stencyl™

Quick Start Guide

Welcome

We're glad that you've chosen us to help you provide a fun and creative learning environment for your students.

Together with the resources inside this Educator's Kit, you'll be able to introduce your students to Stencyl and have them creating their own games in no time!

Your feedback is important to us, and we welcome you to [contact us](#) directly with any questions or comments you have.

Happy Stencyling!

- The Stencyl Team

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What is Stencyl?

Stencyl is a popular toolset that enables anyone to create video games **without programming**. Instead of using code, students can click and drag blocks together to build games that they can play on their computers, share with friends, and even run on their own iPhones, iPads and Androids.

Why Stencyl?

Easy
Stencyl's colorful block-based approach has proven intuitive for children as young as nine years old.

Free for Students
Students can download Stencyl for free and continue working on their games at home when class is over.

Works Everywhere
Stencyl runs on Windows, Mac OS X, and popular Linux distributions.

Built for Pros
Don't let the colorful blocks and inviting interface fool you; Stencyl is a professional game development tool that hobbyists and game studios alike are using to make real money.

Built for Educators
Hundreds of primary schools, middle schools, high schools, community colleges, universities, after-school camps, museums, and educational organizations around the world are using Stencyl right now with students of all ages. The feedback we've received so far has helped us to craft an even better Stencyl experience for new schools.

Friendly Community
We have an active and helpful community forum that's populated by fellow educators, experienced Stencylers, and Stencyl team members alike, so your questions won't go unanswered for long.

What to Do

Here's what you need to do begin teaching Stencyl in your classroom.

Step 1 - Become familiar with Stencyl

In order to teach Stencyl to students, you need to be familiar with the basics, so that you can get students started with it.

Run through our Crash Course on Stencylpedia to accomplish this. This Crash Course takes 30 minutes to complete.

→ View our **Crash Course** (Link: http://www.stencyl.com/help/start/)

Step 2 - Install Stencyl on student computers

Before teaching a class using Stencyl, install Stencyl on student computers. You may need to enlist the help of your school's IT director for network deployments. *(If students bring their own computers, tell students how to install Stencyl on their own and/or devote some class time to this.)*

→ View **Installing Stencyl** (on the next page) for details.

Step 3 - Teach a class using our curriculum

The core of our educator's kit is a **pre-designed curriculum** that introduces students to fundamental programming concepts using Stencyl.

Six teaching sessions and a final project are included in this curriculum. This can be extended to twelve sessions (or more) if all supplementary activities are included.

→ Our curriculum is bundled into this Education Kit under the **Curriculum** folder.

Step 4 - Convince administrators and parents to adopt Stencyl

Convince parents, department heads, principals and other stakeholders that teaching Stencyl in the classroom or an afterschool club will be beneficial for students, so that your "pilot" course will become part of the official curriculum.

Installing Stencyl

Step 1 - System Requirements

Stencyl requires a computer capable of running one of the following:

- Windows 7 or newer (Windows 8 or newer recommended)
- Mac OS X 10.9 or newer (Mac OS X 10.10 or newer recommended)
- Linux (Ubuntu 12 or newer recommended)

* iPhone and iPad games require a Mac and an active [iOS Developer License](#) (currently $99/year) from Apple.

Step 2 - Sign Up for a Stencyl account

[Sign up for an account](#) on our website. (Link: http://www.stencyl.com/register)

Step 3 - Download Stencyl

Download Stencyl from [our website](#). (Link: http://www.stencyl.com/download)

*** Looking for an MSI?** [Click here for pricing details.](#)*

Step 4 - Install Stencyl

Windows
The downloaded file is a standard Windows installer. Run it to install Stencyl.

Mac
Unzip the downloaded file and drag the resulting folder into your Mac's *Applications* folder.

Linux
Unzip the archive. Then, [follow these instructions](#) to install Stencyl.
(Link: http://www.stencyl.com/help/view/install-stencyl-linux)

After installing Stencyl, launch it by double-clicking its icon. When asked, sign in using your Stencyl account.

Frequently Asked Questions

I can't get Stencyl to run and/or have hit technical issues. Where can I get help?

For technical support, ask questions on our educator forums.
(Link: http://www.stencyl.com/education/forum)

What age groups are appropriate for Stencyl?

Stencyl is being used right now in primary schools, middle schools, high schools, colleges, universities, summer camps, and museums all over the world. In short, Stencyl is appropriate for most if not all age groups.

Stencyl's intuitive block-snapping interface was inspired by a highly lauded research project, which has proven to be an effective teaching tool with children as young as nine.

Are there any costs?

Stencyl is free to evaluate for schools. After a *reasonable* evaluation period, you must purchase a school license to use Stencyl in your classroom or school.

See our pricing page for details.
(Link: http://www.stencyl.com/education/pricing)

Have other questions or feedback?

General Questions / Feedback - http://www.stencyl.com/contact

Technical Support - http://www.stencyl.com/education/forum