

cmake-generators(7)

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Introduction

A *CMake Generator* is responsible for writing the input files for a native build system. Exactly one of the [CMake Generators](#) must be selected for a build tree to determine what native build system is to be used. Optionally one of the [Extra Generators](#) may be selected as a variant of some of the [Command-Line Build Tool Generators](#) to produce project files for an auxiliary IDE.

CMake Generators are platform-specific so each may be available only on certain platforms. The `cmake(1)` command-line tool `--help` output lists available generators on the current platform. Use its `-G` option to specify the generator for a new build tree. The `cmake-gui(1)` offers interactive selection of a generator when creating a new build tree.

CMake Generators

Command-Line Build Tool Generators

These generators support command-line build tools. In order to use them, one must launch CMake from a command-line prompt whose environment is already configured for the chosen compiler and build tool.

Makefile Generators

- [Borland Makefiles](#)
- [MSYS Makefiles](#)
- [MinGW Makefiles](#)
- [NMake Makefiles](#)
- [NMake Makefiles JOM](#)
- [Unix Makefiles](#)
- [Watcom WMake](#)

Ninja Generator

- [Ninja](#)

IDE Build Tool Generators

These generators support Integrated Development Environment (IDE) project files. Since the IDEs configure their own environment one may launch CMake from any environment.

Visual Studio Generators

- [Visual Studio 6](#)
- [Visual Studio 7](#)
- [Visual Studio 7 .NET 2003](#)
- [Visual Studio 8 2005](#)
- [Visual Studio 9 2008](#)
- [Visual Studio 10 2010](#)
- [Visual Studio 11 2012](#)
- [Visual Studio 12 2013](#)
- [Visual Studio 14 2015](#)

Other Generators

- [Green Hills MULTI](#)
- [Xcode](#)

Extra Generators

Some of the [CMake Generators](#) listed in the `cmake(1)` command-line tool `--help` output may have variants that specify an extra generator for an auxiliary IDE tool. Such generator names have the form `<extra-generator> - <main-generator>`. The following extra generators are known to CMake.

- [CodeBlocks](#)
- [CodeLite](#)
- [Eclipse CDT4](#)
- [KDevelop3](#)
- [Kate](#)
- [Sublime Text 2](#)