# USING NUGET WITH XAMARIN STUDIO

NuGet is a package format and set of associated client tools that let you find, download and install packages in your .NET projects.

Nuget is built in to Visual Studio and is available in Xamarin Studio via a plug-in. This document explains how to add the NuGet plug-in to Xamarin Studio and then use it to install a NuGet package.
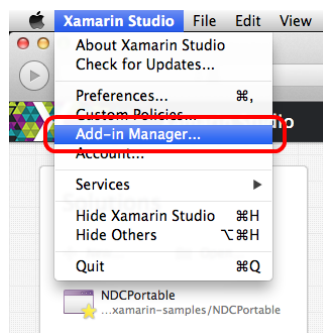
**Related Links:**

[NuGet.org](NuGet.org)

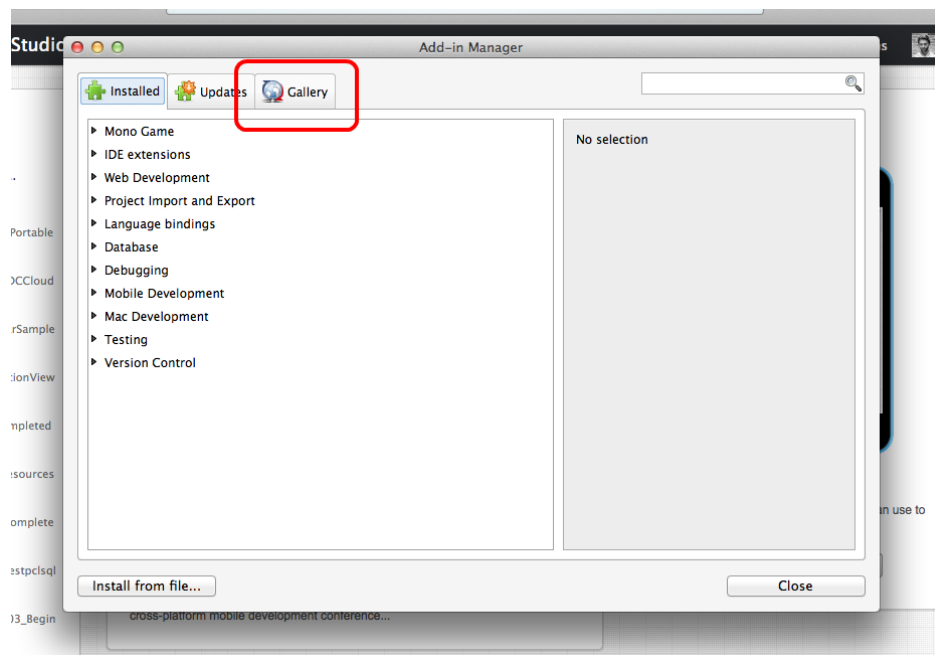[YouTube video](YouTube video)

## Installing NuGet

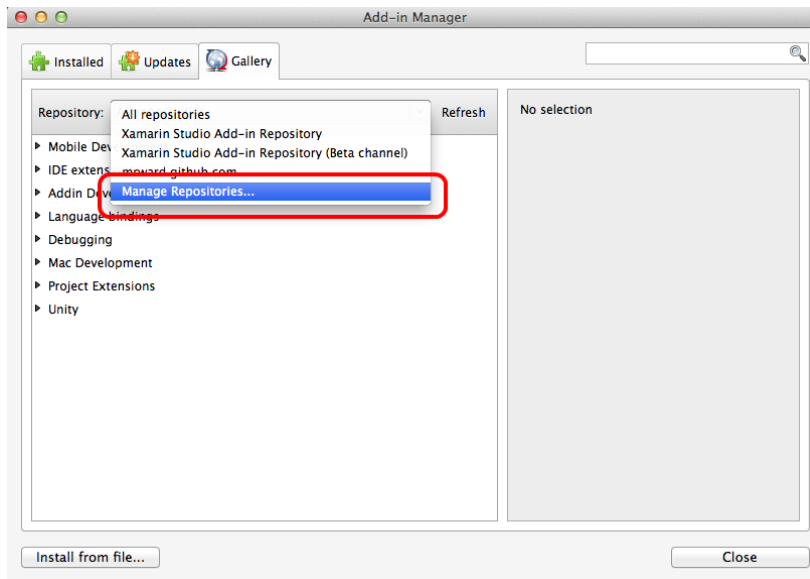Follow these steps to add the NuGet plug-in to Xamarin Studio.

1) Choose **Add-in Manager...** from the **Xamarin Studio** menu
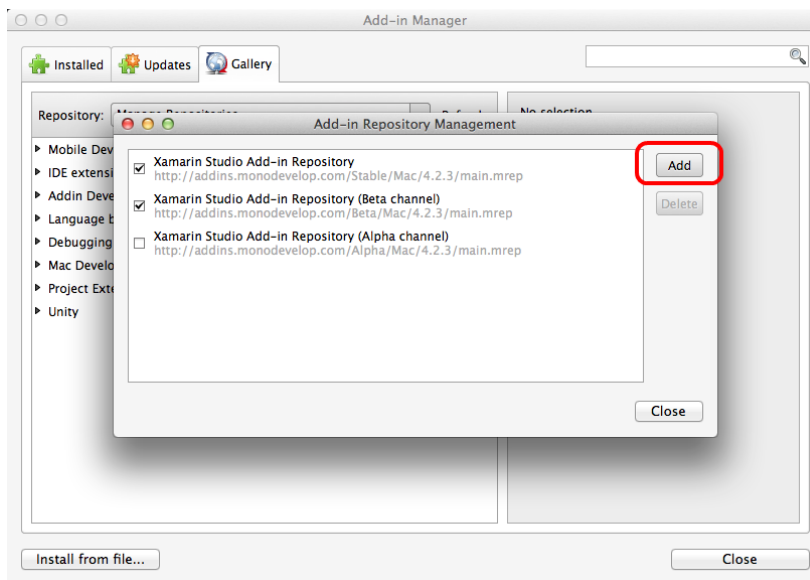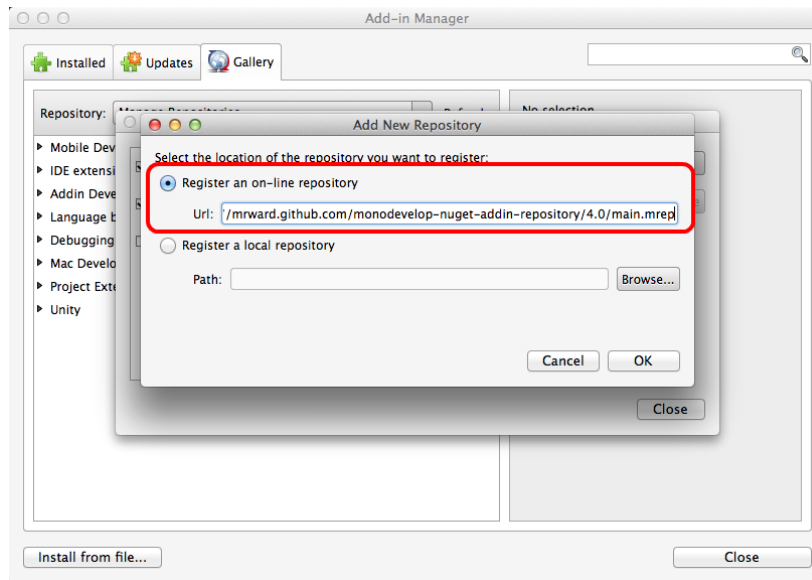


2) Switch to the **Gallery** tab

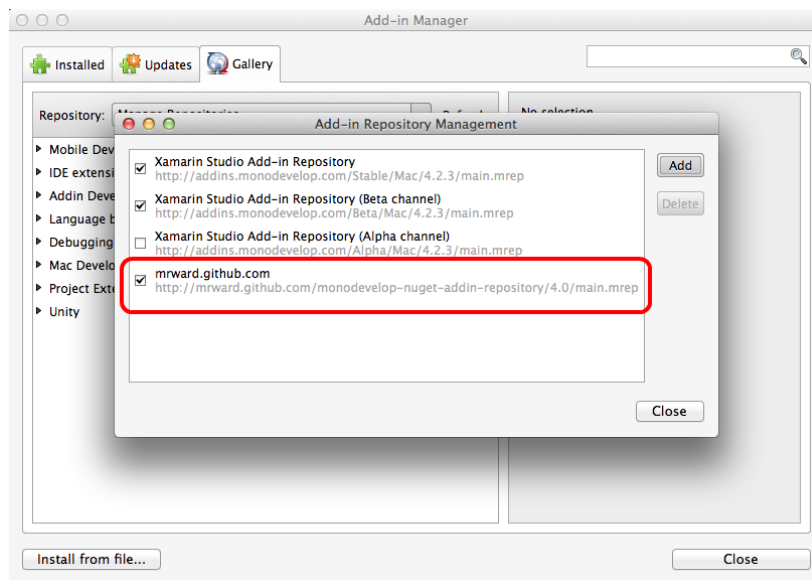3) Choose **Manage Repositories...** from the **Repository** drop down list
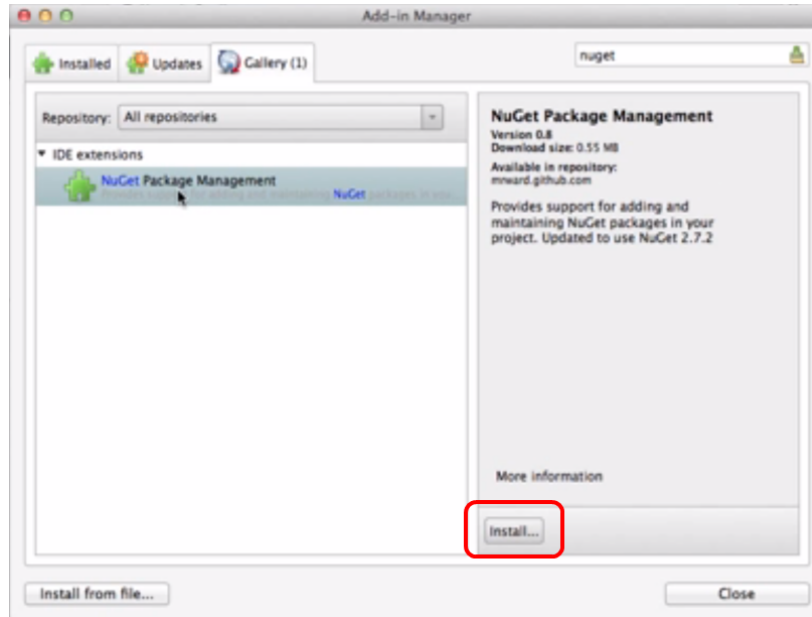


4) Click the **Add** button



5) Select Register an on-line repository and enter this URL
http://mrward.github.com/monodevelop-nuget-addin-repository/4.0/main.mrep
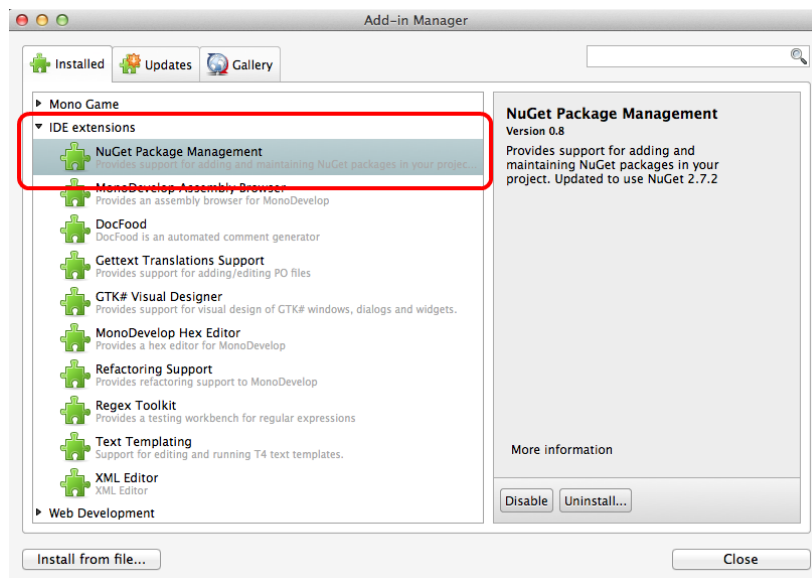and press **OK**

6) You'll be returned to the **Management** window and `mrward.github.com` should be added to the list (and ticked). Close this window.



7) Now you can install packages from that repository. **NuGet Package Management** should be listed – click on it, then click the **Install…** button in the right panel.

7) Switch back to the **Installed** tab – **NuGet Package Management** should now appear in the **IDE Extensions** list.
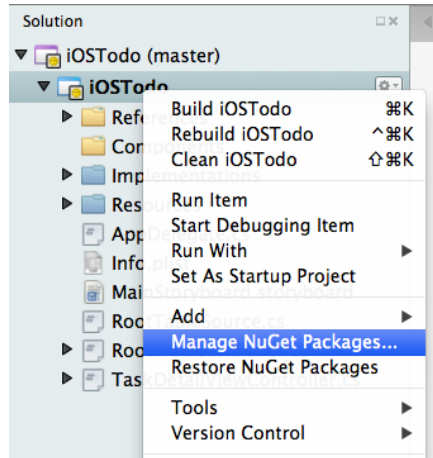


8) Close the Add-in Manager – you are now ready to add NuGet packages to your projects in Xamarin Studio.
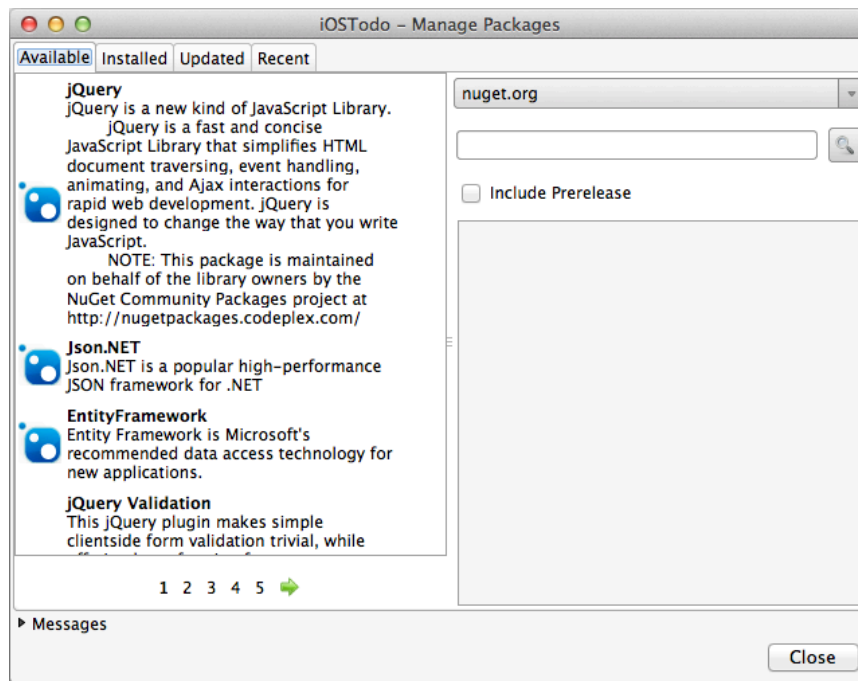
# Using NuGet

Once NuGet has been installed in Xamarin Studio you access it via the project context menu (ie. right click or select the 'gear' icon next to a project).
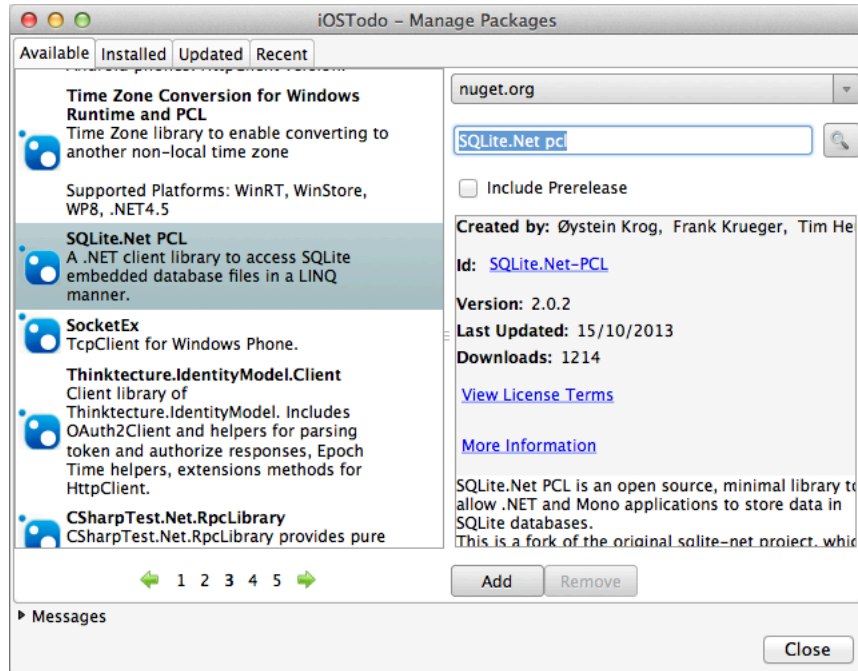
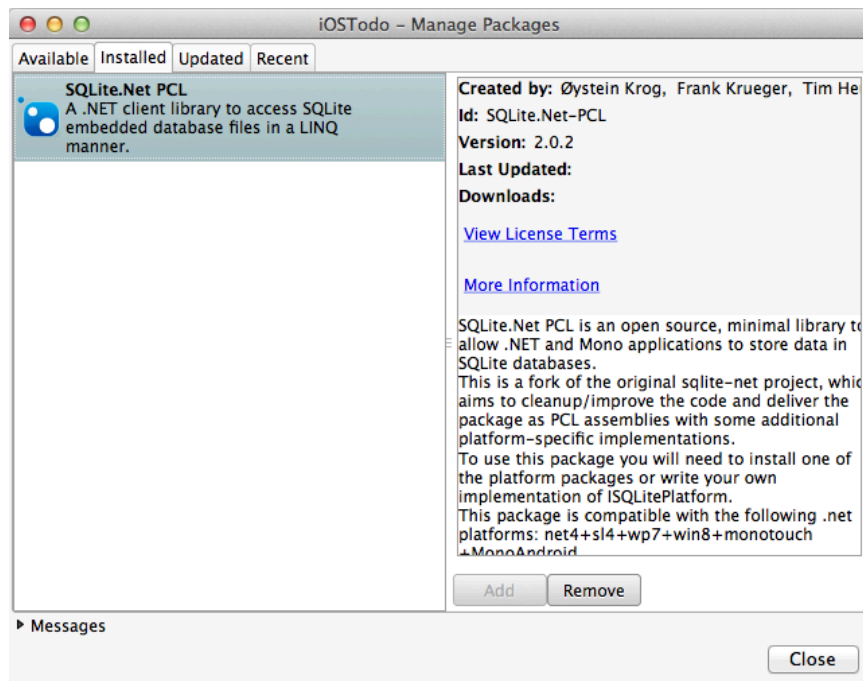1) Right click on a project and choose **Manage NuGet Packages...**

2) The **Manage Packages** window will display a list of available NuGet packages you can add to your project.
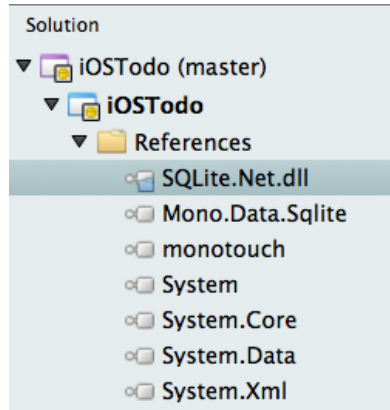


3) You can search for a specific component by typing in the search box on the right side of the window. Click on the **Add** button to download a selected package into your project.

4) Switch to the **Installed** tab to confirm that the package has been added. The **More Information** link often shows installation or usage instructions for the package.



5) If you close the window and return to the project, the required assemblies will have been added to the **References** node in the **Solution Pad**.

6) You can now reference the package's assemblies in your project.

# Summary

NuGet provides an additional source of pre-built .NET components beyond the Xamarin Component Store. You can include both NuGet packages and Xamarin Components in the same project.

NuGet packages (that are distributed as PCLs) can be added to PCL projects. Check the package name or description for an indication of whether the code is portable.