

# pymake

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`make.py` (and the `pymake` modules that support it) are an implementation of the `make` tool which are mostly compatible with makefiles written for GNU `make`.

## Prerequisites

If running Windows, you need to have [a Windows build environment](#) installed for using `pymake` to build Mozilla.

On other operating systems (Linux, OS X, etc), `pymake` itself only requires Python 2.6 or higher (but not Python 3). Please note that Python 2.7 is strongly recommended.

## Usage

Anywhere you would normally type `make`, instead type `python /path/to/srcdir/build/pymake/make.py`. For example:

- Instead of `make -f client.mk` to start a build, you would type `python build/pymake/make.py -f client.mk`.
- To run tests instead of typing `make mochitest-plain` in the object directory, you would type `python ../build/pymake/make.py`

```
mochitest-plain.
```

Alternately, if you would like to simply type in `pymake -f client.mk` from within the MINGW32 shell.

- While in the shell type `cd ~` (without quotes).
- Type `touch .profile`
- Using any appropriate text editor open `.profile` and add the following line in the file (assuming your mozilla-central is at `C:/mozilla-central`, if not, adjust your path accordingly.)

```
alias pymake=C:/mozilla-central/build/pymake/make.py
```

- Save your `.profile` edit and close the shell, then restart the shell.
- Try typing just `pymake` into the shell and press enter. This should come back with "No makefile found." If it does, your `pymake` alias is connected and you are ready to type in `pymake -f client.mk` to start the build.

Unlike `gmake` on Windows, `pymake` is capable of doing parallel builds, so you can set a `MOZ_MAKE_FLAGS=-jN` in your `.mozconfig` without risk of deadlocks.

**Note:** If using an absolute path `MOZ_OBJDIR` in your `.mozconfig`, it must be a Windows-style (i.e. `c:/foo/bar`) rather than an MSYS-style (i.e. `/c/foo/bar`) path.

## Tags (2)

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