

Annoy installation for Windows

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Annoy package is failing because it cannot find the windows.h header file meaning that the required C++ build tools and Windows SDK are not installed.

Install Microsoft C++ Build Tools

1. Download and Install:

- Go to the [Visual Studio Downloads](#) page.
- Under "Tools for Visual Studio", select "Build Tools for Visual Studio" and download the installer.

2. Install Build Tools:

- Run the installer.
- Select "C++ build tools" workload.
- Make sure to check the "Windows 10 SDK" and "C++ x64/x86 build tools" options.

3. Verify Installation

Ensure that the installed components include cl.exe, which is required for building the annoy package. You can verify this by opening a Developer Command Prompt for Visual Studio and running the following command: `cl`

If the command runs and shows the Microsoft (R) C/C++ Optimizing Compiler, the installation is successful.

4. Install Annoy Package:

After installing the required build tools, try installing the annoy package again: **`pip install annoy`**

Alternative: Using a Precompiled Wheel

1. Download the Wheel File:

- Go to [Unofficial Windows Binaries for Python Extension Packages](#).
- Search for annoy and download the appropriate wheel file for your Python version and architecture (e.g., annoy-1.17.3-cp310-cp310-win_amd64.whl for Python 3.10 on 64-bit Windows).

2. Install the Wheel File:

```
pip install path\to\downloaded\wheel\file.whl
```

By following these steps, you should be able to resolve the issues with installing the annoy package on a Windows machine.