



# Conan Documentation

## *Release 2.0.0-alpha*

**The Conan team**

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**INTRODUCTION**



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## INSTALL

Conan can be installed in many Operating Systems. It has been extensively used and tested in Windows, Linux (different distros), OSX, and is also actively used in FreeBSD and Solaris SunOS. There are also several additional operating systems on which it has been reported to work.

There are three ways to install Conan:

1. The preferred and **strongly recommended way to install Conan** is from PyPI, the Python Package Index, using the `pip` command.
2. There are other available installers for different systems, which might come with a bundled python interpreter, so that you don't have to install python first. Note that some of **these installers might have some limitations**, especially those created with pyinstaller (such as Windows exe & Linux deb).
3. Running Conan from sources.

### 2.1 Install with pip (recommended)

To install latest Conan 2.0 pre-release version using `pip`, you need a Python  $\geq 3.6$  distribution installed on your machine. Modern Python distros come with `pip` pre-installed. However, if necessary you can install `pip` by following the instructions in [pip docs](#).

**Warning:** Python 2.x and Python  $\leq 3.5$  support has been dropped. Conan will not work with those python versions.

Install Conan:

```
$ pip install conan --pre
```

---

#### Important: Please READ carefully

- Make sure that your **pip** installation matches your **Python ( $\geq 3.6$ )** version.
- In **Linux**, you may need **sudo** permissions to install Conan globally.
- We strongly recommend using **virtualenvs** (virtualenvwrapper works great) for everything related to Python. (check <https://virtualenvwrapper.readthedocs.io/en/stable/>, or <https://pypi.org/project/virtualenvwrapper-win/> in Windows) With Python 3, the built-in module `venv` can also be used instead (check <https://docs.python.org/3/library/venv.html>). If not using a **virtualenv** it is possible that conan dependencies will conflict with previously existing dependencies, especially if you are using Python for other purposes.
- In **OSX**, especially the latest versions that may have **System Integrity Protection**, `pip` may fail. Try using `virtualenvs`, or install with another user `$ pip install --user conan`.

- Some Linux distros, such as Linux Mint, require a restart (shell restart, or logout/system if not enough) after installation, so Conan is found in the path.
- In Windows, Python 3 installation can fail installing the `wrapt` dependency because of a bug in **pip**. Information about this issue and workarounds is available here: <https://github.com/GrahamDumpleton/wrapt/issues/112>.

### 2.1.1 Known installation issues with pip

- When Conan is installed with **pip install --user <username>**, usually a new directory is created for it. However, the directory is not appended automatically to the *PATH* and the **conan** commands do not work. This can usually be solved restarting the session of the terminal or running the following command:

```
$ source ~/.profile
```

## 2.2 Install from source

You can run Conan directly from source code. First, you need to install Python and pip.

Clone (or download and unzip) the git repository and install it.

Conan 2 is still in alpha stage, so you must check the *develop2* branch of the repository:

```
# clone folder name matters, to avoid imports issues
$ git clone https://github.com/conan-io/conan.git conan_src
$ cd conan_src
$ git fetch --all
$ git checkout -b develop2 origin/develop2
$ python -m pip install -e .
```

And test your conan installation:

```
$ conan
```

You should see the Conan commands help.

## 2.3 Update

If installed via pip, Conan 2.0 pre-release version can be easily updated:

```
$ pip install conan --pre --upgrade # Might need sudo or --user
```

The default `<userhome>/conan/settings.yml` file, containing the definition of compiler versions, etc., will be upgraded if Conan does not detect local changes, otherwise it will create a `settings.yml.new` with the new settings. If you want to regenerate the settings, you can remove the `settings.yml` file manually and it will be created with the new information the first time it is required.

The upgrade shouldn't affect the installed packages or cache information. If the cache becomes inconsistent somehow, you may want to remove its content by deleting it (`<userhome>/conan`).



## TUTORIAL

The purpose of this section is to guide you through the most important Conan features with practical examples. From using libraries already packaged by Conan, to how to package your libraries and store them in a remote server alongside all the precompiled binaries.

---

**Important:** This tutorial is part of the Conan 2.0 documentation. Conan 2.0 is still in alpha state. Some details, like the repositories and libraries used for the tutorial, will change as we update the [current 1.X Conan packages](#) to be compatible with Conan 2.0.

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### 3.1 Consuming packages

This section shows how to build your projects using Conan to manage your dependencies. We will begin with a basic example of a C project that uses CMake and depends on the **zlib** library. This project will use a *conanfile.txt* file to declare its dependencies.

We will also cover how you can not only use ‘regular’ libraries with Conan but also manage tools you may need to use while building: like CMake, msys2, MinGW, etc.

Then, we will explain different Conan concepts like settings and options and how you can use them to build your projects for different configurations like Debug, Release, with static or shared libraries, etc.

Also, we will explain how to transition from the *conanfile.txt* file we used in the first example to a more powerful *conanfile.py*.

#### 3.1.1 Build a simple CMake project using Conan

Let’s get started with an example: We are going to create a string compressor application that uses one of the most popular C++ libraries: [Zlib](#).

---

**Important:** In this example, we will retrieve the CMake Conan package from a Conan repository with packages compatible with Conan 2.0. To run this example successfully you should add this remote to your Conan configuration (if did not already do it) doing: `conan remote add conanv2 https://conanv2beta.jfrog.io/artifactory/api/conan/conan --index 0`

---

We’ll use CMake as build system in this case but keep in mind that Conan **works with any build system** and is not limited to using CMake. You can check more examples with other build systems in the [Read More section](#).

Please, first clone the sources to recreate this project, you can find them in the [examples2.0 repository](#) in GitHub:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/conan-io/examples2.git
$ cd examples2/tutorial/consuming_packages/getting_started/simple_cmake_project
```

We start from a very simple C language project with this structure:

```
.
├── CMakeLists.txt
└── src
    └── main.c
```

This project contains a basic *CMakeLists.txt* including the **zlib** dependency and the source code for the string compressor program in *main.c*.

Let's have a look at the *main.c* file:

Listing 1: **main.c**

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#include <zlib.h>

int main(void) {
    char buffer_in [256] = {"Conan is a MIT-licensed, Open Source package manager for
↪C and C++ development "
                            "for C and C++ development, allowing development teams to
↪easily and efficiently "
                            "manage their packages and dependencies across platforms
↪and build systems."};
    char buffer_out [256] = {0};

    z_stream defstream;
    defstream.zalloc = Z_NULL;
    defstream.zfree = Z_NULL;
    defstream.opaque = Z_NULL;
    defstream.avail_in = (uInt) strlen(buffer_in);
    defstream.next_in = (Bytef *) buffer_in;
    defstream.avail_out = (uInt) sizeof(buffer_out);
    defstream.next_out = (Bytef *) buffer_out;

    deflateInit(&defstream, Z_BEST_COMPRESSION);
    deflate(&defstream, Z_FINISH);
    deflateEnd(&defstream);

    printf("Uncompressed size is: %lu\n", strlen(buffer_in));
    printf("Compressed size is: %lu\n", strlen(buffer_out));

    printf("ZLIB VERSION: %s\n", zlibVersion());

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

Also, the contents of *CMakeLists.txt* are:

Listing 2: **CMakeLists.txt**

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.15)
project(compressor C)

find_package(ZLIB REQUIRED)
```

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```
add_executable(${PROJECT_NAME} src/main.c)
target_link_libraries(${PROJECT_NAME} ZLIB::ZLIB)
```

Our application relies on the **Zlib** library. Conan, by default, tries to install libraries from a remote server called **ConanCenter**. You can search there for libraries and also check the available versions. In our case, after checking the available versions for **Zlib** we choose to use the latest available version: **zlib/1.2.11**.

The easiest way to install the **Zlib** library and find it from our project with Conan is using a *conanfile.txt* file. Let's create one with the following content:

Listing 3: **conanfile.txt**

```
[requires]
zlib/1.2.11

[generators]
CMakeDeps
CMakeToolchain
```

As you can see we added two sections to this file with a syntax similar to an *INI* file.

- **[requires]** section is where we declare the libraries we want to use in the project, in this case, **zlib/1.2.11**.
- **[generators]** section tells Conan to generate the files that the compilers or build systems will use to find the dependencies and build the project. In this case, as our project is based in *CMake*, we will use *CMakeDeps* to generate information about where the **Zlib** library files are installed and *CMakeToolchain* to pass build information to *CMake* using a *CMake* toolchain file.

Besides the *conanfile.txt*, we need a **Conan profile** to build our project. Conan profiles allow users to define a configuration set for things like the compiler, build configuration, architecture, shared or static libraries, etc. Conan, by default, will not try to detect a profile automatically, so we need to create one. To let Conan try to guess the profile, based on the current operating system and installed tools, please run:

```
conan profile detect --force
```

This will detect the operating system, build architecture and compiler settings based on the environment. It will also set the build configuration as *Release* by default. The generated profile will be stored in the Conan home folder with name *default* and will be used by Conan in all commands by default unless another profile is specified via the command line. After executing the command you should see some output similar to this but for your configuration:

```
$ conan profile detect --force
CC and CXX: /usr/bin/gcc, /usr/bin/g++
Found gcc 10
gcc>=5, using the major as version
gcc C++ standard library: libstdc++11
Detected profile:
[settings]
os=Linux
arch=x86_64
compiler=gcc
compiler.version=10
compiler.libcxx=libstdc++11
compiler.cppstd=gnu14
build_type=Release
[options]
[tool_requires]
```

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**[env]**

...

We will use Conan to install **Zlib** and generate the files that CMake needs to find this library and build our project. We will generate those files in the folder *cmake-build-release* (Linux/macOS) or in the folder *build* (Windows). To do that, just run:

Listing 4: Windows

```
$ conan install . --output-folder=build --build=missing
```

Listing 5: Linux, macOS

```
$ conan install . --output-folder cmake-build-release --build=missing
```

You will get something similar to this as the output of that command:

```
(Windows)
$ conan install . --output-folder=build --build=missing

(Linux, macOS)
$ conan install . --output-folder cmake-build-release --build=missing
...
----- Computing dependency graph -----
zlib/1.2.11: Not found in local cache, looking in remotes...
zlib/1.2.11: Checking remote: conanv2
zlib/1.2.11: Trying with 'conanv2'...
Downloading conanmanifest.txt
Downloading conanfile.py
Downloading conan_export.tgz
Decompressing conan_export.tgz
zlib/1.2.11: Downloaded recipe revision f1fadf0d3b196dc0332750354ad8ab7b
Graph root
  conanfile.txt: /home/conan/examples2/tutorial/consuming_packages/getting_started/
  ↳ simple_cmake_project/conanfile.txt
Requirements
  zlib/1.2.11#f1fadf0d3b196dc0332750354ad8ab7b - Downloaded (conanv2)

----- Computing necessary packages -----
Requirements
  zlib/1.2.11
  ↳ #f1fadf0d3b196dc0332750354ad8ab7b:cdc9a35e010a17fc90bb845108cf86cfcbce64bf
  ↳ #dd7bf2a1ab4eb5d1943598c09b616121 - Download (conanv2)

----- Installing packages -----

Installing (downloading, building) binaries...
zlib/1.2.11: Retrieving package cdc9a35e010a17fc90bb845108cf86cfcbce64bf from remote
  ↳ 'conanv2'
Downloading conanmanifest.txt
Downloading conaninfo.txt
Downloading conan_package.tgz
Decompressing conan_package.tgz
zlib/1.2.11: Package installed cdc9a35e010a17fc90bb845108cf86cfcbce64bf
zlib/1.2.11: Downloaded package revision dd7bf2a1ab4eb5d1943598c09b616121
```

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```

----- Finalizing install (deploy, generators) -----
conanfile.txt: Generator 'CMakeToolchain' calling 'generate()'
conanfile.txt: Generator 'CMakeDeps' calling 'generate()'
conanfile.txt: Aggregating env generators

```

As you can see in the output, there are a couple of things that happened:

- Conan installed the *Zlib* library from the remote server we configured at the beginning of the tutorial. This server stores both the Conan recipes, which are the files that define how libraries must be built, and the binaries that can be reused so we don't have to build from sources every time.
- Conan generated several files under the **cmake-build-release** folder. Those files were generated by both the CMakeToolchain and CMakeDeps generators we set in the **conanfile.txt**. CMakeDeps generates files so that CMake finds the Zlib library we have just downloaded. On the other side, CMakeToolchain generates a toolchain file for CMake so that we can transparently build our project with CMake using the same settings that we detected for our default profile.

Now we are ready to build and run our **compressor** app:

Listing 6: Windows

```

$ cd build
# assuming Visual Studio 15 2017 is your VS version and that it matches your default_
↪profile
$ cmake .. -G "Visual Studio 15 2017" -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build . --config Release
...
[100%] Built target compressor
$ Release\compressor.exe
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11

```

Listing 7: Linux, macOS

```

$ cd cmake-build-release
$ cmake .. -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build .
...
[100%] Built target compressor
$ ./compressor
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11

```

### Read more

- Getting started with Autotools
- Getting started with Meson
- ...

## 3.1.2 Using build tools as Conan packages

**Important:** In this example, we will retrieve the CMake Conan package from a Conan repository with packages compatible with Conan 2.0. To run this example successfully you should add this remote to your Conan configuration (if did not already do it) doing: `conan remote add conanv2 https://conanv2beta.jfrog.io/artifactory/api/conan/conan --index 0`

---

In the previous example, we built our CMake project and used Conan to install and locate the **Zlib** library. Conan used the CMake version found in the system path to build this example. But, what happens if you don't have CMake installed in your build environment or want to build your project with a specific CMake version different from the one you have already installed system-wide? In this case, you can declare this dependency in Conan using a type of requirement named `tool_requires`. Let's see an example of how to add a `tool_requires` to our project, and use a different CMake version to build it.

Please, first clone the sources to recreate this project. You can find them in the [examples2.0 repository](#) in GitHub:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/conan-io/examples2.git
$ cd examples2/tutorial/consuming_packages/getting_started/tool_requires
```

The structure of the project is the same as the one of the previous example:

```
.
├── conanfile.txt
├── CMakeLists.txt
└── src
    └── main.c
```

The main difference is the addition of the `[tool_requires]` section in the `conanfile.txt` file. In this section, we declare that we want to build our application using CMake **v3.19.8**.

Listing 8: `conanfile.txt`

```
[requires]
zlib/1.2.11

[tool_requires]
cmake/3.19.8

[generators]
CMakeDeps
CMakeToolchain
```

We also added a message to the `CMakeLists.txt` to output the CMake version:

Listing 9: `CMakeLists.txt`

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.15)
project(compressor C)

find_package(ZLIB REQUIRED)

message("Building with CMake version: ${CMAKE_VERSION}")

add_executable(${PROJECT_NAME} src/main.c)
target_link_libraries(${PROJECT_NAME} ZLIB::ZLIB)
```

Now, as in the previous example, we will use Conan to install **Zlib** and **CMake 3.19.8** and generate the files to find both of them. We will generate those files in the folder `cmake-build-release` (Linux/macOS) or in the folder `build`

(Windows). To do that, just run:

Listing 10: Windows

```
$ conan install . --output-folder=build --build=missing
```

Listing 11: Linux, macOS

```
$ conan install . --output-folder cmake-build-release --build=missing
```

You can check the output:

```
----- Computing dependency graph -----
cmake/3.19.8: Not found in local cache, looking in remotes...
cmake/3.19.8: Checking remote: conanv2
cmake/3.19.8: Trying with 'conanv2'...
Downloading conanmanifest.txt
Downloading conanfile.py
cmake/3.19.8: Downloaded recipe revision 3e3d8f3a848b2a60afafbe7a0955085a
Graph root
  conanfile.txt: /Users/carlosz/Documents/developer/conan/examples2/tutorial/
  ↳ consuming_packages/getting_started/tool_requires/conanfile.txt
Requirements
  zlib/1.2.11#f1fadf0d3b196dc0332750354ad8ab7b - Cache
Build requirements
  cmake/3.19.8#3e3d8f3a848b2a60afafbe7a0955085a - Downloaded (conanv2)

----- Computing necessary packages -----
Requirements
  zlib/1.2.11
  ↳ #f1fadf0d3b196dc0332750354ad8ab7b:2a823fda5c9d8b4f682cb27c30caf4124c5726c8
  ↳ #48bc7191eclee467f1e951033d7d41b2 - Cache
Build requirements
  cmake/3.19.8
  ↳ #3e3d8f3a848b2a60afafbe7a0955085a:f2f48d9745706caf77ea883a5855538256e7f2d4
  ↳ #6c519070f013da19afd56b52c465b596 - Download (conanv2)

----- Installing packages -----

Installing (downloading, building) binaries...
cmake/3.19.8: Retrieving package f2f48d9745706caf77ea883a5855538256e7f2d4 from remote
  ↳ 'conanv2'
Downloading conanmanifest.txt
Downloading conaninfo.txt
Downloading conan_package.tgz
Decompressing conan_package.tgz
cmake/3.19.8: Package installed f2f48d9745706caf77ea883a5855538256e7f2d4
cmake/3.19.8: Downloaded package revision 6c519070f013da19afd56b52c465b596
zlib/1.2.11: Already installed!

----- Finalizing install (deploy, generators) -----
conanfile.txt: Generator 'CMakeToolchain' calling 'generate()'
conanfile.txt: Generator 'CMakeDeps' calling 'generate()'
conanfile.txt: Aggregating env generators
```

Now, if you check the folder you will see that Conan generated a new file called `conanbuild.sh/bat`. This is the result of automatically invoking a `VirtualBuildEnv` generator when we declared the `tool_requires` in the `conanfile.txt`. This file sets some environment variables like a new `PATH` that we can use to inject to our environment

the location of CMake v3.19.8.

Activate the virtual environment, and run `cmake --version` to check that you have installed the new CMake version in the path.

Listing 12: Windows

```
$ cd build
$ conanbuild.bat
```

Listing 13: Linux, macOS

```
$ cd cmake-build-release
$ source conanbuild.sh
Capturing current environment in deactivate_conanbuildenv-release-x86_64.sh
Configuring environment variables
```

Run `cmake` and check the version:

```
$ cmake --version
cmake version 3.19.8
...
```

As you can see, after activating the environment, the CMake v3.19.8 binary folder was added to the path and is the currently active version now. Now you can build your project as you previously did, but this time Conan will use CMake 3.19.8 to build it:

Listing 14: Windows

```
# assuming Visual Studio 15 2017 is your VS version and that it matches your default_
↪profile
$ cmake .. -G "Visual Studio 15 2017" -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build . --config Release
...
Building with CMake version: 3.19.8
...
[100%] Built target compressor
$ Release\compressor.exe
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
```

Listing 15: Linux, macOS

```
$ cmake .. -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build .
...
Building with CMake version: 3.19.8
...
[100%] Built target compressor
$ ./compressor
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
```

Note that when we activated the environment, a new file named `deactivate_conanbuild.sh/bat` was created in the same folder. If you source this file you can restore the environment as it was before.



Listing 16: Windows

```
$ deactivate_conanbuild.bat
```

Listing 17: Linux, macOS

```
$ source deactivate_conanbuild.sh
Restoring environment
```

Run `cmake` and check the version, it will be the version that was installed previous to the environment activation:

```
$ cmake --version
cmake version 3.22.0
...
```

### Read more

- Using MinGW as `tool_requires`
- Using `tool_requires` in profiles
- Using `conf` to set a toolchain from a tool requires
- Creating recipes for `tool_requires`: packaging build tools

### 3.1.3 Building for multiple configurations: Release, Debug, Static and Shared

**Important:** In this example, we will retrieve the CMake Conan package from a Conan repository with packages compatible with Conan 2.0. To run this example successfully you should add this remote to your Conan configuration (if did not already do it) doing: `conan remote add conanv2 https://conanv2beta.jfrog.io/artifactory/api/conan/conan --index 0`

Please, first clone the sources to recreate this project. You can find them in the [examples2.0 repository](#) in GitHub:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/conan-io/examples2.git
$ cd examples2/tutorial/consuming_packages/getting_started/different_configurations
```

So far, we built a simple CMake project that depended on the **zlib** library and learned about `tool_requires`, a special type or requirements for build-tools like CMake. In both cases, we did not specify anywhere that we wanted to build the application in *Release* or *Debug* mode, or if we wanted to link against *static* or *shared* libraries. That is because Conan, if not instructed otherwise, will use a default configuration declared in the ‘default profile’. This default profile was created in the first example when we run the `conan profile detect` command. Conan stores this file in the **/profiles** folder, located in the Conan user home. You can check the contents of your default profile:

Run the `conan config home` command and get the location of the Conan user home, then show the contents of the default profile:

```
$ conan config home
Current Conan home: /Users/tutorial_user/.conan2

# output the file contents
$ cat /Users/tutorial_user/.conan2/profiles/default
[settings]
os=Macos
arch=x86_64
```

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```
compiler=apple-clang
compiler.version=13.0
compiler.libcxx=libc++
compiler.cppstd=gnu98
build_type=Release
[options]
[tool_requires]
[env]
```

As you can see, the profile has different sections. The `[settings]` section is the one that has information about things like the operating system, architecture, compiler, and build configuration. When you call a Conan command setting the `--profile` argument, Conan will take all the information from the profile and apply it to the packages you want to build or install. If you don't specify that argument it's equivalent to call it with `--profile=default`. These two commands will behave the same:

```
$ conan install . --build=missing
$ conan install . --build=missing --profile=default
```

You can store different profiles and use them to build for different settings. For example, to use a `build_type=Debug`, or adding a `tool_requires` to all the packages you build with that profile.

### Modifying settings: use Debug configuration for the application and its dependencies

Using profiles is not the only way to set the configuration you want to use. You can also override the profile settings in the Conan command using the `--settings` argument. For example, you can build the project from the previous examples in *Debug* configuration instead of *Release*.

Before building, please check that we modified the source code from the previous example to show the build configuration the sources were built with:

```
#include <stdlib.h>
...

int main(void) {
    ...
    #ifdef NDEBUG
    printf("Release configuration!\n");
    #else
    printf("Debug configuration!\n");
    #endif

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

Now let's build our project for *Debug* configuration:

Listing 18: Windows

```
$ conan install . --output-folder=build --build=missing --settings=build_type=Debug
```

Listing 19: Linux, macOS

```
$ conan install . --output-folder cmake-build-release --build=missing --
↳ settings=build_type=Debug
```

This `conan install` command will check if we already installed the required libraries (Zlib) in Debug configuration and install them otherwise. It will also set the build configuration in the `conan_toolchain.cmake` toolchain that the CMakeToolchain generator creates so that when we build the application it's built in *Debug* configuration. Now build your project as you did in the previous examples and check in the output how it was built in *Debug* configuration:

Listing 20: Windows

```
# assuming Visual Studio 15 2017 is your VS version and that it matches your default_
↳ profile
$ cd build
$ cmake .. -G "Visual Studio 15 2017" -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build . --config Debug
$ Debug\compressor.exe
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
Debug configuration!
```

Listing 21: Linux, macOS

```
$ cd cmake-build-release
$ cmake .. -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build .
$ ./compressor
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
Debug configuration!
```

### Modifying options: linking the application dependencies as shared libraries

So far, we have been linking *Zlib* statically in our application. That's because in the *Zlib*'s Conan package there's an attribute set to build in that mode by default. We can change from **static** to **shared** linking by setting the `shared` option to `True` using the `--options` argument. To do so, please run:

Listing 22: Windows

```
$ conan install . --output-folder=build --build=missing --options=zlib/1.2.
↳ 11:shared=True
```

Listing 23: Linux, macOS

```
$ conan install . --output-folder cmake-build-release --build=missing --options=zlib/
↳ 1.2.11:shared=True
```

Doing this, Conan will install the *Zlib* shared libraries, generate the files to build with them and, also the necessary files to locate those dynamic libraries when running the application. Let's build the application again after configuring it to link *Zlib* as a shared library:

Listing 24: Windows

```
$ cd build
# assuming Visual Studio 15 2017 is your VS version and that it matches your default_
→profile
$ cmake .. -G "Visual Studio 15 2017" -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build . --config Release
...
[100%] Built target compressor
```

Listing 25: Linux, MacOS

```
$ cd cmake-build-release
$ cmake .. -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build .
...
[100%] Built target compressor
```

Now, if you try to run the compiled executable you will see an error because the executable can't find the shared libraries for *Zlib* that we just installed.

Listing 26: Windows

```
$ Release\compressor.exe
(on a pop-up window) The code execution cannot proceed because zlib1.dll was not_
→found. Reinstalling the program may fix this problem.
```

Listing 27: Linux, MacOS

```
$ ./compressor
./compressor: error while loading shared libraries: libz.so.1: cannot open shared_
→object file: No such file or directory
```

This is because shared libraries (*.dll* in windows, *.dylib* in OSX and *.so* in Linux), are loaded at runtime. That means that the application executable needs to know where are the required shared libraries when it runs. On Windows, the dynamic linker will search in the same directory then in the *PATH* directories. On OSX, it will search in the directories declared in *DYLD\_LIBRARY\_PATH* as on Linux will use the *LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH*.

Conan provides a mechanism to define those variables and make it possible, for executables, to find and load these shared libraries. This mechanism is the *VirtualRunEnv* generator. If you check the output folder you will see that Conan generated a new file called *conanrun.sh/bat*. This is the result of automatically invoking that *VirtualRunEnv* generator when we activated the *shared* option when doing the *conan install*. This generated script will set the **PATH**, **LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH**, **DYLD\_LIBRARY\_PATH** and **DYLD\_FRAMEWORK\_PATH** environment variables so that executables can find the shared libraries.

Activate the virtual environment, and run the executables again:

Listing 28: Windows

```
$ conanrun.bat
$ Release\compressor.exe
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
...
```

Listing 29: Linux, macOS

```
$ source conanrun.sh
$ ./compressor
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
...
```

Just as in the previous example with the `VirtualBuildEnv` generator, when we run the `conanrun.sh/bat` script a deactivation script called `deactivate_conanrun.sh/bat` is created to restore the environment. Source or run it to do so:

Listing 30: Windows

```
$ deactivate_conanrun.bat
```

Listing 31: Linux, macOS

```
$ source deactivate_conanrun.sh
```

### Difference between settings and options

You may have noticed that for changing between *Debug* and *Release* configuration we used a Conan **setting**, but when we set *shared* mode for our executable we used a Conan **option**. Please, note the difference between **settings** and **options**:

- **settings** are typically a project-wide configuration defined by the client machine. Things like the operating system, compiler or build configuration that will be common to several Conan packages and would not make sense to define one default value for only one of them. For example, it doesn't make sense for a Conan package to declare "Visual Studio" as a default compiler because that is something defined by the end consumer, and unlikely to make sense if they are working in Linux.
- **options** are intended for package-specific configuration that can be set to a default value in the recipe. For example, one package can define that its default linkage is static, and this is the linkage that should be used if consumers don't specify otherwise.

### Read more

- Installing configurations with `conan config install`
- VS Multi-config
- Example about how settings and options influence the package id
- Cross-compiling using `-profile:build` and `-profile:host`
- Using patterns for settings and options

## 3.1.4 Understanding the flexibility of using `conanfile.py` vs `conanfile.txt`

---

**Important:** In this example, we will retrieve Conan packages from a Conan repository with packages compatible with Conan 2.0. To run this example successfully you should add this remote to your Conan configuration (if did not already do it) doing: `conan remote add conanv2 https://conanv2beta.jfrog.io/artifactory/api/conan/conan --index 0`

---

In the previous examples, we declared our dependencies (*Zlib* and *CMake*) in a *conanfile.txt* file. Let's have a look at that file:

Listing 32: *conanfile.txt*

```
[requires]
zlib/1.2.11

[tool_requires]
cmake/3.19.8

[generators]
CMakeDeps
CMakeToolchain
```

Using a *conanfile.txt* to build your projects using Conan it's enough for simple cases, but if you need more flexibility you should use a *conanfile.py* file where you can use Python code to make things such as adding requirements dynamically, changing options depending on other options or setting options for your requirements. Let's see an example on how to migrate to a *conanfile.py* and use some of those features.

Please, first clone the sources to recreate this project. You can find them in the [examples2.0 repository](#) in GitHub:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/conan-io/examples2.git
$ cd examples2/tutorial/consuming_packages/getting_started/conanfile_py
```

Check the contents of the folder and note that the contents are the same that in the previous examples but with a *conanfile.py* instead of a *conanfile.txt*.

```
.
├── CMakeLists.txt
├── conanfile.py
├── src
│   └── main.c
```

Remember that in the previous examples the *conanfile.txt* had this information:

Listing 33: *conanfile.txt*

```
[requires]
zlib/1.2.11

[tool_requires]
cmake/3.19.8

[generators]
CMakeDeps
CMakeToolchain
```

We will translate that same information to a *conanfile.py*. This file is what is typically called a “**Conan recipe**”. It can be used for consuming packages, like in this case, and also to create packages. For our current case, it will define our requirements (both libraries and build tools) and logic to modify options and set how we want to consume those packages. In the case of using this file to create packages, it can define (among other things) how to download the package's source code, how to build the binaries from those sources, how to package the binaries, and information for future consumers on how to consume the package. We will explain how to use Conan recipes to create packages in the “Creating Packages” section later.

The equivalent of the *conanfile.txt* in form of Conan recipe could look like this:

Listing 34: conanfile.py

```

from conan import ConanFile

class CompressorRecipe(ConanFile):
    settings = "os", "compiler", "build_type", "arch"
    generators = "CMakeToolchain", "CMakeDeps"

    def requirements(self):
        self.requires("zlib/1.2.11")
        self.tool_requires("cmake/3.19.8")

```

To create the Conan recipe we declared a new class that inherits from the `ConanFile` class. This class has different class attributes and methods:

- **settings** this class attribute defines the project-wide variables, like the compiler, its version, or the OS itself that may change when we build our project. This is related to how Conan manages binary compatibility as these values will affect the value of the **package ID** for Conan packages. We will explain how Conan uses this value to manage binary compatibility later.
- **generators** this class attribute specifies which Conan generators will be run when we call the `conan install` command. In this case, we added **CMakeToolchain** and **CMakeDeps** as in the `conanfile.txt`.
- **requirements()** in this method we can use the `self.requires()` and `self.tool_requires()` methods to declare all our dependencies (libraries and build tools).

You can check that running the same commands as in the previous examples will lead to the same results as before.

Listing 35: Windows

```

$ conan install . --output-folder=build --build=missing
$ cd build
$ conanbuild.bat
# assuming Visual Studio 15 2017 is your VS version and that it matches your default_
->profile
$ cmake .. -G "Visual Studio 15 2017" -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build . --config Release
...
Building with CMake version: 3.19.8
...
[100%] Built target compressor

$ Release\compressor.exe
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
$ deactivate_conanbuild.bat

```

Listing 36: Linux, macOS

```

$ conan install . --output-folder cmake-build-release --build=missing
$ cd cmake-build-release
$ source conanbuild.sh
Capturing current environment in deactivate_conanbuildenv-release-x86_64.sh
Configuring environment variables
$ cmake .. -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build .

```

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```
...
Building with CMake version: 3.19.8
...
[100%] Built target compressor

$ ./compressor
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
$ source deactivate_conanbuild.sh
```

So far we have achieved the same functionality we had using a *conanfile.txt*, let's see how we can take advantage of the capabilities of the *conanfile.py* to define the project structure we want to follow and also to add some logic using Conan settings and options.

### Conditional requirements using a *conanfile.py*

You could add some logic to the *requirements()* method to add or remove requirements conditionally. Imagine, for example, that you want to add an additional dependency in Windows or that you want to use the system's CMake installation instead of using the Conan *tool\_requires*:

Listing 37: *conanfile.py*

```
from conan import ConanFile

class CompressorRecipe(ConanFile):
    # Binary configuration
    settings = "os", "compiler", "build_type", "arch"
    generators = "CMakeToolchain", "CMakeDeps"

    def requirements(self):
        self.requires("zlib/1.2.11")
        # Use the system's CMake for Windows
        # and add base64 dependency
        if self.settings.os == "Windows":
            self.requires("base64/0.4.0")
        else:
            self.tool_requires("cmake/3.19.8")
```

### Use the *layout()* method

In the previous examples, every time we executed a *conan install* command we had to use the *-output-folder* argument to define where we wanted to create the files that Conan generates. Also, note that we used a different folder when building in Windows or in Linux/Macos depending if we were using a multi-config CMake generator or not. You can define this directly in the *conanfile.py* inside the *layout()* method and make it work for every platform without adding more changes:

Listing 38: *conanfile.py*

```
from conan import ConanFile

class CompressorRecipe(ConanFile):
    settings = "os", "compiler", "build_type", "arch"
```

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```

generators = "CMakeToolchain", "CMakeDeps"

def requirements(self):
    self.requires("zlib/1.2.11")
    self.tool_requires("cmake/3.19.8")

def layout(self):
    build_type = str(self.settings.build_type)
    compiler = self.settings.get_safe("compiler")

    # We make the assumption that if the compiler is msvc the
    # CMake generator is multi-config
    if compiler == "msvc":
        multi = True
    else:
        multi = False

    if multi:
        # CMake multi-config, just one folder for both builds
        self.folders.build = "build"
        self.folders.generators = "build"
    else:
        self.folders.build = "cmake-build-{}".format(build_type.lower())
        self.folders.generators = self.folders.build

```

As you can see, we defined two different attributes for the Conanfile in the `layout()` method:

- **self.folders.build** is the folder where the resulting binaries will be placed. The location depends on the type of CMake generator. For multi-config, they will be located in a dedicated folder inside the build folder, while for single-config, they will be located directly in the build folder.
- **self.folders.generators** is the folder where all the auxiliary files generated by Conan (CMake toolchain and cmake dependencies files) will be placed.

Note that the definitions of the folders is different if it is a multi-config generator (like Visual Studio), or a single-config generator (like Unix Makefiles). In the first case, the folder is the same irrespective of the build type, and the build system will manage the different build types inside that folder. But single-config generators like Unix Makefiles, must use a different folder for each different configuration (as a different `build_type` Release/Debug). In this case we added a simple logic to consider multi-config if the compiler name is `msvc`.

Check that running the same commands as in the previous examples without the `-output-folder` argument will lead to the same results as before:

Listing 39: Windows

```

$ conan install . --build=missing
$ cd build
$ conanbuild.bat
# assuming Visual Studio 15 2017 is your VS version and that it matches your default_
↪profile
$ cmake .. -G "Visual Studio 15 2017" -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build . --config Release
...
Building with CMake version: 3.19.8
...
[100%] Built target compressor

```

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```
$ Release\compressor.exe
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
$ deactivate_conanbuild.bat
```

Listing 40: Linux, macOS

```
$ conan install . --build=missing
$ cd cmake-build-release
$ source conanbuild.sh
Capturing current environment in deactivate_conanbuildenv-release-x86_64.sh
Configuring environment variables
$ cmake .. -DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake
$ cmake --build .
...
Building with CMake version: 3.19.8
...
[100%] Built target compressor

$ ./compressor
Uncompressed size is: 233
Compressed size is: 147
ZLIB VERSION: 1.2.11
$ source deactivate_conanbuild.sh
```

There's no need to always write this logic in the *conanfile.py*. There are some pre-defined layouts you can import and directly use in your recipe. For example, for the CMake case, there's a *cmake\_layout()* already defined in Conan:

Listing 41: *conanfile.py*

```
from conan import ConanFile
from conan.tools.cmake import cmake_layout

class CompressorRecipe(ConanFile):
    settings = "os", "compiler", "build_type", "arch"
    generators = "CMakeToolchain", "CMakeDeps"

    def requirements(self):
        self.requires("zlib/1.2.11")
        self.tool_requires("cmake/3.19.8")

    def layout(self):
        cmake_layout(self)
```

### Use the *validate()* method to raise an error for non-supported configurations

The *validate()* method is evaluated when Conan loads the *conanfile.py* and you can use it to perform checks of the input settings. If, for example, your project does not support *armv8* architecture on MacOS you can raise the *ConanInvalidConfiguration* exception to make Conan return with a special error code. This will indicate that the configuration used for settings or options is not supported.

Listing 42: conanfile.py

```

...
from conan.errors import ConanInvalidConfiguration

class CompressorRecipe(ConanFile):
    ...

    def validate(self):
        if self.settings.os == "Macos" and self.settings.arch == "armv8":
            raise ConanInvalidConfiguration("ARM v8 not supported")

```

### Read more

- Importing resource files in the generate() method
- Layouts advanced use
- Conditional generators in configure()

## 3.2 Creating Packages

This section shows how to create, build and test your packages.

### 3.2.1 Getting started

This section introduces how to create your own Conan packages, explain *conanfile.py* recipes, and the commands to build packages from sources in your computer.

---

**Important:** This is a **tutorial** section. You are encouraged to execute these commands. For this concrete example, you will need **CMake** installed in your path. It is not strictly required by Conan to create packages, you can use other build systems (such as VS, Meson, Autotools, and even your own) to do that, without any dependency on CMake.

---

Using the **conan new** command will create a “Hello World” C++ library example project for us:

```

$ mkdir hellopkg && cd hellopkg
$ conan new hello/0.1 --template=cmake_lib
File saved: CMakeLists.txt
File saved: conanfile.py
File saved: src/hello.cpp
File saved: src/hello.h
File saved: test_package/CMakeLists.txt
File saved: test_package/conanfile.py
File saved: test_package/src/example.cpp

```

The generated files are:

- **conanfile.py:** On the root folder, there is a *conanfile.py* which is the main recipe file, responsible for defining how the package is built and consumed.
- **CMakeLists.txt:** A simple generic *CMakeLists.txt*, with nothing specific about Conan in it.
- **src folder:** the *src* folder that contains the simple C++ “hello” library.
- (optional) **test\_package** folder: contains an *example* application that will require and link with the created package. It is not mandatory, but it is useful to check that our package is correctly created.

Let's have a look at the package recipe *conanfile.py*:

```
from conans import ConanFile
from conan.tools.cmake import CMakeToolchain, CMake
from conan.tools.layout import cmake_layout

class HelloConan(ConanFile):
    name = "hello"
    version = "0.1"

    # Optional metadata
    license = "<Put the package license here>"
    author = "<Put your name here> <And your email here>"
    url = "<Package recipe repository url here, for issues about the package>"
    description = "<Description of Hello here>"
    topics = ("<Put some tag here>", "<here>", "<and here>")

    # Binary configuration
    settings = "os", "compiler", "build_type", "arch"
    options = {"shared": [True, False], "fPIC": [True, False]}
    default_options = {"shared": False, "fPIC": True}

    # Sources are located in the same place as this recipe, copy them to the recipe
    exports_sources = "CMakeLists.txt", "src/*"

    def config_options(self):
        if self.settings.os == "Windows":
            del self.options.fPIC

    def layout(self):
        cmake_layout(self)

    def generate(self):
        tc = CMakeToolchain(self)
        tc.generate()

    def build(self):
        cmake = CMake(self)
        cmake.configure()
        cmake.build()

    def package(self):
        cmake = CMake(self)
        cmake.install()

    def package_info(self):
        self.cpp_info.libs = ["hello"]
```

Let's explain this recipe a little bit:

- The binary configuration is composed by settings and options. When something changes in the configuration, the resulting binary built and packaged will be different:
  - settings are project-wide configuration that cannot be defaulted in recipes, like the OS or the architecture.
  - options are package-specific configuration and can be defaulted in recipes, in this case, we have the option of creating the package as a shared or static library, being static the default.

- The `exports_sources` attribute defines which sources are exported together with the recipe, these sources become part of the package recipe (others mechanisms don't do this, will be explained later).
- The `config_options()` method (together with `configure()` one) allows to fine-tune the binary configuration model, for example, in Windows, there is no `fPIC` option, so it can be removed.
- The `generate()` method prepares the build of the package from source. In this case, it could be simplified to an attribute `generators = "CMakeToolchain"`, but it is left to show this important method. In this case, the execution of `CMakeToolchain.generate()` method will create a `conan_toolchain.cmake` file that translates the Conan settings and options to CMake syntax.
- The `build()` method uses the CMake wrapper to call CMake commands, it is a thin layer that will manage to pass in this case the `-DCMAKE_TOOLCHAIN_FILE=conan_toolchain.cmake` argument. It will configure the project and build it from source.
- The `package()` method copies artifacts (headers, libs) from the build folder to the final package folder. It can be done with bare “copy” commands, but in this case, it is leveraging the already existing CMake install functionality (if the `CMakeLists.txt` didn't implement it, it is easy to write `self.copy()` commands in this `package()` method.
- Finally, the `package_info()` method defines that consumers must link with a “hello” library when using this package. Other information as include or lib paths can be defined as well. This information is used for files created by generators (as `CMakeDeps`) to be used by consumers. Although this method implies some potential duplication with the build system output (CMake could generate `xxx-config.cmake` files), it is important to define this, as Conan packages can be consumed by any other build system, not only CMake.

The content of the `test_package` folder is not critical now for understanding how packages are created. The important bits are:

- `test_package` folder is different from unit or integration tests. These tests are “package” tests, and validate that the package is properly created and that the package consumers will be able to link against it and reuse it.
- It is a small Conan project itself, it contains its `conanfile.py`, and its source code including build scripts, that depends on the package being created, and builds and executes a small application that requires the library in the package.
- It doesn't belong in the package. It only exists in the source repository, not in the package.

Let's build the package from sources with the current default configuration, and then let the `test_package` folder test the package:

```
$ conan create . demo/testing
...
hello/0.1: Hello World Release!
hello/0.1: _M_X64 defined
...
```

If “Hello world Release!” is displayed, it worked. This is what has happened:

- The `conanfile.py` together with the contents of the `src` folder have been copied (exported, in Conan terms) to the local Conan cache.
- A new build from source for the `hello/0.1@demo/testing` package starts, calling the `generate()`, `build()` and `package()` methods. This creates the binary package in the Conan cache.
- Moves to the `test_package` folder and executes a `conan install + conan build + test()` method, to check if the package was correctly created.

We can now validate that the recipe and the package binary are in the cache:

```
$ conan list recipes hello
Local Cache:
  hello
    hello/0.1@demo/testing#a4a4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77

$ conan list package-ids hello/0.1@demo/testing#a4a4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77
Local Cache:
  hello/0.1@demo/testing
    ↪#a4a4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77:e360b62ce00057522e221cfe56714705a46e20e2
      settings:
        arch=x86_64
        build_type=Release
        compiler=apple-clang
        compiler.libcxx=libc++
        compiler.version=12.0
        os=Macos
      options:
        fPIC=True
        shared=False
```

The **conan create** command receives the same parameters as **conan install**, so you can pass to it the same settings and options. If we execute the following lines, we will create new package binaries for those configurations:

```
$ conan create . demo/testing -s build_type=Debug
...
hello/0.1: Hello World Debug!

$ conan create . demo/testing -o hello:shared=True
...
hello/0.1: Hello World Release!
```

These new package binaries will be also stored in the Conan cache, ready to be used by any project in this computer, we can see them with:

```
$ conan list package-ids hello/0.1@demo/testing#a4a4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77
Local Cache:
  hello/0.1@demo/testing
    ↪#a4a4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77:842490321f80b0a9e1ba253d04972a72b836aa28
      settings:
        arch=x86_64
        build_type=Release
        compiler=apple-clang
        compiler.libcxx=libc++
        compiler.version=12.0
        os=Macos
      options:
        fPIC=True
        shared=True
  hello/0.1@demo/testing
    ↪#a4a4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77:a5c01fc21d2db712d56189dff69fc10f12b22375
      settings:
        arch=x86_64
        build_type=Debug
        compiler=apple-clang
        compiler.libcxx=libc++
        compiler.version=12.0
        os=Macos
```

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```
options:
  fPIC=True
  shared=False
hello/0.1@demo/testing
→ #afa4685e137e7d13f2b9845987c5af77:e360b62ce00057522e221cfe56714705a46e20e2
settings:
  arch=x86_64
  build_type=Release
  compiler=apple-clang
  compiler.libcxx=libc++
  compiler.version=12.0
  os=Macos
options:
  fPIC=True
  shared=False
```

Any doubts? Please check out our [FAQ section](#) or open a [Github issue](#)





**INTEGRATIONS**



**EXAMPLES**



## REFERENCE

### 6.1 Conan commands

#### 6.1.1 conan search

Search existing recipes in remotes. This command is equivalent to `conan list recipes <query> -r=*`, and is provided for simpler UX.

```
conan search -h
usage: conan search [-h] [-f {cli,json}] [-r REMOTE] query

Searches for package recipes in a remote or remotes

positional arguments:
query                  Search query to find package recipe reference, e.g., 'boost',
↳ 'lib*'

optional arguments:
-h, --help            show this help message and exit
-f {cli,json}, --format {cli,json}
                        Select the output format: cli, json. 'cli' is the default
↳ output.
-r REMOTE, --remote REMOTE
                        Remote names. Accepts wildcards. If not specified it searches
↳ in all remotes
```

```
$ conan search zlib
conancenter:
zlib
  zlib/1.2.11
  zlib/1.2.8

$ conan search zlib -r=conancenter
conancenter:
zlib
  zlib/1.2.11
  zlib/1.2.8

$ conan search zlib/1.2.1* -r=conancenter
conancenter:
zlib
  zlib/1.2.11

$ conan search zlib/1.2.1* -r=conancenter --format=json
```

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```
[
  {
    "remote": "conancenter",
    "error": null,
    "results": [
      {
        "name": "zlib",
        "id": "zlib/1.2.11"
      }
    ]
  }
]
```

## 6.1.2 conan list

### conan list recipes

```
$ conan list recipes zlib -r=conancenter
conancenter:
zlib
  zlib/1.2.11
  zlib/1.2.8

$ conan list recipes zlib/1.2.1* -r=conancenter
conancenter:
zlib
  zlib/1.2.11

$ conan list recipes zlib/1.2.1* -r=conancenter --format=json
[
  {
    "remote": "conancenter",
    "error": null,
    "results": [
      {
        "name": "zlib",
        "id": "zlib/1.2.11"
      }
    ]
  }
]
```

### conan list package-ids

```
$ conan list package-ids zlib/1.2.11 -r=conancenter
...
zlib/1.2.11:1513b3452ef7e2a2dd5f931247c5e02edeb98cc9
  settings:
    os=Macos
    arch=x86_64
    compiler=apple-clang
    build_type=Debug
    compiler.version=10.0
  options:
    shared=False
```

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```

    fPIC=True
zlib/1.2.11:963bb116781855de98dbb23aaac41621e5d312d8
    settings:
        os=Windows
        compiler.runtime=MTd
        arch=x86_64
        compiler=Visual Studio
        build_type=Debug
        compiler.version=15
    options:
        shared=False
zlib/1.2.11:bf6871a88a66b609883bce5de4dd61adb1e033a7
    settings:
        os=Linux
        arch=x86_64
        compiler=gcc
        build_type=Debug
        compiler.version=5
    options:
        shared=True
...

```

### conan list recipe-revisions

```

$ conan list recipe-revisions zlib/1.2.11 -r=conancenter
conancenter:
...
  zlib/1.2.11#b3eaf63da20a8606f3d84602c2cfa854 (2021-08-27T20:02:46Z)
  zlib/1.2.11#08c5163c8e302d1482d8fa2be93736af (2021-05-05T16:17:39Z)
  zlib/1.2.11#b291478a29f383b998e1633bee1c0536 (2021-03-25T10:03:21Z)
  zlib/1.2.11#514b772abf9c36ad9be48b84cfc6fdc2 (2021-02-19T14:33:26Z)

```

### conan list package-revisions

```

$conan list package-revisions zlib/1.2.11
→ #b3eaf63da20a8606f3d84602c2cfa854:963bb116781855de98dbb23aaac41621e5d312d8 -
→ r=conancenter
conancenter:
  zlib/1.2.11
→ #b3eaf63da20a8606f3d84602c2cfa854:963bb116781855de98dbb23aaac41621e5d312d8
→ #dd44f4a86108e836f0c2d35af89cd8cd (2021-08-27T20:12:00Z)

```

## 6.1.3 Creator commands

## 6.2 Python API

### 6.2.1 Conan API Reference

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class ConanAPIV2 (cache_folder=None)
```

### Read more

- Creating Conan custom commands
- ...

## 6.2.2 Remotes API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class RemotesAPI (conan_api)
```

## 6.2.3 Search API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class SearchAPI (conan_api)
```

```
    package_revisions (expression, query=None, remote=None)
```

Resolve an expression like lib\*/1\*#:9283\*, filtering by query and obtaining all the package revisions

#### Parameters

- **expression** – lib\*/1\*#:9283\*
- **query** – package configuration query like “os=Windows AND (arch=x86 OR compiler=gcc)”
- **remote** – Remote object

**Returns** a List of PkgReference

```
    recipe_revisions (expression, remote=None, none_revision_allowed=True)
```

#### Parameters

- **expression** – A RecipeReference that can contain “\*” at any field
- **remote** – Remote in case we want to check the references in a remote

**Returns** a list of complete RecipeReference

## 6.2.4 List API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class ListAPI (conan_api)
```

Get references from the recipes and packages in the cache or a remote

```
    filter_packages_configurations (pkg_configurations, query)
```

#### Parameters

- **pkg\_configurations** – Dict[PkgReference, PkgConfiguration]
- **query** – str like “os=Windows AND (arch=x86 OR compiler=gcc)”



**Returns** Dict[PkgReference, PkgConfiguration]

## 6.2.5 Profiles API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

**class ProfilesAPI** (*conan\_api*)

**detect** ()

**Returns** an automatically detected Profile, with a “best guess” of the system settings

**get\_default\_build** ()

**Returns** the path to the default “build” profile, either in the cache or as defined by the user in configuration

**get\_default\_host** ()

**Returns** the path to the default “host” profile, either in the cache or as defined by the user in configuration

**get\_path** (*profile, cwd=None, exists=True*)

**Returns** the resolved path of the given profile name, that could be in the cache, or local, depending on the “cwd”

**get\_profile** (*profiles, settings=None, options=None, conf=None, cwd=None*)

Computes a Profile as the result of aggregating all the user arguments, first it loads the “profiles”, composing them in order (last profile has priority), and finally adding the individual settings, options (priority over the profiles)

**list** ()

List all the profiles file sin the cache :return: an alphabetically ordered list of profile files in the default cache location

## 6.2.6 Install API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

**class InstallAPI** (*conan\_api*)

**install\_binaries** (*deps\_graph, remotes=None, update=False*)

Install binaries for dependency graph :param deps\_graph: Dependency graph to intall packages for :param remotes: :param update:

**install\_consumer** (*deps\_graph, generators=None, source\_folder=None, output\_folder=None, deploy=False*)

Once a dependency graph has been installed, there are things to be done, like invoking generators for the root consumer. This is necessary for example for conanfile.txt/py, or for “conan install <ref> -g

## 6.2.7 Graph API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

**class** `GraphAPI` (*conan\_api*)

**analyze\_binaries** (*graph, build\_mode=None, remotes=None, update=None, lockfile=None*)

Given a dependency graph, will compute the `package_ids` of all recipes in the graph, and evaluate if they should be built from sources, downloaded from a remote server, or if the packages are already in the local Conan cache

### Parameters

- **lockfile** –
- **graph** – a Conan dependency graph, as returned by “`load_graph()`”
- **build\_mode** – TODO: Discuss if this should be a `BuildMode` object or list of arguments
- **remotes** – list of remotes
- **update** – (False by default), if Conan should look for newer versions or revisions for already existing recipes in the Conan cache

**load\_graph** (*root\_node, profile\_host, profile\_build, lockfile=None, remotes=None, update=False, check\_update=False*)

Compute the dependency graph, starting from a root package, evaluation the graph with the provided configuration in `profile_build`, and `profile_host`. The resulting graph is a graph of recipes, but packages are not computed yet (`package_ids`) will be empty in the result. The result might have errors, like version or configuration conflicts, but it is still possible to inspect it. Only trying to install such graph will fail

### Parameters

- **root\_node** – the starting point, an already initialized `Node` structure, as returned by the “`load_root_node`” api
- **profile\_host** – The host profile
- **profile\_build** – The build profile
- **lockfile** – A valid lockfile (None by default, means no locked)
- **remotes** – list of remotes we want to check
- **update** – (False by default), if Conan should look for newer versions or revisions for already existing recipes in the Conan cache
- **check\_update** – For “graph info” command, check if there are recipe updates

**load\_root\_test\_conanfile** (*path, tested\_reference, profile\_host, profile\_build, update=None, remotes=None, lockfile=None*)

Create and initialize a root node from a `test_package/conanfile.py` consumer

### Parameters

- **lockfile** – Might be good to lock python-requires, build-requires
- **path** – The full path to the `test_package/conanfile.py` being used
- **tested\_reference** – The full `RecipeReference` of the tested package
- **profile\_host** –

- `profile_build` –
- `update` –
- `remotes` –

**Returns** a graph Node, recipe=RECIPE\_CONSUMER

## 6.2.8 Export API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class ExportAPI (conan_api)
```

## 6.2.9 Remove API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class RemoveAPI (conan_api)
```

## 6.2.10 Config API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class ConfigAPI (conan_api)
```

## 6.2.11 New API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class NewAPI (conan_api)
```

```
    get_home_template (template_name)
```

Load a template from the Conan home templates/command/new folder

```
    get_template (template_folder)
```

Load a template from a user absolute folder

## 6.2.12 Upload API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

```
class UploadAPI (conan_api)
```

```
    check_integrity (upload_data)
```

Check if the recipes and packages are corrupted (it will raise a ConanException)

**check\_upstream** (*upload\_bundle*, *remote*, *force=False*)

Check if the artifacts are already in the specified remote, skipping them from the upload\_bundle in that case

**prepare** (*upload\_bundle*)

Compress the recipes and packages and fill the upload\_data objects with the complete information. It doesn't perform the upload nor checks upstream to see if the recipe is still there

### 6.2.13 Download API

**Warning:** The Conan API is experimental and subject to breaking changes.

**class** DownloadAPI (*conan\_api*)

## 6.3 tools

Tools are all things that can be imported and used in Conan recipes.

The import path is always like:

```
from conan.tools.cmake import CMakeToolchain, CMakeDeps, CMake
from conan.tools.microsoft import MSBuildToolchain, MSBuildDeps, MSBuild
```

The main guidelines are:

- Everything that recipes can import belong to `from conan.tools`. Any other thing is private implementation and shouldn't be used in recipes.
- Only documented, public (not preceded by `_`) tools can be used in recipes.

Contents:

### 6.3.1 conan.tools.cmake

#### CMakeDeps

##### Reference

**class** CMakeDeps (*conanfile*)

#### CMakeToolchain

##### Reference

**class** CMakeToolchain (*conanfile*, *generator=None*)

#### CMake

##### Reference

**class** CMake (*conanfile*)

CMake helper to use together with the toolchain feature. It implements a very simple wrapper to call the cmake executable, but without passing compile flags, preprocessor definitions... all that is set by the toolchain. Only the generator and the CMAKE\_TOOLCHAIN\_FILE are passed to the command line, plus the `--config` Release for builds in multi-config

## cmake\_layout

**cmake\_layout** (*conanfile*, *generator=None*, *src\_folder='.'*)

### 6.3.2 conan.tools.env

#### Environment

**class Environment**

**compose\_env** (*other*)

*self* has precedence, the “other” will add/append if possible and not conflicting, but *self* mandates what to do. If *self* has **define()**, without placeholder, that will remain

**Parameters** *other* (class:*Environment*) – the “other” environment

**dumps** ()

returns a string with a profile-like original definition, not the full environment values

**unset** (*name*)

clears the variable, equivalent to a unset or set XXX=

#### EnvVars

**class EnvVars** (*conanfile*, *env*, *scope*)

**items** ()

returns {*str*: *str*} (*varname*: *value*)

#### VirtualBuildEnv

**class VirtualBuildEnv** (*conanfile*)

captures the conanfile environment that is defined from its dependencies, and also from profiles

**environment** ()

collects the buildtime information from dependencies. This is the typical use case of **build\_requires** defining information for consumers

#### VirtualRunEnv

**class VirtualRunEnv** (*conanfile*)

captures the conanfile environment that is defined from its dependencies, and also from profiles

**environment** ()

collects the runtime information from dependencies. For normal libraries should be very occasional

### 6.3.3 conan.tools.build

**conan.tools.build.cross\_building()**

**cross\_building** (*conanfile=None*, *skip\_x64\_x86=False*)

### 6.3.4 conan.tools.files

**conan.tools.files basic operations**

**conan.tools.files.copy()**

**copy** (*conanfile*, *pattern*, *src*, *dst*, *keep\_path=True*, *excludes=None*, *ignore\_case=True*, *copy\_symlink\_folders=True*)

It will copy the files matching the pattern from the src folder to the dst, including the symlinks to files. If a folder from “src” doesn’t contain any file to be copied, it won’t be created empty at the “dst”. If in “src” there are symlinks to folders, they will be created at “dst” irrespective if they (or the folder where points) have files to be copied or not, unless “copy\_symlink\_folders=False” is specified.

**Parameters**

- **pattern** – an fnmatch file pattern of the files that should be copied. Eg. .dll
- **dst** – the destination local folder, wrt to current conanfile dir, to which the files will be copied. Eg: “bin”
- **src** – the source folder in which those files will be searched. This folder will be stripped from the dst name. Eg.: lib/Debug/x86
- **keep\_path** – False if you want the relative paths to be maintained from src to dst folders, or just drop. False is useful if you want to collect e.g. many .libs among many dirs into a single lib dir
- **excludes** – Single pattern or a tuple of patterns to be excluded from the copy
- **ignore\_case** – will do a case-insensitive pattern matching when True
- **copy\_symlink\_folders** – Copy the symlink folders at the “dst” folder.

**Returns** list of copied files

**conan.tools.files.load()**

**load** (*conanfile*, *path*, *encoding='utf-8'*)

Loads a file content

**conan.tools.files.save()**

**save** (*conanfile*, *path*, *content*, *append=False*, *encoding='utf-8'*)

**conan.tools.files.rename()**

**rename** (*conanfile*, *src*, *dst*)

Rename a file or folder to avoid “Access is denied” error on Windows

**Parameters**

- **conanfile** – conanfile object
- **src** – Source file or folder
- **dst** – Destination file or folder

**Returns** None

**conan.tools.files.replace\_in\_file()**

**replace\_in\_file** (*conanfile*, *file\_path*, *search*, *replace*, *strict=True*, *encoding='utf-8'*)

**Parameters**

- **conanfile** – Conanfile instance

- **file\_path** – Path to the file
- **search** – Pattern to search
- **replace** – string to replace the matches
- **strict** – Raise in case “search” is not found in the file contents

**Returns****conan.tools.files.mkdir()****mkdir** (*conanfile, path*)

Recursive mkdir, doesnt fail if already existing

**conan.tools.files.rmdir()****rmdir** (*conanfile, path*)**conan.tools.files.chdir()****chdir** (*conanfile, newdir*)**conan.tools.files.unzip()****unzip** (*conanfile, filename, destination='.', keep\_permissions=False, pattern=None, strip\_root=False*)

Unzip a zipped file

**Parameters**

- **filename** – Path to the zip file
- **destination** – Destination folder (or file for .gz files)
- **keep\_permissions** – Keep the zip permissions. WARNING: Can be dangerous if the zip was not created in a NIX system, the bits could produce undefined permission schema. Use this option only if you are sure that the zip was created correctly.
- **pattern** – Extract only paths matching the pattern. This should be a Unix shell-style wildcard, see fnmatch documentation for more details.
- **flat** – If all the contents are in a single dir, flat that directory.

**Returns****conan.tools.files.update\_conandata()****update\_conandata** (*conanfile, data*)

this only works for updating the conandata on the export() method, it seems it would be plain wrong to try to change it anywhere else

**conan.tools.files downloads****conan.tools.files.get()**

**get** (*conanfile, url, md5="", sha1="", sha256="", destination='.', filename="", keep\_permissions=False, pattern=None, verify=True, retry=None, retry\_wait=None, auth=None, headers=None, strip\_root=False*)  
 high level downloader + unzipper + (optional hash checker) + delete temporary zip

**conan.tools.files.ftp\_download()**

**ftp\_download** (*conanfile*, *ip*, *filename*, *login*="", *password*="")

**conan.tools.files.download()**

**download** (*conanfile*, *url*, *filename*, *verify*=True, *retry*=None, *retry\_wait*=None, *auth*=None, *headers*=None, *md5*="", *sha1*="", *sha256*="")

**Retrieves a file from a given URL into a file with a given filename.** It uses certificates from a list of known verifiers for https downloads, but this can be optionally disabled.

**Parameters**

- **conanfile** –
- **url** – URL to download. It can be a list, which only the first one will be downloaded, and the follow URLs will be used as mirror in case of download error.
- **filename** – Name of the file to be created in the local storage
- **verify** – When False, disables https certificate validation
- **retry** – Number of retries in case of failure. Default is overridden by general.retry in the conan.conf file
- **retry\_wait** – Seconds to wait between download attempts. Default is overridden by general.retry\_wait in the conan.conf file
- **auth** – A tuple of user and password to use HTTPBasic authentication
- **headers** – A dictionary with additional headers
- **md5** – MD5 hash code to check the downloaded file
- **sha1** – SHA-1 hash code to check the downloaded file
- **sha256** – SHA-256 hash code to check the downloaded file

**Returns** None

**conan.tools.files patches****conan.tools.files.patch()**

**patch** (*conanfile*, *base\_path*=None, *patch\_file*=None, *patch\_string*=None, *strip*=0, *fuzz*=False, *\*\*kwargs*)

Applies a diff from file (patch\_file) or string (patch\_string) in base\_path directory or current dir if None

**Parameters**

- **base\_path** – Base path where the patch should be applied.
- **patch\_file** – Patch file that should be applied.
- **patch\_string** – Patch string that should be applied.
- **strip** – Number of folders to be stripped from the path.
- **output** – Stream object.
- **fuzz** – Should accept fuzzy patches.
- **kwargs** – Extra parameters that can be added and will contribute to output information



**conan.tools.files.apply\_conandata\_patches()****apply\_conandata\_patches** (*conanfile*)

Applies patches stored in ‘conanfile.conan\_data’ (read from ‘conandata.yml’ file). It will apply all the patches under ‘patches’ entry that matches the given ‘conanfile.version’. If versions are not defined in ‘conandata.yml’ it will apply all the patches directly under ‘patches’ keyword.

Example of ‘conandata.yml’ without versions defined:

```
patches:
- patch_file: "patches/0001-buildflatbuffers-cmake.patch"
base_path: "source_subfolder"
- patch_file: "patches/0002-implicit-copy-constructor.patch"
patch_type: backport
patch_source: https://github.com/google/flatbuffers/pull/5650
patch_description: Needed to build with modern clang compilers (adapted to 1.11.0 ↪
↪tagged sources).
```

Example of ‘conandata.yml’ with different patches for different versions:

```
patches:
"1.11.0":
- patch_file: "patches/0001-buildflatbuffers-cmake.patch"
- patch_file: "patches/0002-implicit-copy-constructor.patch"
patch_type: backport
patch_source: https://github.com/google/flatbuffers/pull/5650
patch_description: Needed to build with modern clang compilers (adapted to 1.
↪11.0 tagged sources).
"1.12.0":
- patch_file: "patches/0001-buildflatbuffers-cmake.patch"
```

**conan.tools.files checksums****conan.tools.files.check\_md5()**

**check\_md5** (*conanfile, file\_path, signature*)

**conan.tools.files.check\_sha1()**

**check\_sha1** (*conanfile, file\_path, signature*)

**conan.tools.files.check\_sha256()**

**check\_sha256** (*conanfile, file\_path, signature*)

**conan.tools.files.symlinks****conan.tools.files.symlinks.absolute\_to\_relative\_symlinks()**

**absolute\_to\_relative\_symlinks** (*conanfile, base\_folder*)

Convert the symlinks with absolute paths to relative if they are pointing to a file or directory inside the ‘base\_folder’. Any absolute symlink pointing outside the ‘base\_folder’ will be ignored

**conan.tools.files.symlinks.remove\_external\_symlinks()**

**remove\_external\_symlinks** (*conanfile, base\_folder=None*)

Remove the symlinks to files that point outside the ‘base\_folder’, no matter if relative or absolute

**conan.tools.files.symlinks.remove\_broken\_symlinks()**

**remove\_broken\_symlinks** (*conanfile*, *base\_folder=None*)

Remove the broken symlinks, no matter if relative or absolute

**conan.tools.files.AutoPackager**

**class AutoPackager** (*conanfile*)

**See also:**

There is a great community behind Conan with users helping each other in [Cpplang Slack](#). Please join us in the `#conan` channel!



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