

# Demonstrate Usage of CMake & Make with Demo Project

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## What is CMake?

A cross-platform Buildsystem Generator which can create input for native build tools like make / ninja.

## How to START?

Mini. Req.: only an empty ‘CMakeLists.txt’

Mini. Req. for none empty ‘CMakeLists.txt’:

\* **cmake\_minimum\_required(...)**

\* **project(...)**

\* optional: a target of the type ‘executable’, ‘library’ or ‘custom\_target’

\* init cmd: **cmake -S<src-path> -B<build-path>**

```
1 # A very simple CMake Project
2 cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.16)
3
4 project(Test) # VERSION 1.0.0
5
6 add_custom_target(Test # language CXX
7     COMMAND
8         ${CMAKE_COMMAND} -E echo
9         "A simplest one custom-target CMake project."
10 )
```

```
yw@yw-HP-Compaq-Elite-8300-SFF in CMakeDemo on Demo_Branch [!]  
$ cmake -H. -B build/  
-- Configuring done  
-- Generating done  
-- Build files have been written to: /mnt/yw/SSD 250/00_projects/  
l/programming training/Toolchain/CMake_Make/CMakeDemo/build  
  
yw@yw-HP-Compaq-Elite-8300-SFF in CMakeDemo on Demo_Branch [!]  
$ cmake --build ./build/ --target Test  
Scanning dependencies of target Test  
A simplest one custom-target CMake project.  
Built target Test
```

## The most important BASICs of CMake:

\* CMake stages (without CTest & CPack):

configure-step  
Generation-step => execute\_process(...)  
Build-step => add\_custom\_command(OUTPUT ...)  
add\_custom\_target(<target> ...)  
add\_custom\_command(TARGET ...)

\* Three types of target:

add\_executable(<name> ...)  
add\_library(<name> ...)  
add\_custom\_library(<name> [ALL])

\* Target specific helper func.:

target\_include\_directories(<target> <visibility> <dir>)  
target\_link\_directories(<target> <visibility> <dir>)  
target\_link\_libraries(<target> <visibility> <lib>)  
target\_compile\_definitions(<target> <visibility> <items>)  
set\_target\_properties(<target...> PROPERTIES <prop value>... )  
get\_target\_property(<VAR> <target> <property>)

\* Global/cross-targets helper func.:

include\_directories(<dir>... )  
link\_directories(<dir>... )  
link\_libraries(AFTER|BEFORE <dir>... )  
add\_definitions(<definition>... )  
remove\_definitions(-D<def>... )  
add\_compile\_definitions(<definition>... )  
set\_property(<scope> PROPERTY <name> <value>... )  
get\_property(<VAR> <scope> PROPERTY <name> )

\* Structuring project:

add\_subdirectory(<subdir>)  
include(<filename>... )  
include\_directories(<dir>... )

\* Set variable:

normal : set(<VAR> <value>) // get: \${VAR}  
cache entry: set(<VAR> <value> CACHE <type> <desc.>)  
env. variable: set(ENV{VAR} [value])  
<type>: STRING, BOOL, PATH etc.

\* Manipulate list:

list(<operation> <list> [<element> ...])  
<operation>: LENGTH, GET, FIND, APPEND etc.

\* View settings:

MESSAGE(<type> "..." )  
<type>: STRING, TRACE, ERROR etc.

\* Flow control structures:

<element>(...)  
#do something  
<endelement>()  
<element>: if, foreach, while, function, macro

```
1 cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.15.0)
2
3 project(CMAKEDEMO VERSION 1.0)
4
5 set(MAIN_TARGET CMakeDemo)
6
7 # include sources needs for this target
8 include(${CMAKE_CURRENT_SOURCE_DIR}/sources.cmake)
9
10 add_executable(${MAIN_TARGET} ${MAIN_SRC})
11
12 # Add local targets or subdirectory using the 'option'-function
13 # Advantage of 'option'-func is it can turn on/off from outside
14 # like a cached boolean variable
15 option(USE_EXTLIB01 "Use local library extlib01." ON)
16 option(USE_M2 "Use local library module02." ON)
17 option(USE_M3 "Use local library module03." ON)
18
19 # This is only a demonstration about how to use 'find_library'
20 if(USE_EXTLIB01)
21     find_library(EXT_LIBRARY
22         NAMES extlib01.a
23         PATHS ${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/extlibs/src
24     )
25 endif()
26
27 if(USE_M2)
28     if(NOT EXISTS "${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/module02")
29         message(FATAL_ERROR "The module02 doesn't exist")
30     else()
31         add_subdirectory(module02)
32
33         list(APPEND EXTRA_LIB_DIRS "module02")
34         list(APPEND EXTRA_INCLUDE_DIRS "${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/module02")
35         list(APPEND EXTRA_LINKS module02)
36     endif()
37 endif()
38
39 if(USE_M3)
40     if(NOT EXISTS "${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/module03")
41         message(FATAL_ERROR "The module03 doesn't exist!")
42     else()
43         add_subdirectory(module03)
44
45         list(APPEND EXTRA_LIB_DIRS "module03")
46         list(APPEND EXTRA_INCLUDE_DIRS "${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/module03")
47         list(APPEND EXTRA_LINKS module03)
48     endif()
49 endif()
50
51 target_include_directories(${MAIN_TARGET}
52     PUBLIC ${EXTRA_INCLUDE_DIRS}
53     # PUBLIC ${PROJECT_BINARY_DIR}
54 )
55
56 target_link_directories(${MAIN_TARGET}
57     PRIVATE ${EXTRA_LIB_DIRS}
58 )
59
60 target_link_libraries(${MAIN_TARGET}
61     ${EXTRA_LINKS}
62     ${EXT_LIBRARY})
```

```
# Include sources needs for this target
include(${CMAKE_CURRENT_SOURCE_DIR}/sources.cmake)

# Available lib-type:
# STATIC
# SHARED
# OBJECT
# MODULE
# Default type is STATIC, if BUILD_SHARED_LIBS is false
add_library(module02
    STATIC
    ${MODULE02_SRC})
```

\* Content under <build-path>:  
CmakeListsCache.txt # every config & parsing result  
Cmakefiles/ # everything that native tool need  
<NativeToolInput> # i.e. ‘Makefile’, ‘build.ninja’ etc.  
cmake\_install.cmake # useful for install program/module

\* CML usages:

cmake -G <generator> => def. native generator i.e. make  
cmake -E <cmd> => perform cml tool i.e. echo or copy  
cmake -P <script> => perform a script

## Where to get HELP?

\* **cmake --version**

\* **cmake --help => main help page**

\* **cmake --help <cmd> => page for the <cmd>**

\* **cmake --help-command-list**

\* **cmake --system-information [file]**

\* **cmake -E => list available CML tools**

\* **cmake --build <build-path> --target help => list available targets of cur. scope / CMakeLists.txt**

```
CMakeLists.txt
├── extlibs
│   ├── inc
│   │   └── extlib01.h
│   └── src
│       └── extlib01.a
├── module01
│   ├── inc
│   │   └── module01.h
│   └── src
│       └── module01.c
├── module02
│   ├── CMakeLists.txt
│   ├── inc
│   │   └── module02.h
│   ├── module0201
│   │   ├── inc
│   │   │   └── module0201.h
│   │   └── src
│   │       └── module0201.c
│   └── sources.cmake
│       ├── module02.c
│       └── module02.c
├── module03
│   ├── CMakeLists.txt
│   ├── inc
│   │   └── module03.h
│   ├── sources.cmake
│   └── src
│       └── module03.c
└── sources.cmake
    ├── module03.c
    └── main.c
```

## Compare Demo with same Resources

\* The major exe target contains source under ./src and ./module01  
\* module02 & -03 shall be compiled into own libraries and linked to the major target  
\* A static extra-lib ‘extlib01’ needs to be linked into the final exe target  
\* Based on this structure, there are three CMakeLists.txt and three Makefile on each level, pls. refer to correspond screenshots  
\* Mikefile of module use same structure therefore it’s not be shown completely

```
extlibs
├── inc
│   ├── extlib01.h
│   └── extlib01.a
├── src
│   ├── module01.h
│   ├── module01.c
│   ├── module02.h
│   ├── module0201
│   │   ├── inc
│   │   │   └── module0201.h
│   │   └── src
│   │       └── module0201.c
│   ├── module02.mk
│   └── module02.c
├── module03
│   ├── inc
│   │   ├── module03.h
│   │   └── module0301
│   │       ├── inc
│   │       │   └── module0301.h
│   │       └── src
│   │           └── module0301.c
│   ├── module03.mk
│   └── module03.c
└── main.c
```

```
# Use target sources to add target's sources instead of defining
# as variable and then appending all sources to it. As we're done
# for library 'module02', further more, we can use different visibility
# PRIVATE or PUBLIC for different parts of the sources

target_sources(module02
    PRIVATE
        # Source files
        ${CMAKE_CURRENT_SOURCE_DIR}/src/module02.c
    PUBLIC
        # Header files
        ${CMAKE_CURRENT_SOURCE_DIR}/inc/module02.h)
```

```
yw@yw-HP-Compaq-Elite-8300-SFF in CMakeDemo on Demo_Branch [!]  
$ cmake --version  
cmake version 3.16.3
```

CMake suite maintained and supported by Kitware (Kitware.com/cmake)

```
yw@yw-HP-Compaq-Elite-8300-SFF in CMakeDemo on Demo_Branch [!]  
$ cmake --help
```

```
yw@yw-HP-Compaq-Elite-8300-SFF in CMakeDemo on Demo_Branch [!]  
$ cmake --system-information  
Avoid ctest truncation of output: CTEST_FULL_OUTPUT  
===== MAIN VARIABLES =====  
CMAKE_STATIC_LIBRARY_PREFIX == "lib"  
CMAKE_STATIC_LIBRARY_SUFFIX == ".a"
```

```
# This file is adapted and expanded based on the https://makefiletutorial.com/#makefile-cookbook  
# Many thanks to the original author!  
  
# Main target  
TARGET_EXEC := demo  
  
# directories  
BUILD_DIR := ./build  
SRC_DIRS := ./  
LIB_DIRS := ./extlibs  
NAVI_SRCS_STR := \\\( -name '*.cpp' -or -name '*.c' -or -name '*.s' \\\)  
SKIP_DIRS_STR := \\\( -name .git -o -name .vscode -o -name module02 -o -name module03 \\\)  
NAVI_LIBS_STR := \\\( -name '*.a' \\\)  
  
# Unix/linux standard shell commands used in these scripts;  
# replace with your own ones if you're working under another environment  
CMD_FIND = find  
CMD_MKDIR := mkdir  
CMD_RM := rm  
  
# Dummy first default target  
.PHONY : nothing  
nothing:  
    ${info "Nothing to do with the default/first target; please use an valid target like 'all'."}  
  
# Find all the C and C++ files we want to compile  
# Note the single quotes around the * expressions. Make will incorrectly expand these otherwise.  
SRCS := $(shell $(CMD_FIND) $(SRC_DIRS) -type d $(SKIP_DIRS_STR) -prune -o $(NAVI_SRCS_STR) -print)  
  
# add all building libraires into $(LIBS)  
LIBS := $(shell $(CMD_FIND) $(LIB_DIRS) $(NAVI_LIBS_STR) )  
  
# String substitution for every C/C++ file.  
# As an example, ./build/hello.cpp turns into ./build/hello.cpp.o  
OBSJS := $(SRCS:%=${BUILD_DIR}/${OBSJS})  
  
# String substitution (suffix version without %).  
# As an example, ./build/hello.cpp.o turns into ./build/hello.cpp.d  
DEPS := $(OBSJS:.o=.d)  
  
# Every folder in ./src will need to be passed to GCC so that it can find header files  
# INC_DIRS := $(shell $(CMD_FIND) $(SRC_DIRS) -type d -not -path "$(SKIP_DIRS_STR)"  
INC_DIRS := $(shell $(CMD_FIND) $(SRC_DIRS) -type d $(SKIP_DIRS_STR) -prune -o -print)  
  
# Add a prefix to INC_DIRS. So moduleA would become -ImoduleA. GCC understands this -I flag  
INC_FLAGS := $(addprefix -I,$(INC_DIRS))  
  
# The -MMD and -MP flags together generate Makefiles for us!  
# These files will have .d instead of .o as the output.  
CPPFLAGS := $(INC_FLAGS) -MMD -MP  
  
# include makefiles for libraires building  
-include ./module02/module02.mk  
-include ./module03/module03.mk  
  
# -include ./extlibs/extlib01.mk  
  
# The final build step.  
.PHONY : all  
all: $(BUILD_DIR)/$(TARGET_EXEC)  
  
$(BUILD_DIR)/$(TARGET_EXEC): $(OBSJS) $(LIBS)  
    $(CC) $(OBSJS) $(LIBS) -o $@ $(LDFLAGS)  
  
# Build step for C source  
$(BUILD_DIR)/%.c.o: %.c  
    $(CMD_MKDIR) -p $(dir $@)  
    $(CC) $(CPPFLAGS) $(CFLAGS) -c $< -o $@  
  
# Build step for C++ source  
$(BUILD_DIR)/%.cpp.o: %.cpp  
    $(CMD_MKDIR) -p $(dir $@)  
    $(CXX) $(CPPFLAGS) $(CXXFLAGS) -c $< -o $@  
  
# Build step for assembly source  
$(BUILD_DIR)/%.s.o: %.s  
    $(CMD_MKDIR) -p $(dir $@)  
    $(CC) $(CPPFLAGS) $(CFLAGS) -c $< -o $@  
  
# PHONY: clean  
clean:  
    if [ -d $(BUILD_DIR) ]; then $(CMD_RM) -r $(BUILD_DIR); fi  
  
# Include the .d makefiles. The - at the front suppresses the errors of missing  
# Makefiles. Initially, all the .d files will be missing, and we don't want those  
# errors to show up.  
-include $(DEPS)
```

```
# This module as an own logic unit will  
M2_TARGET := module02.a  
M2_BUILD_DIR := ./build/module02/build  
M2_SRC_DIRS := ./module02  
M2_SKIP_DIRS := ../.git
```

## BASICs of Make:

\* Major config file: ‘Makefile’

\* Run ‘make’ to call the default/first target

\* Options: -e, -B, -s, -j=N

\* get help: ‘make --help’

\* Target definition systax:

<name>: [requisites]  
cmd cmd cmd ...

\* call func.: \$(<func> <arg. List>)

\* .PHONY: # avoid same name between target and file

```
# The final build step for this logic unit  
.PHONY: module02  
module02: $(M2_BUILD_DIR)/$(M2_TARGET)  
    $(M2_BUILD_DIR)/$(M2_TARGET): $(M2_OBJS)  
    $(AR) $(ARFLAGS) $@ $^
```

\* set variable: || to get: \$(<VAR>)

<VAR> := <value> # one time assignment  
<VAR> = <value> # renewing assignment  
<VAR> += <value> # append assignment  
<VAR> ?= <value> # safe assignment  
<VAR> += <value> # append assignment

\* magic variables

out.o: src.c src.h  
\$@ # "out.o" (target)  
\$< # "src.c" (first prerequisite)  
\$^ # "src.c src.h" (all prerequisites)

%:o: %.c

\$\* # the 'stem' with which an implicit rule matches ("foo" in "foo.c")