

MinGW C++ Download and Installation

Install MinGW

MinGW means **M**inimalist **G**NU for **W**indows: GNU is a source of open source programming tools (GNU stands for GNU is Not Unix).

In this handout you will download the files needed by GNU C++; in the next you will download a version of Eclipse that is already set up to use MinGW.

You may want to print these instructions before proceeding, so that you can refer to them while downloading and installing MinGW. Or, just keep this document in your browser. You should read each step completely before performing the action that it describes.

MinGW

Downloading

1. Click [MinGW](#).

The following page will appear in your browser (from the SourceForge web site).

Home / Browse / Development / Build Tools / MinGW - Minimalist GNU for Windows / Files


MinGW - Minimalist GNU for Windows











A native Windows port of the GNU Compiler Collection (GCC)

Brought to you by: cstrauss, cwilso11, earnie, keithmarshall

Summary | **Files** | Reviews | Support | News | Wiki | Mailing Lists | Tickets ▾ | Git ▾

Looking for the latest version? [Download mingw-get-setup.exe \(86.5 kB\)](#)

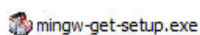
Home 

Name	Modified	Size	Downloads / Week
 MinGW	2013-10-26		
 Installer	2013-10-04		
 Other	2011-11-13		
 MSYS	2011-11-13		
README	2011-11-13	896 Bytes	301  
Totals: 5 Items		896 Bytes	301

2. Click the **Download mingw-get-setup.exe(86.5 kB)** link.

This file should start downloading in your standard download folder. This file is only 85KB so it should download very quickly.

The file should appear as



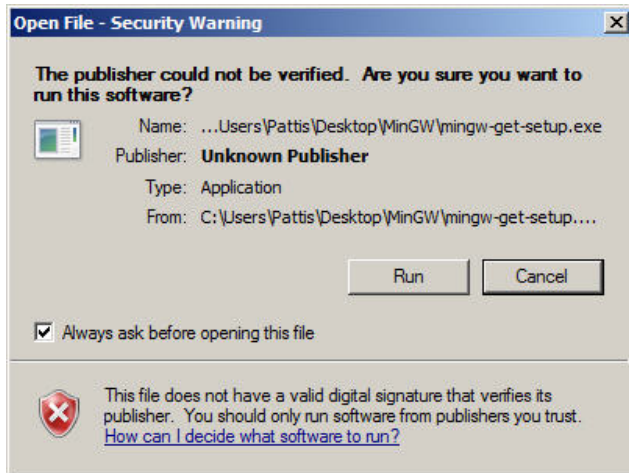
Terminate the window browsing the SourceForge web site.

3. Move this file to a more permanent location, so that you can install MinGW (and reinstall it later, if necessary).
4. Start the **Installation** instructions directly below.

Installing

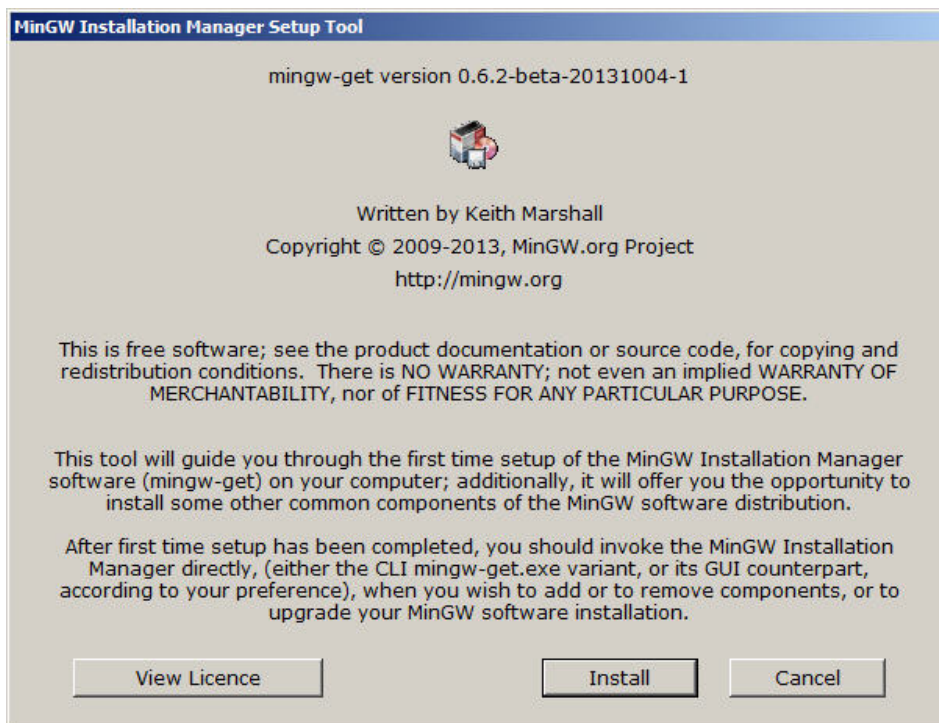
1. Double-click the  `mingw-get-setup.exe` icon.

The following pop-up window will appear.



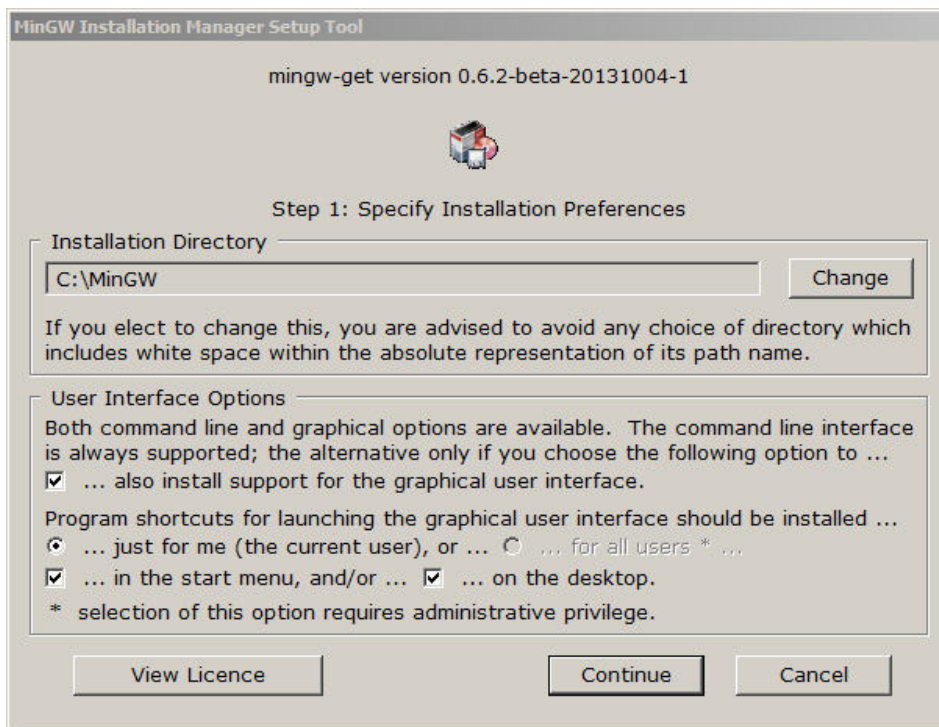
2. Click **Run**.

The following pop-up window will appear.



3. Click **Install**.

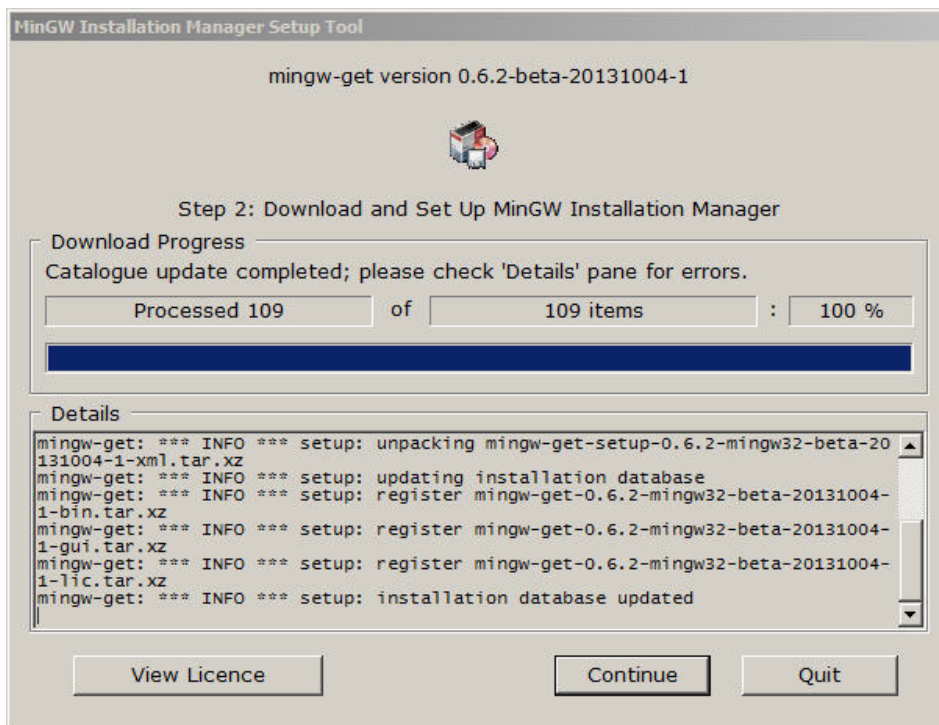
The following pop-up window will appear.



You can install this software anywhere, but I recommend installing it in the default directory: **C:\MinGW**.

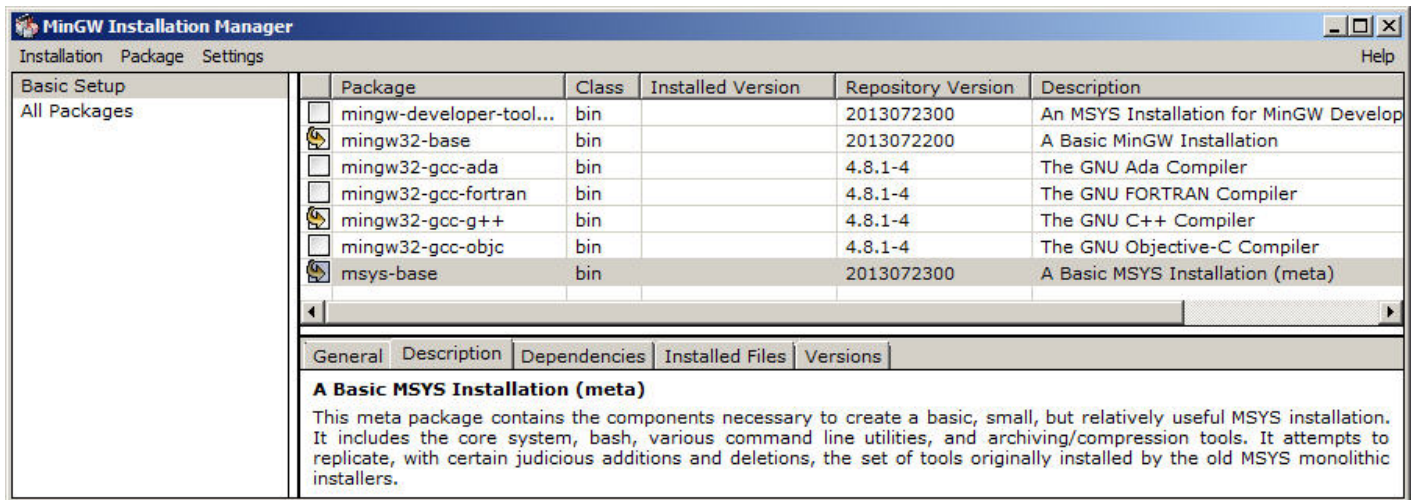
4. Click **Continue**.

The following pop-up window will appear, showing the downloading progress. After about a minute, it should appear as follows.



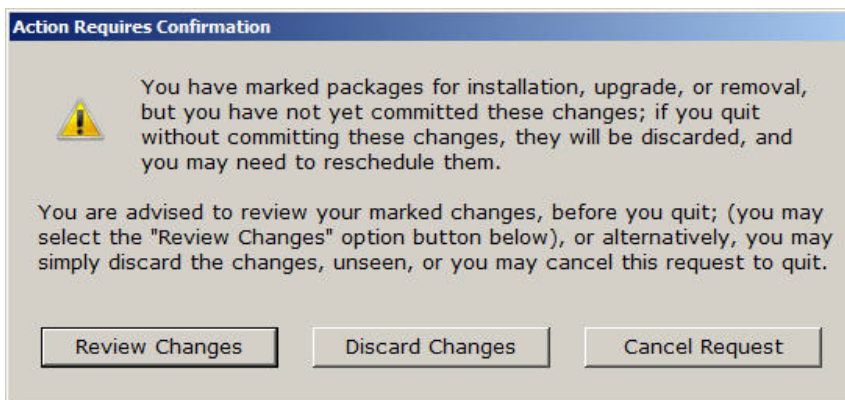
5. Click **Continue**.

The following pop-up window will appear. Ensure on the left that **Basic Setup** is highlighted. Click the three boxes indicated below: **mingw32-base**, **mingw32-gcc=g++**, **msys-base**. After clicking each, select **Mark for selection**. This window should appear as follows.



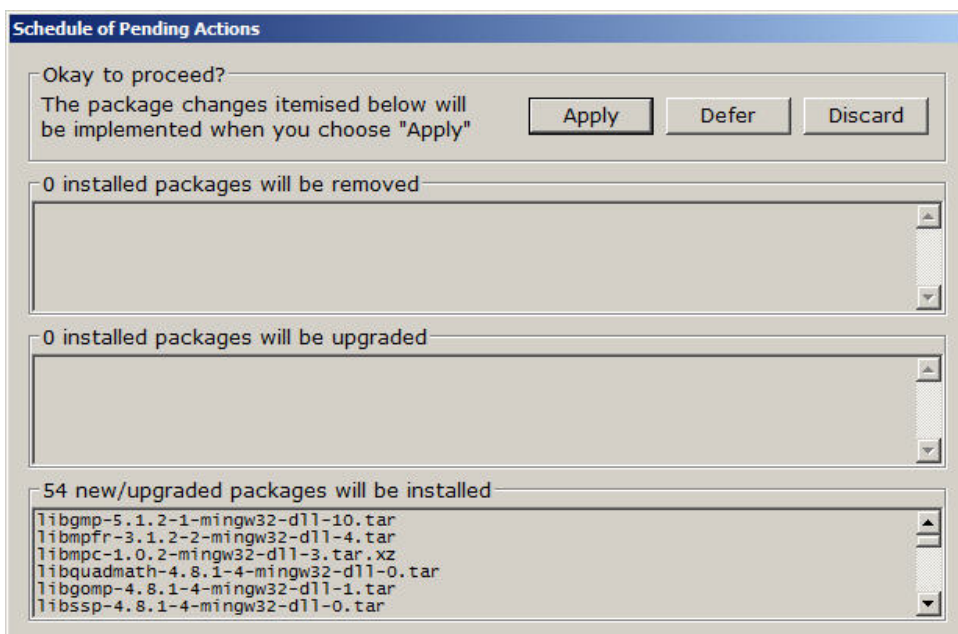
6. Terminate (click X on) the **MinGW Installation Manager** (I know this is weird).

The following pop-up window should appear



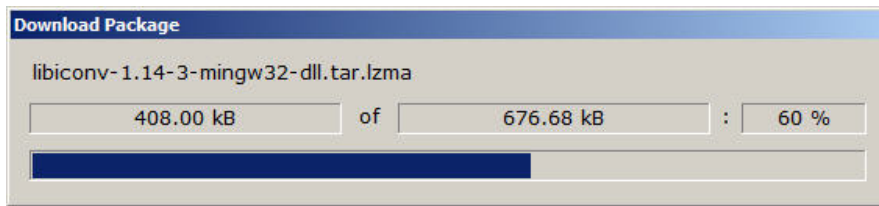
7. Click **Review Change**

The following pop-up window should appear

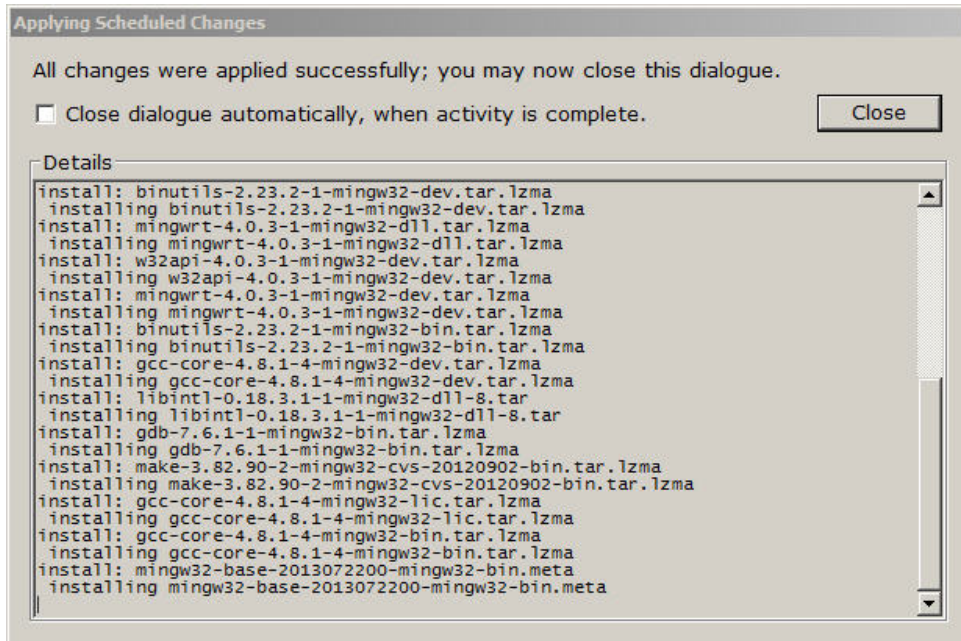


8. Click **Apply**.

The following pop-up window will appear, showing the downloading progress.



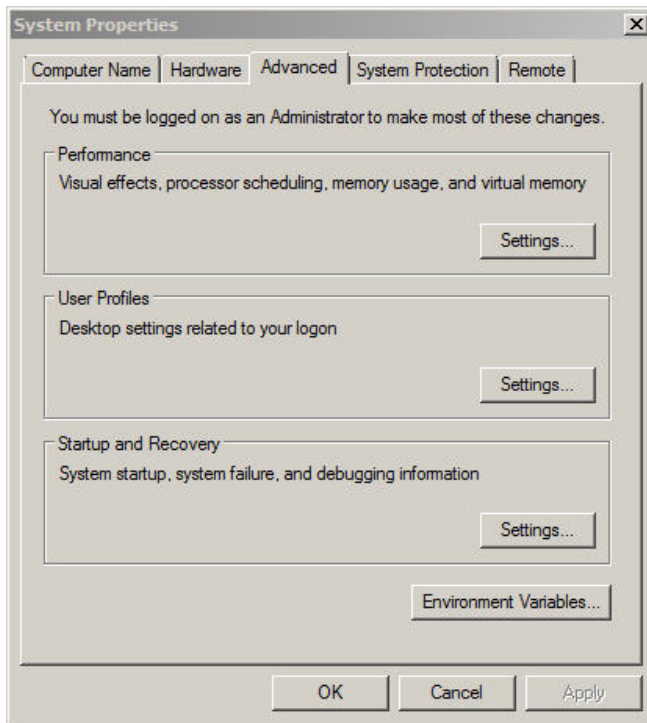
After a while (a few minutes to an hour, depending on your download speed), it should start extracting the downloaded files. A few minutes after that, the following pop-up window should appear.



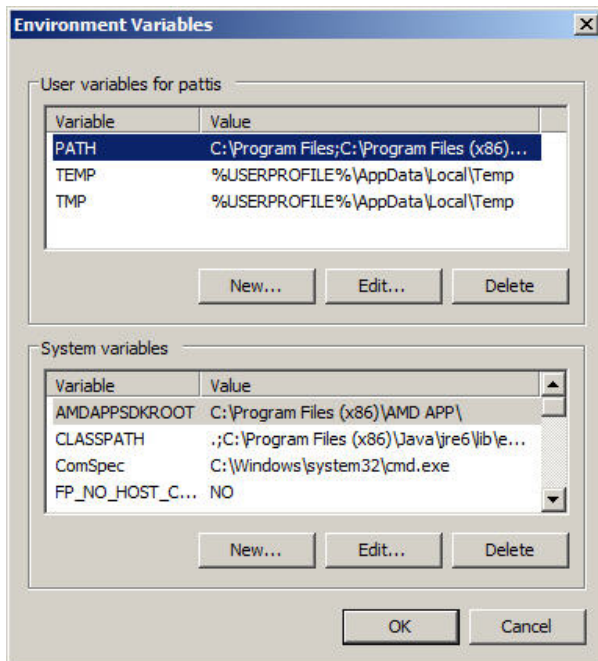
9. Click **Close**.

10. Edit Path so that the **MinGW** and **MSYSM** software is findable by Eclipse.

- Click **Start**
- Click **Control Panel**
- Click **System**
- Click **Advance system settings**; you will see

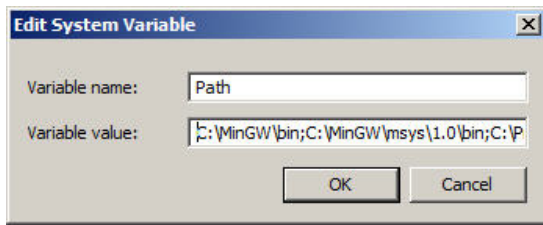


- Click **Environment Variables...**; you will see



- In the **System variables** (lower) part, scroll to line starting with **Path** and click that line.
IMPORTANT: Even though you see a highlighted PATH in the User variables (top part) look for Path (not CLASSPATH) in the lower part to change it.
- Click **Edit...**
- Copy **C:\MinGW\bin;C:\MinGW\msys\1.0\bin;** (include everything from C to ;) and then paste it at the very start of the **Variable Value** text entry.

When done it should look like



- Click **OK** (3 times)

MinGW is now installed. You are now ready to install Eclipse....But it is probaby a good idea to reboot your machine first, to ensure the new path is correct.
