# Zig (programming language)

**Zig** is an imperative, general-purpose, statically typed, compiled system programming language designed by Andrew Kelley. The language is designed for "robustness, optimality and maintainability", supporting compile-time generics and reflection, cross-compilation and manual memory management. A major goal of the language is to improve upon the C language, while also taking inspiration from Rust, among others. Zig has many features for low-level programming, notably: packed structs (structs without padding between fields), arbitrary width integers and multiple pointer types.

The stage 1 compiler is written in Zig and  $\underline{C++}$ , using  $\underline{LLVM}$   $11^{\underline{[14]}}$  as a back-end,  $\underline{^{[15][16]}}$  supporting many of its native targets.  $\underline{^{[17]}}$  The compiler is open source under the  $\underline{MIT}$   $\underline{License}$ .  $\underline{^{[18]}}$  The Zig compiler exposes the ability to compile C and  $\underline{C++}$  similarly to  $\underline{Clang}$  with the commands "zig cc" and "zig  $\underline{c++}$ ",  $\underline{^{[19]}}$  providing many headers including  $\underline{libc}$  and  $\underline{libcxx}$  for many different platforms, allowing Zig's cc and  $\underline{c++}$  subcommands to act as  $\underline{cross}$  compilers out of the box.  $\underline{^{[20][21]}}$ 

Zig development is funded by the Zig Software Foundation (ZSF), a non-profit corporation with Andrew Kelley as president, which takes in donations and hires multiple full-time employees. [22][23][24]

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# **Examples**

### Zig **Paradigms** Multi-paradigm: imperative, concurrent, procedural, functional Designed by Andrew Kelley First appeared 8 February 2016<sup>[1]</sup> **Preview release** 0.8.1<sup>[2]</sup> ✓ / 7 September 2021 **Typing** Static, strong, discipline inferred, structural, generic **Platform** x86-64, ARM, MIPS, IA-32, WebAssembly, RISC-V os Cross-platform License MIT License **Filename** .zig, .zir extensions Website ziglang.org (http s://ziglang.org/) Influenced by C, C++, LLVM IR, Go, Rust, **JavaScript**

### **Hello World**

```
const std = @import("std");
pub fn main() !void {
  const stdout = std.io.getStdOut().writer();
```

```
try stdout.print("Hello, {}!\n", .{"world"});
}
```

### Generic linked list

```
pub fn main() void {
    var node = LinkedList(i32).Node {
        .prev = null,
        .next = null,
        .data = 1234,
    var list = LinkedList(i32) {
        .first = &node,
        .last = &node,
        .len = 1,
    };
}
fn LinkedList(comptime T: type) type {
    return struct {
        pub const Node = struct {
            prev: ?*Node,
            next: ?*Node,
            data: T,
        };
        first: ?*Node,
        last: ?*Node,
        len:
              usize,
    };
}
```

## See also

- C
- C++
- Nim
- Rust
- D

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# **External links**

- Official website (https://ziglang.org/)
- Zig on GitHub (https://github.com/ziglang/zig)
- Movie: Introducing Zig (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4oYSByyRak)
- Movie: The Road to 1.0 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gv2I7qTux7g)

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