# Preparing the Workbench

This tutorial will get you started using the C/C++ Development Toolkit (CDT) in the Workbench.

First, you will verify that the workbench is properly configured for C/C++ development. It is assumed that:

* Your Workbench has its default settings. To reset the current perspective to its original layout, from the menu bar select **Window > Reset Perspective**.
* You are familiar with the basic Workbench features, such as [views](http://docs.google.com/concepts/cdt_c_views.htm) and [perspectives](http://docs.google.com/concepts/cdt_c_perspectives.htm).

## Setting the operation and appearance of the C/C++ Editor

1. To open the Workbench preferences, from the menu bar, select **Window > Preferences**.

1. Expand **C/C++** and select **Editor**.  
     
   Click here to see an illustration (displayed in a separate window).

1. Make any changes that you require to be comfortable editing files. For example, you might want to enable **Show line numbers** or change the **Problem indicator color** to a different shade of red. For more information about setting preferences in the editor, see [General page Preferences window](http://docs.google.com/reference/cdt_u_c_editor_gen.htm) in the reference section.

1. On the Preferences C/C++ Editor dialog, click the **Colors** tab. The **Colors** tab for the C/C++ Editor preferences dialog displays.  
     
     
   Click here to see an illustration.  
   Again, make any changes that will be useful for your working habits and click **OK**. For more information see the [Color page Preferences window](http://docs.google.com/reference/cdt_u_c_editor_color.htm) in the reference section.

1. On the **Preferences C/C++ Editor** dialog, click the **Content Assist** tab. The **Preferences C/C++ Editor** dialog's **Content Assist** tab appears.  
     
     
   Click here to see an illustration.  
     
   If you want to set an auto-activation delay or change the background for completion proposals, do so now. For more information see the [Content Assist page Preferences window](http://docs.google.com/reference/cdt_u_c_editor_con_assist.htm) in the reference section.

1. Leave the preferences by clicking **OK**.



[C/C++ Editor Preferences](http://docs.google.com/reference/cdt_o_ceditor_pref.htm)



