (Subsequent)

3.5s 1.8X 1.9s

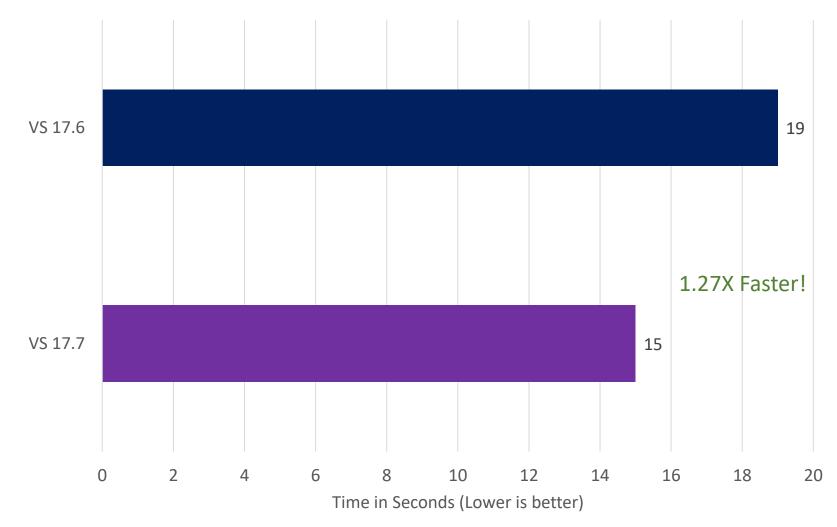
Config Switch (Subsequent)

 $13.7s \qquad \frac{1.8X}{} \qquad 7.4$





Debug Launch Performance for All Projects



Visit https://aka.ms/cpp/VSPerformance for more details



In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.5,

Improved Debug Build Performance with [[msvc::intrinsic]]

- A community-driven compiler improvement sparked by Vittorio Romeo's blog: the sad state of debug performance in C++.
- STL named casts like std::move and std::forward will be inlined at **all** optimization levels.
- Can be added to user-defined functions and function templates.

Visit https://aka.ms/msvc-intrinsic for more details





Agenda

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- 2. Performance

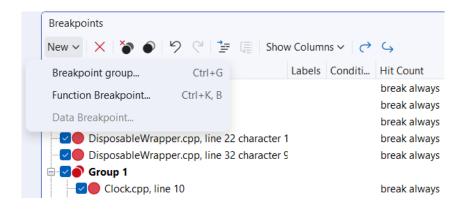
3. Productivity



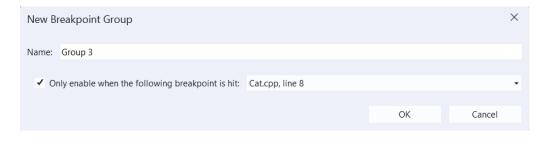
VS Debugger Improvements



Breakpoint Groups



Dependent Breakpoint Groups



.natjmc & .natstepfilter now supported within individual solutions for better collaboration

<u>Coming Soon:</u> View *Instruction Pointers* for functions in modules view.

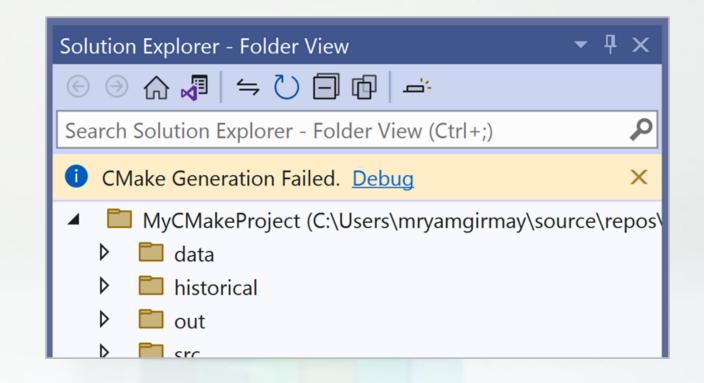
Visit https://aka.ms/BreakpointGroups for more details



In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.5,

CMake Debugger in Visual Studio

- Debug your CMake scripts and CMakeList.txt
- View call stacks of file names
- Open-source



Visit https://aka.ms/CMake-debugger for more details



Simplify C++ dependency management with vcpkg

Open-source package manager for Windows, Linux, and macOS

2200+ popular open-source libraries available for installation

- Largest open-source catalog of any package manager
- Built from source, on-demand
- Avoid diamond dependency conflicts with curated, tested catalog for x86, x64, Arm64, and UWP targets
- 50+ unique build targets available by default, including support for Windows, Linux, macOS, iOS, Android, wasm, x86, x64, ARM, and ARM64
 - Or add your own custom targets







vcpkg for professional C++ development

Manifests

Express your dependencies declaratively and lock them down in your source control system.

Registries

Create your own private library catalogs

Asset Caching (experimental)

Continue operating your development environment even if the original source changes or disappears

12 Versioning

Choose your preferred package versions and lock them for reproducible builds

Triplets

Target over 50 different pre-determined environments or define your own custom one

Binary Caching

Share the compiled libraries you consume locally with your development team and continuous integration system

Visit https://aka.ms/vcpkqdocs for more details



In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.7,

vcpkg now shipping with Visual Studio

- Installable component for the C++ Desktop and C++ Gaming workloads.
- No need to bootstrap.
- Supports manifest mode only.



Visit https://aka.ms/vcpkg-in-box for more details

Demo

vcpkg.json CMakePresets.json CMake Debugger Problem Details Window Static Analysis Address Sanitizer (ASAN) All-In-One-Search Sticky Scroll Brace Pair Colorization Macro Expansion Spell Checker **Build Insights** #include Cleanup



Level-up C++ Productivity

Size and Alignment



#include Cleanup (Preview Feature)



Make Member Function const

Visualize Macro Expansion



Core Editor Improvements

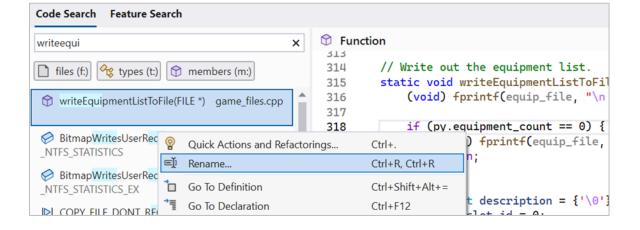


Spell Checker

Sticky Scroll & Brace Pair Colorization

All-in-One Search
Preview Code
Refactorings
Navigation

```
char divisonOperator = '/';
        Spelling: rename 'divison' to ▶
                                en-VI ▶
        Spelling: ignore 'divison'
                                en-US ▶
                                        divisionOperator
     do Disable spell checker
                                        divisorOperator
     cin -- x -- uivisonoperacor >> y;
     if (divisonOperator == '/'
                                == v &&
                                        DavisonOperator
         static uint8_t decrementStat(int16_t const
29
31
              for (auto i = 0; i > adjustment; i--) {
                    if (stat > 108) {
32
                    } else if (stat > 3) {
41
43
44
              return stat;
45
```





In Visual Studio 2022 version 17.8 Preview 3,

Structured Diagnostics

- Visualize the hierarchical structure of compiler errors
- Expand and collapse to see more/fewer details
- Achieved using the SARIF standard format for diagnostics

Problem Details C2664 'void feed(cat)': cannot convert argument 1 from 'dog' to 'cat' No user-defined-conversion operator available that can perform this conversion, or the see declaration of 'feed' MyProject.cpp (Line 18) could be 'void feed(T)' MyProject.cpp (Line 16) the associated constraints are not satisfied MyProject.cpp (Line 25) the concept 'feedable<dog>' evaluated to false MyProject.cpp (Line 15) the concept 'has_member_feed<dog>' evaluated to false MyProject.cpp (Line 7)

see declaration of 'dog' MyProject.cpp (Line 3)

see declaration of 'dog' MyProject.cpp (Line 3)

while trying to match the argument list '(dog)' MyProject.cpp (Line 25)

MyProject.cpp (Line 25)

■ the concept 'use_default_impl < dog>' evaluated to false MyProject.cpp (Line

'use default feed impl': is not a member of 'dog' MyProject.cpp (Line 1)

Demo

Structured Diagnostics



Coming Soon

#include Diagnostics

- Build and IntelliSense parse time
- Usage reference

```
45: std::vector<std::string> players = {};

1 reference | Build: Unknown, IntelliSense: 1.9s
#include <vector>

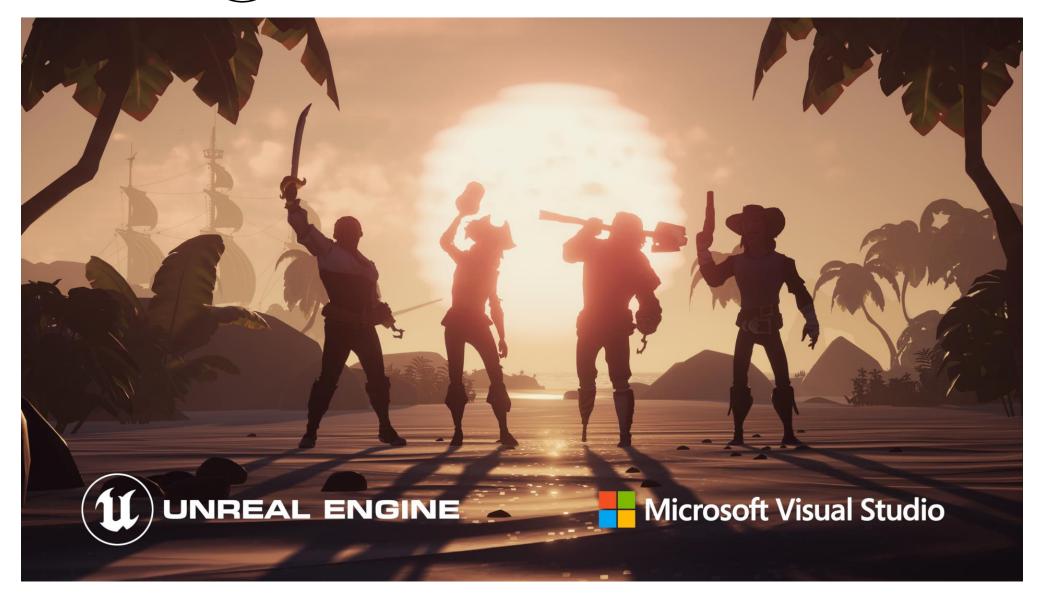
Last build time: Unknown
IntelliSense parse time: 1.9 s
Run Build Insights

1 reference | Build: Unknown, IntelliSense: 1.9s
#include <vector>
```



Unreal Engine Integrations









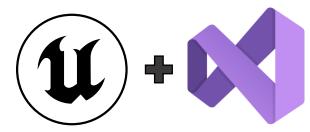
First-class Unreal Engine support

- Superior editing and debugging experience
- Simplifies code management
- Stay focused on your code
- Unreal Engine tools now ever closer to the editing experience

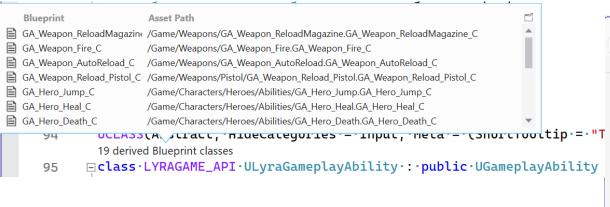


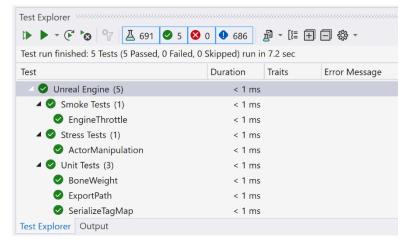
Unreal Engine Integration

Get Started: aka.ms/cpp/unreal

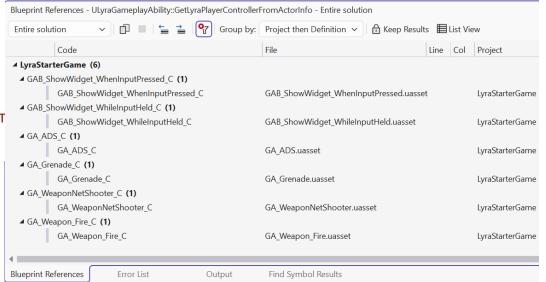


See Blueprint References





Search Blueprint References

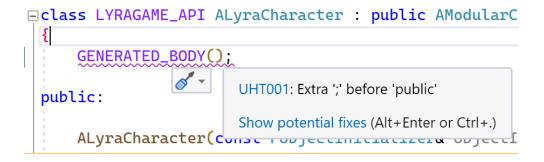


Run **UE Tests** in Visual Studio

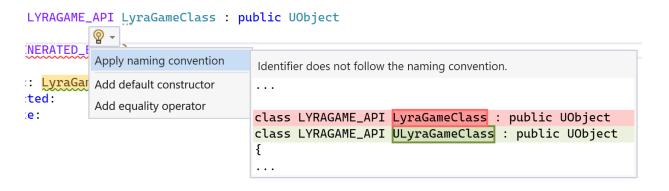


Unreal Engine Integration

Unreal Header Tool Warnings

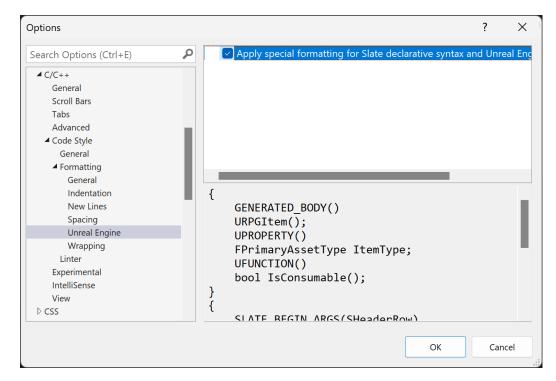


UE Naming Convention Checker



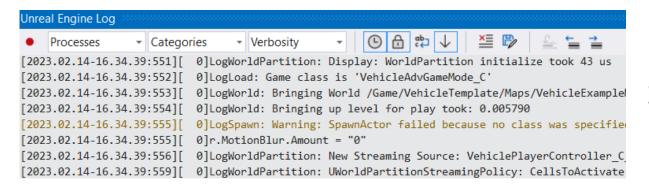


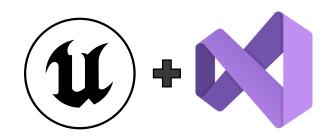
UE Macro Indentation Rules





Unreal Engine Integration





Stream UE Logs

UE Code Snippets

```
#include "UObject/UObjectBaseUtility.h"

#include UE_INLINE_GENERATED_CPP_BY_NAME(LyraCharacter)

UCLASS()

©class UMyClass : public UObject

{
    GENERATED_BODY()

public: UMyClass();
protected:
private:
};
```

Coming Soon: Macro Specifier Suggestions

```
UCLASS(abstract, EditInlineNew, deprecated, meta = (DeprecationMessage = "PawnActions have been deprecated and are no l class U | Abstract |

GEN | AdvancedClassDisplay | AutoCollapseCategories=(Category1, Category2, ...) |

fri | AutoExpandCategories=(Category1, Category2, ...) |

fri | Blueprintable | BlueprintType |

private | ClassGroup=GroupName |

/** | UPR | ClassGroup=GroupName |

Jupe | CollapseCategories |

CATED;

UPR | CollapseCategories |

UPR | CollapseCategor
```



CMake Integration

CMake is a first-class project system in Visual Studio

Familiar edit-build-debug inner-loop

- including MSVC and Clang-tidy squiggles & quick actions
- Doxygen integration

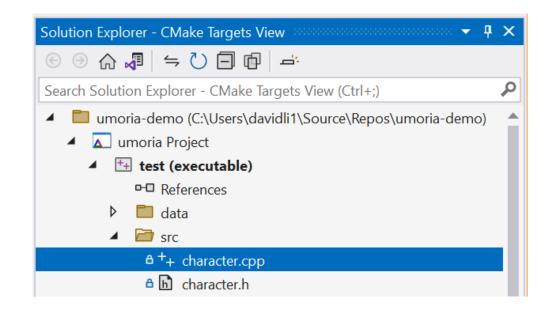
Target Windows, Linux, macOS, MinGW and more

Seamless onramp to CI with CMakePresets.json

C++ Modules support for Visual Studio generator projects

New: CMake Debugger, Target View Improvements

Visit https://aka.ms/cmakevs for more details



Linux Targeting

Target any Linux distro, including WSL-2

Interactive SSH Integrated Terminal for Linux

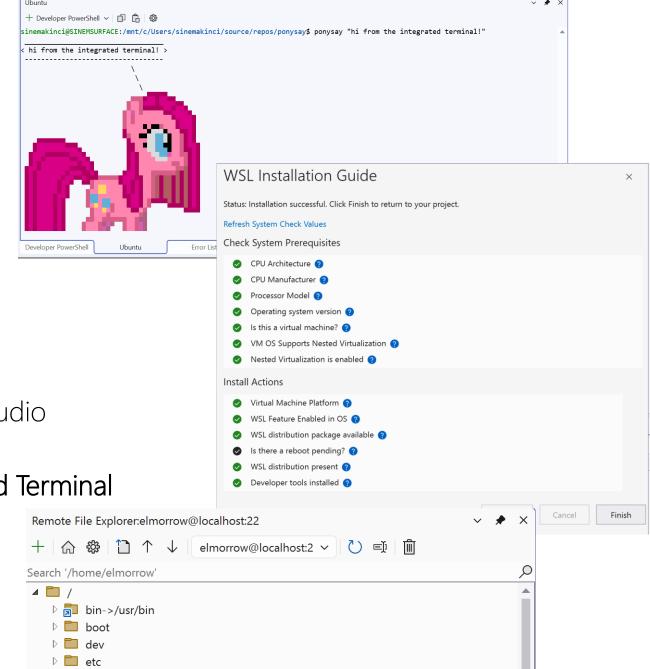
CMake Presets for Linux Targeting

New: Automatically Install WSL from Visual Studio

New: Debug Linux Console Apps in Integrated Terminal

New: Remote File Explorer for Linux

Learn more at https://aka.ms/vslinux





Embedded

- On Chip Debugging with hardware breakpoint limits
- Peripheral and RTOS object views
- Serial monitor
- Available in Visual Studio 2022
 - Add Linux and embedded workload



Linux and embedded development with C++

Create and debug applications running in a Linux environment or on an embedded device.



| ▶ CCR1: 00000 ▶ CCR2: 00000 ▶ CCR3: 00000 | out: 00000000 capt 0020 capture/compa 0000 capture/compa 0000 capture/compa 0000 capture/compa | are register 1 are register 2 are register 3 | ode register 2 (output m | 0x4000041c 0x40000434 0x40000438 0x4000043c 0x40000440 | read-write read-write | 333 334 335 336 337 338 } | if (val > 20- val = 20- RGB_LED_SET_ RGB_LED_SET_ RGB_LED_SET_ | 47; R(val G(val |
|---|--|--|---|--|-----------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| RTOS Threads | | | | | | | | |
| ID | Name | Priority | State | Run Count | Stack Ptr | Stack Start | Stack End | Sta |
| 0x20017944 | System Timer Thread | 0 | suspended | 541 | 0x20017c94 | 0x20017a04 | 0x20017e03 | 10 |
| 0x200084e4 | Azure Thread | 4 | completed | 268 | 0x2000948c | 0x20008598 | 0x20009597 | 40 |
| 0x20019a24 | WWD | 1 | suspended on semaphore | 146 | 0x2001985c | 0x200190a8 | 0x20019a1f | 24 |
| 0x20017024 | NetX IP Instance 0 | 1 | NetX IP Instance 0 suspended on event flag | 303 | 0x20009bcc | 0x20009598 | 0x20009d97 | 2 |
| 0x20015b84 | NetX DHCP Client | 3 | DHCP Client Events suspended on event flag | 32 | 0x20016a54 | 0x20015c38 | 0x20016c37 | 40 |
| 0x20000e68 | NetX SNTP Client | t 2 | suspended | 0 | 0x20001704 | 0x20000f50 | 0x2000174f | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| RTOS Threads | CodeLens C# | a Call | Stack Breakpo | oints Excep | tion Setti Co | mmand Wi I | mmediate Wi | |
| rial Monitor Open an addit onitor Mode: Stop Monitori | erial Port: | | licroelectronics STLink \ | /irtual COM Port (| (COM14) ~ ひ | Baud rate: 1152 | 200 • Line en | ding: |
| Opened t Scanning I2C | the serial port (bus | COM14 | 0x1e.0x20 | | 0x3c | | 0x5c(| x5f. |



GitHub Copilot Chat now in public beta

- Code Generation: Autocomplete new lines, comments, and functions
- Fix Exceptions: Copilot understands errors and suggest corrections
- Learning Tool: Provides you explanations to quickly understand a new code base

GitHub Copilot Chat VS Extension Required



GitHub Copilot Chat

GitHub Copilot Chat brings fully integrated AI-powered Copilot chat experiences to Visual Studio. Requires a GitHub ID which has been admit...

// Allows player to select a race -JWT
static void characterChooseRace() {

Al suggestions might be inaccurate.

Ask Copilot

What does this function do?

This function is responsible for allowing the user to choose a character race.

It begins by displaying all available races to the user through the "displayCharacterRaces()" function. Then it enters an infinite loop, which will only exit once a valid input key is received from the user.

During the loop, it gets the user input through "getKeyInput()" and calculates the corresponding race id by subtracting the ASCII code of lowercase 'a' from the input key code. If a valid race id is found, the loop breaks and the "putString" function is called to displayCharacterRaces();

Visit https://aka.ms/CopilotChatVS for more details



Make Your Voice Heard!



Completed

- C++20 support for C++/CLI
- `std::move` (and similar functions) result in poor debug performance and worse debugging experience
- C7602 does not say which constraint is unsatisfied, or why
- Add stdatomic.h support for C11
- "Sync with active document" not working in CMake Target View
- "Linux Console Window" buffer size not configurable
- Integer overflow detection
- Arm64 support for Linux and embedded development with C++

In-progress

- LeakSanitizer
- Multi-argument operator[]
- Full integration of Build Insights

Send us your suggestions: https://aka.ms/cpp/suggest





Mission of the C++ product team at Microsoft

Empower every C++ developer and their teams to achieve more

- 1. by participating in the creation of the C++ Standards
- 2. by investing in the Microsoft Visual C++ (MSVC) Compiler & Libraries
- 3. by simplifying acquisition in C++ via vcpkg
- 4. by improving the Visual Studio IDE
- 5. by continuing to enhance the C++ experience for Visual Studio Code



One Last Announcement...



IFC SDK for C++ Programs

- Open-source under Apache 2-with-LLVM-exception license
 - Builds on MSVC's implementation of the IFC Spec
 - IFC file is a persistent representation of C++ Module interface semantics
- Aims to help accelerate C++ Modules in the community and tools ecosystem
- Available on GitHub today: https://github.com/microsoft/ifc

Visit https://aka.ms/IFCSDK for more details



Enjoy the rest of the conference!

Come by our booth and join #visual_studio channel on CppCon Discord https://aka.ms/cppcon/discord

- Meet the Microsoft C++ team
- Ask any questions
- Discuss the latest announcements



Take our survey
Win prizes

https://aka.ms/cppcon/vs





Our sessions

Monday 2nd

- Lifetime Safety in C++ Gabor Horvath
- Informal Birds of a Feather for Cpp2/cppfront Herb Sutter

Tuesday 3rd

• What's New in Visual Studio – David Li & Mryam Girmay

Thursday 5th

- Cooperative C++ Evolution: Towards a Typescript for C++ Herb Sutter (Keynote)
- How Visual Studio Code Can Help You Develop More Efficiently in C++ –
 Alexandra Kemper & Sinem Akinci
- Regular, Revisited Victor Ciura

Friday 6th

Getting Started with C++ – Michael Price



Happy Coding!

Thank You