# Console preferences

Use the  Console preference panel to customize the appearance of messages that appear in the **Console** view.



**Console Preference Options**

| **Option** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| **Always clear console before building** | Select this option to clear the contents of the Console view every time you perform a build. |
| **Open console when building** | Select this option to open the Console view when you perform a build. |
| **Bring console to top when building (if present)** | Select this option to make the Console view the active window when you perform a build. |
| **Limit console output (#lines)** | Specify the maximum number of lines that can display in the Console view. |
| **Display tab width** | Specify the number of spaces for a tab. |
| **Output text color** | Customize the color of text in the Console view. |
| **Information message text color** | Customize the color of information text messages in the Console view. |
| **Error message text color** | Customize the color of error messages in the Console view. |
| **Background color** | Customize the background color in the Console view. |
| **Background color for build problems** | Customize the background color of build problems in the Console view. |
| **Highlighting color for build problems** | Customize the highlighting color of build problems in the Console view. |



[Build overview](http://docs.google.com/concepts/cdt_c_build_over.htm)



[Defining Project Build settings](http://docs.google.com/tasks/cdt_t_proj_build_set.htm)

[Building projects](http://docs.google.com/tasks/cdt_o_build_task.htm)



[Views](http://docs.google.com/reference/cdt_o_views.htm)

