

Downloading ROOT

We are developing ROOT according to the principle of *Release early and release often*. However, since a very large portion of the user base requires a stable product we generally keep at least three versions of the system available for download. The *development*, *production* and *old* versions.

The development version

evolves quickly, with monthly releases. Use this to get access to the latest and greatest, but as a side effect there might be some instabilities. However, by trying out the *development* version you can help us converge much more quickly to a stable version that can then become the new *production* version. If you are a new user we would advice you to try directly the *development* version.

The RC version

is a Release Candidate of the next *production* release. We typically have two RC's (one month and two weeks) prior to a production release. The idea of the RC is to only contain bug fixes and to provide a stable test platform for users to ready their code for the new *production* release.

The production version

is a version we feel comfortable with to exposing to a large audience for serious work. We may issue patch releases of *production* versions with bug fixes. The change rate of this version is much lower than for the *development* version. In the order of 6 months. The *old* version is the previous *production* version that people might need for some time before switching to the new version.

For each of the three active versions

we provide the full source and pre-compiled binaries for most of the [supported platforms](#). After downloading and unpacking (usually it is enough to double click on the file you downloaded "tar file" or "dmg file") please read the included [README/README](#) file on how to set the necessary environment variables.

Basically it is enough to use a special script distributed with ROOT:

- For the sh shell family do: `. <pathname>/root/bin/thisroot.sh`
- For the csh shell family do: `source <pathname>/root/bin/thisroot.csh`

where `<pathname>` is the location where you unpacked the ROOT distribution.

Typically add these lines to your `.profile` or `.login` files.

The following versions are available for download:

Latest ROOT Releases

Pro [Release 6.10/02 - 2017-07-06](#)

Old [Release 6.08/06 - 2017-03-02](#)

Version 6

[Release 6.10/02 - 2017-07-06](#)

[Release 6.04/18 - 2016-06-22](#)