

# How to statically link to libcurl in Qt on Windows?

Asked 5 years ago   Active 1 month ago   Viewed 1k times



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I've tried following all the guides I could find online, I'm super close but stuck. The project builds and runs. However it instantly crashes. I'm using Qt Creator 3.5.1 with Qt 5.5.1, compiler is MinGW 4.9.2 32 bit.

The cURL library I'm downloading from <http://curl.haxx.se/download.html> is the Win32 Generic Win32 7zip 7.45.0 binary SSL SSH Viktor Szakáts

I've added to the .pro file the path to the curl headers `INCLUDEPATH += C:\Lib\C\curl-7.45.0-win32-mingw\include`

Also I've right clicked on the project, clicked "Add library", chose "System Library", selected only Windows and set to link statically, and added both `libcurl.a` and `libcurl.dll.a`, which are placed in the lib directory of the compiler `C:\Qt\Tools\mingw492_32\lib`. This step added `win32: LIBS += -lcurl` and `win32: LIBS += -lcurl.dll` to the .pro file.

main.cpp:

```
#include "mainwindow.h"
#include <QApplication>
#include <curl/curl.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    CURLcode result = curl_global_init(CURL_GLOBAL_WIN32);
    QApplication a(argc, argv);
    MainWindow w;
    w.show();
    auto retVal = a.exec();
    curl_global_cleanup();
    return retVal;
}
```

What is the reason for the crash?

Note: There are no other uses of cURL in any of the code (its just a bare application).

c++ windows qt curl

edited Oct 28 '15 at 15:23

asked Oct 28 '15 at 14:57



Victor Stone

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`libcurl.dll.a` links your binary against the shared library (a DLL on Windows). Use just the `libcurl.a` if you want static linkage. – Jan Henke Oct 28 '15 at 15:01

I'm just curious here, but since Qt provides all necessary classes to perform HTTP requests, why not just use those instead and avoid the trouble altogether? – SirDarius Oct 28 '15 at 15:02

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@SirDarius Because I have a rather large application already written using cUrl which I'm just trying to wrap in a UI for Windows. I've grown quite comfortable with cUrl. – Victor Stone Oct 28 '15 at 15:07

Fair point, I do use it pretty often too. – SirDarius Oct 28 '15 at 15:11

## 1 Answer

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Download the curl for Windows (64 Bit):

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[https://curl.haxx.se/windows/dl-7.72.0\\_5/curl-7.72.0\\_5-win64-mingw.zip](https://curl.haxx.se/windows/dl-7.72.0_5/curl-7.72.0_5-win64-mingw.zip)



Or this for 32 Bit:



[https://curl.haxx.se/windows/dl-7.72.0\\_5/curl-7.72.0\\_5-win32-mingw.zip](https://curl.haxx.se/windows/dl-7.72.0_5/curl-7.72.0_5-win32-mingw.zip)

first you have to put the folders from curl into the folders from qt.

these are:

"include", "lib", "bin"

into (i use Version 5.14.2 with 64 Bit)

F:/Qt/5.14.2/mingw73\_64/lib, F:/Qt/5.14.2/mingw73\_64/include, F:/Qt/5.14.2/mingw73\_64/bin

Then go to the .pro File from your Project and add the following line:

```
LIBS += -LF:/Qt/5.14.2/mingw73_64/lib -lcurl
```

notice - you have to take your Path to your lib - directory of your QT Installation.

Now you can test with the following code:

```
...
#include <curl/curl.h>
...

size_t WriteCallback(char *contents, size_t size, size_t nmemb, void *userp)
{
    ((std::string*)userp)->append((char*)contents, size * nmemb);
    return size * nmemb;
}

...

CURL* easyhandle = curl_easy_init();
std::string readBuffer;

curl_easy_setopt(easyhandle, CURLOPT_URL, "https://example.com");
curl_easy_setopt(easyhandle, CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER, false);
curl_easy_setopt(easyhandle, CURLOPT_WRITEFUNCTION, WriteCallback);
```



...

Here you get the http response from a curl request (example.com).

[edited Oct 5 at 16:51](#)

answered Oct 5 at 16:45

[Ensai Tankado](#)**31** 4