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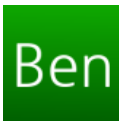
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Thread: How to install PHP-GTK on Ubuntu 12.04 / in Debian?

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15-08-2012, 15:26



Ben Stones
Forum Coordinator

Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: United Kingdom
Posts: 3,897

#1

How to install PHP-GTK on Ubuntu 12.04 / in Debian?



These instructions may work on other Linux distributions as well. And, as always, you must only make use these instructions and any advice at your own risk and responsibility. We cannot be liable for any losses or damages (like loss of data). We hope to be as helpful as possible with this howto, but we cannot guarantee the instructions will work, will be error-free or not cause any problems to your operating system. I'd recommend you make a backup before proceeding, and you should make regular backups in general anyway. For full OS backups (including all data on it), consider looking at **Clonezilla**.

Windows users can easily run PHP-GTK applications because binaries are available for Windows users - the most recent official binary available on the PHP-GTK website is, as of writing, 2.0.1. You can download an unofficial, more up-to-date Windows binary compiled by a user often contributing to the project "auroraesrose" [here](#). All you need to do is unzip and run. It's as simple as that. You can right-click on any PHP-GTK file and then execute it with the PHP executable from the unzipped folder.

Installing PHP-GTK on Ubuntu is not as easy as it should be primarily because certain packages need to be installed beforehand and a few other things - but it's relatively easy. If you know how to use a Terminal window, you'll be on your way.

There's a few things we need to install beforehand:

- subversion (for downloading the Cairo extension using svn)
- git-core (for downloading PHP-GTK using git)
- php5-dev: This is for compiling additional modules. You won't be able to install PHP-GTK without having php5-dev installed.
- libglade2-dev: See more about Glade [here](#). Note: No need to install libglade2-0, you should already have this installed on your system. Libglade2-0 is to load external .glade files into your applications. For more information about the Glade IDE, see the link above.
- pecl-cairo: Read more about Cairo [here](#).

Apart from that, we have to concatenate a few files back otherwise we'll also run into problems while trying to execute the ./buildconf and ./configure commands prior to installing PHP-GTK.

I do want to point out that on the PHP-GTK website it states the latest PHP-GTK source is available on the SVN server, but the latest source is available via git - which is why we need to have git installed so we can download the php-gtk source over git.

Common errors occurring with PHP-GTK installation.

If you simply download PHP-GTK (either the latest via SVN or downloading the source via the PHP-GTK website) without installing the necessary dependencies above, when executing ./buildconf, you'll come across this error: **configure: error: PHP-GTK 2.x requires GLib 2.6.0 or higher.**

Let's get started.

1. Install the dependencies.

Code:

```
sudo apt-get install build-essential subversion php5-cli php5-dev libgtk2.0-dev libglade2-dev git-core
```

2. Download pecl-cairo.

Code:

```
svn co http://svn.php.net/repository/pecl/cairo/trunk pecl-cairo
cd pecl-cairo
phpize
./configure
make
sudo make install
```

(What is phpize?)

The newer libtool.m4 has been split into different files. To be able to compile the PHP-GTK source prior to install (i.e. 'make' and 'sudo make install'), you'll need to concatenate these files back into the libtool.

Note: This may only apply to Ubuntu. If you have another (non-Ubuntu derivative) Linux distribution installed, or you have Ubuntu but you compiled and installed PHP yourself, try skipping step 3 below and go right ahead to compiling and installing PHP-GTK and see if it works. If not, come back and complete step 3.

3. Concatenate the files back into the libtool.

Code:

```
cd /usr/share/aclocal
sudo cp libtool.m4 libtool.m4-backup
sudo chmod 777 libtool.m4
sudo cat lt-obsolete.m4 ltoptions.m4 ltsugar.m4 ltversion.m4 >>libtool.m4
sudo chmod 644 libtool.m4
cd ~/
```

Note: "cd ~/" changes the directory back to the home directory (~/) - if you try and fetch the php-gtk source below in /usr/share/aclocal you'll be given a "Permission Denied" error.

Now let's go ahead and download PHP-GTK. Download the latest source from git (very latest is via git, not svn, unlike what the outdated PHP-GTK Downloads page says). An issue that was later rectified in PHP-GTK which would otherwise cause **error: duplicate static** to be returned when running the **make** command prior to installing PHP-GTK - hence we need to download the latest PHP-GTK source from git.

4. Download and install PHP-GTK.

Code:

```
git clone git://github.com/php/php-gtk-src.git
./buildconf
./configure
make
sudo make install
```

For your information - You can find where the PHP-GTK and Cairo extensions are installed by executing php-config and looking at the extensions_dir line.

PHP-GTK will now be installed at this point. All you have to do now is find where your php-cli php.ini configuration file is and add the extensions to the **Dynamic Extensions** section of the PHP configuration file (which is above the *Module Settings* section) so when you execute PHP-GTK applications via the Terminal the extensions can be found.

You can find where the php.ini file is by searching for it via the File Manager on your Linux distribution, just check which php.ini corresponds to the php-cli folder. It may, however, be located in /etc/php5/cli/php.ini. You can edit the file using gedit or vim, using:

Code:

```
sudo gedit /etc/php5/cli/php.ini
```

5. Add the PHP-GTK and Cairo Extension to "Dynamic Extensions".

Code:

```
extension=php_gtk2.so
extension=cairo.so
```

Once done, save the file, quit gedit or :q to exit vim (or :wq if you're in the file at the time to save the changes and quit vim). Now you can execute a PHP-GTK test application to see if everything works.

Make sure you're in the directory where the PHP-GTK source is located. This is likely in the home directory, so in this case change directory to there:

Code:

```
cd ~/php-gtk
```

6. Execute the PHP-GTK demo application.

Code:

```
php demos/phpgtk2-demo.php
```

You can also create your own test PHP-GTK application and execute it the same way - a .php extension for your PHP-GTK application will do fine.

PHP Code:

PHP CODE.

```
<?php

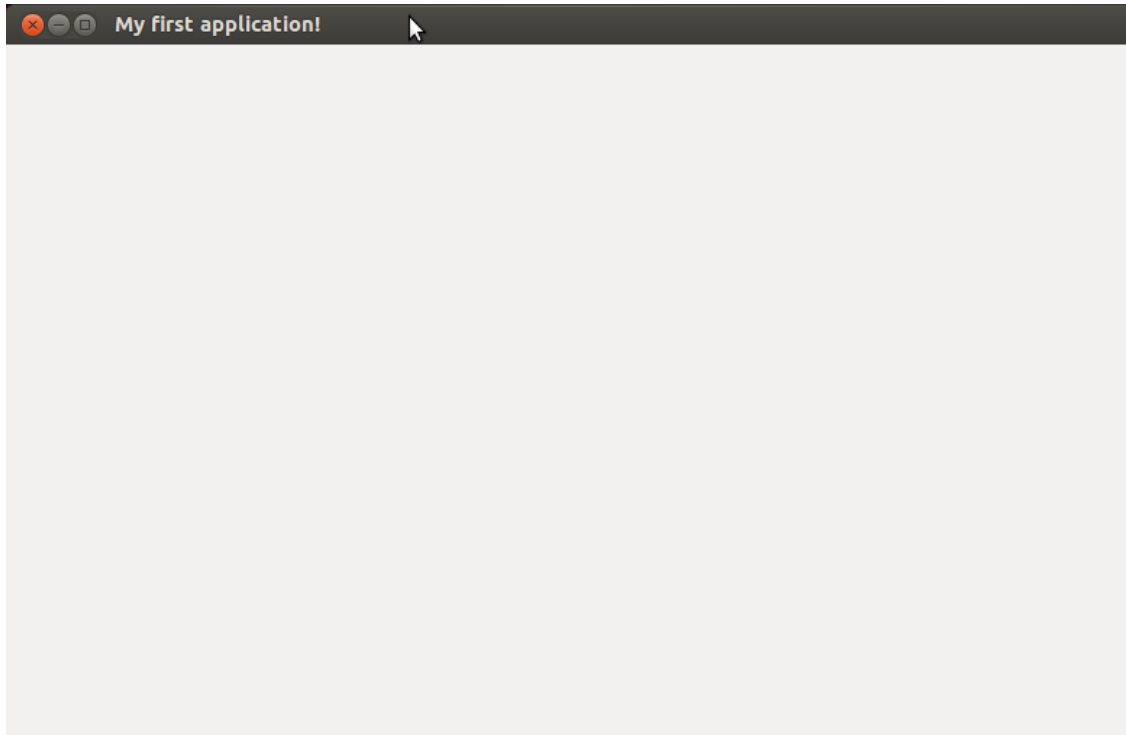
$window = new GtkWindow();
$window->set_title('My first application!');
$window->connect_simple('destroy', array('Gtk', 'main_quit'));

$window->show_all();

Gtk::main();

?>
```

In this very basic PHP-GTK application, only a simple PHP-GTK window will be displayed as shown below. The `$window->connect_simple()` method is to tell PHP-GTK we want to quit the entire application when the window is closed - because when a window is closed, the `destroy` signal is fired. The `main_quit()` method which is a part of the `Gtk` class quits the application by terminating the main loop (`Gtk::main()` being the main loop) that keeps the application active.



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17-08-2012, 22:10

#2



Ben Stones 
Forum Coordinator



Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: United Kingdom
Posts: 3,897



Anyone tried PHP-GTK? 😊 It's fantastic - if you're a Windows user you're in luck, as they have a pre-compiled binary available for Windows on the PHP-GTK website 😊.

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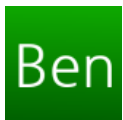
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19-08-2012, 11:15

#3



Ben Stones

Forum Coordinator

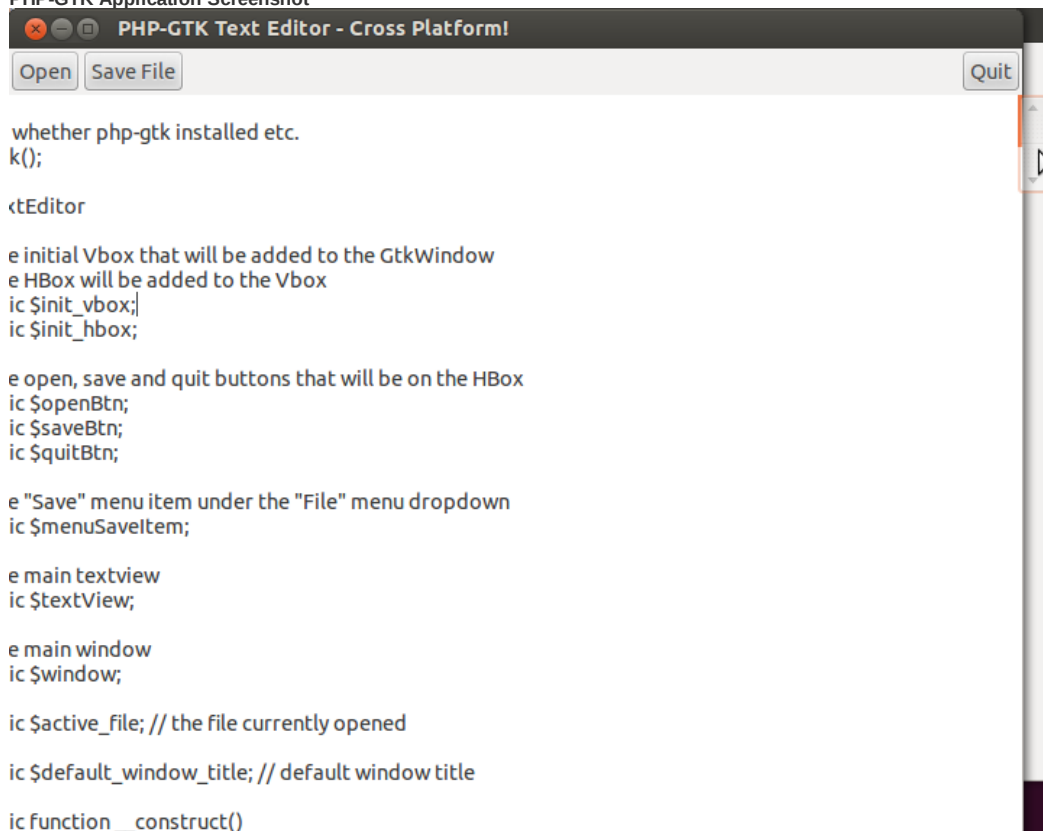


Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: United Kingdom
Posts: 3,897



Here is a sample PHP-GTK application I have been developing over the weekend. Although, of course, there's no guarantees or warranties as to the reliability, stability, security and your expectations of the PHP-GTK application below and your use of it, or any part thereof, is solely at your own risk and responsibility. I disclaim all warranties and guarantees, whether express or implied, to the maximum extent permitted under British law.

PHP-GTK Application Screenshot



PHP-GTK Code

PHP Code:

```
<?php
// check whether php-gtk installed etc.
checkGtk();

class TextEditor
{
    // the initial VBox that will be added to the GtkWindow
    // the HBox will be added to the VBox
    public $init_vbox;
    public $init_hbox;

    // the open, save and quit buttons that will be on the HBox
    public $openBtn;
    public $saveBtn;
    public $quitBtn;

    // the "Save" menu item under the "File" menu dropdown
    public $menuSaveItem;

    // the main textview
    public $textView;

    // the main window
    public $window;

    public $active_file; // the file currently opened
    public $default_window_title; // default window title

    public function __construct()
```

You could create a small script to execute the PHP-GTK application automatically. One example is by creating a file without an extension, right-clicking and from the Properties window, "Allow execution of this program". You can then double-click the script to automatically execute the PHP-GTK application with the PHP interpreter. Inside the script would have something like:

Code:

```
php Text-Editor.php
```

Pretty simple 🤪. Again, it's silly but it's necessary (as most of us have common sense) - please make use of the PHP-GTK code and application(s) above at your sole risk and responsibility. I'm a good PHP developer, but I can't guarantee it'll work perfectly without errors or cause any problems with your operating system (loss of data, for example) and so forth.

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21-08-2012, 16:00

#4



Ben Stones ◉

Forum Coordinator



Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: United Kingdom
Posts: 3,897



Here is a more up to date version of the demo PHP-GTK application above. Again, please do take note that there are no warranties or guarantees with this application and the application code. It may not work, it could crash, you could lose valuable data, etc. Again, I have coded this to a good standard but use of the application and/or the application code (or any portion thereof) is strictly at your own risk and responsibility.

PHP Code:

```
<?php
// check whether php-gtk installed etc.
checkGtk();

class TextEditor
{
    // the initial VBox that will be added to the GtkWindow
    // the HBox will be added to the VBox
    public $init_vbox;
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    public function __construct()
```



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04-09-2012, 09:14

#5

summerwinter

new member

Join Date:

Sep 2012

Posts:

1



Hi,

Just wanted to register to thank you. I have been trying to install PHP-GTK for the last two days and couldn't figure out how the heck to do it. Very well explained and detailed tutorial. Thanks! I noticed you posted a PHP-GTK tutorial **here**. Are you going to post further PHP-GTK tutorials?

It's a shame PHP-GTK is not found in the Ubuntu repositories by default but unfortunately the team need to prioritise the packaging of other things into the repository that is included on the LiveCD. Hopefully when they make the jump to DVD-only media they'll be able to include more useful packages. I don't understand why they don't do what some other Linux distributions do - some Linux distributions have both a stripped-down ISO for CDs and a more complete ISO for DVDs with the DVD media containing even more packages and software by default.

Nonetheless, good PHP-GTK installation tutorial!

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04-09-2012, 09:46

#6



Ben Stones
Forum Coordinator



Join Date: Jan 2007
Location: United Kingdom
Posts: 3,897



Originally Posted by **summerwinter**

Hi,

*Just wanted to register to thank you. I have been trying to install PHP-GTK for the last two days and couldn't figure out how the heck to do it. Very well explained and detailed tutorial. Thanks! I noticed you posted a PHP-GTK tutorial **here**. Are you going to post further PHP-GTK tutorials?*

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Nonetheless, good PHP-GTK installation tutorial!

Hi,

Thank you 🙏. You're welcome.

And I agree, I wish PHP-GTK was found in the Ubuntu repositories by default - would save us all a lot of time and effort just to get PHP-GTK installed. The main difficulty with installing PHP-GTK on Linux is the dependencies that it requires that many Linux distributions do not have installed by default.

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