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See also: [Other Geeks@INDC](#)

Qt 4.5 with Visual Studio 2008 (VC++ Express)

Qt is a cross platform GUI toolkit from Nokia. Its SDK is available under an LGPL license, it means we can use it free of charge to develop proprietary, commercial, closed-source software (thanks to Nokia). However, the current LGPL release leaves some gaps in using Qt from within Visual Studio 2008. This is somewhat understandable given that Visual Studio integration was a commercial-only offering and Nokia has Qt Creator (and not Visual Studio). My problem with **Qt Creator** is it uses **MingGW** (gcc) compiler which is nowhere near as good as VC++ 2008. Also for Visual Studio background like me, who is not familiar with Qt creator, learning Qt Creator will take time. Thanks to [Wiria](#) and [AK](#) who brought Qt to my table for a review.

Qt GUI Toolkit is very useful to develop portable application (single source codes) for *NIX, MAC and Windows (including Windows 98 but not being tested for Windows 7). In this post, I will show you how to start using Qt SDK only with Visual C++ 2008, you can use FREE Visual C++ 2008 express too.

Build VC++ Version of Qt

- Download and install [qt-sdk-win-opensource-2009.01.1](#).
- Install the SDK to default directory, in my case C:\qt\2009.01. I didn't install MingGW and Qt Creator as I don't need.

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
bin	4/1/2009 9:37 AM	File Folder	
lib	4/1/2009 9:33 AM	File Folder	
qt	4/1/2009 9:37 AM	File Folder	
share	4/1/2009 9:33 AM	File Folder	
LICENSE	2/26/2009 4:20 PM	File	27 KB
Qt SDK	4/1/2009 9:37 AM	Internet Shortcut	1 KB
uninst	4/1/2009 9:37 AM	Application	571 KB

- Once QT and VisualStudio 2008 both are installed and ready, open the VisualStudio 2008 Command Prompt.
- Change directory to the Qt SDK installation folder in the Command Prompt. Usually it would be of the form "C:\Qt\2009.01\qt"
- Run Configure.exe to target platform win32-msvc2008. You can simply run by typing **configure** or using other options. For example:

```
C:\Qt\2009.01\configure -no-sql-sqlite -no-qt3support -no-opengl -platform win32-msvc2008
-no-libtiff -no-dbus -no-phonon -no-phonon-backend -no-webkit
```

- Build Qt for use with Visual Studio 2008 by typing **nmake**
- **Configure** and **nmake** will take time, be patient enough. **In my case, I started to build 19.17 PM and completed on 23.47 (4:30 hours)!**
- Once completed, Qt SDK is ready for Visual Studio 2008.

```
Administrator: Visual Studio 2008 Command Prompt
C:\Qt\2009.01\qt>cd C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\pathstroke\pathstroke.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\pathstroke\pathstroke.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\affine\affine.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\composition\composition.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\books\books.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\interview\interview.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\mainwindow/mainwindow.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\spreadsheet\spreadsheet.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\textedit\textedit.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\chip\chip.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\embeddiallogs\embeddiallogs.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\undo\undo.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\boxes\boxes.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\arthurplugin\arthurplugin.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\sqlbrowser\sqlbrowser.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\qtdemo\qtdemo.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\mediaplayer\mediaplayer.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\demos\browser\browser.pro
Reading C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\tools\qdoc3\qdoc3.pro

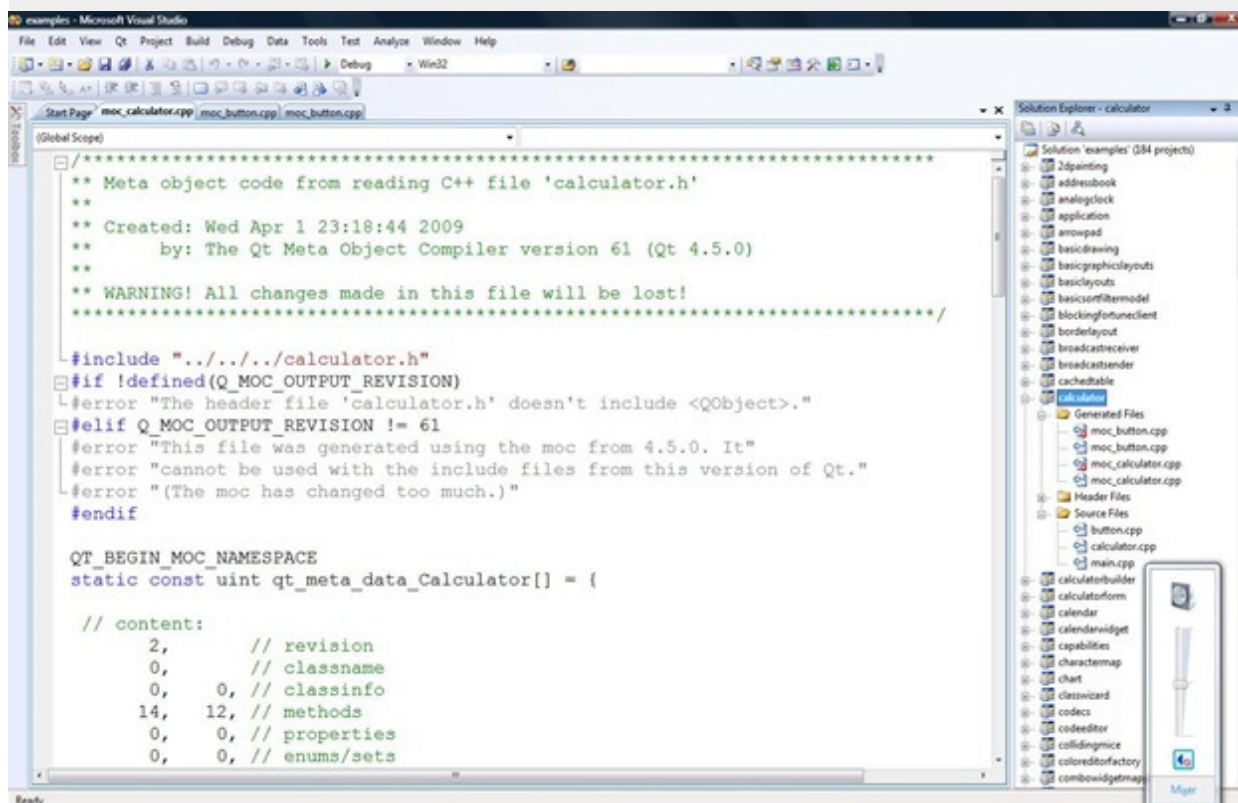
Qt is now configured for building. Just run nmake.
To reconfigure, run nmake confclean and configure.

C:\Qt\2009.01\qt>

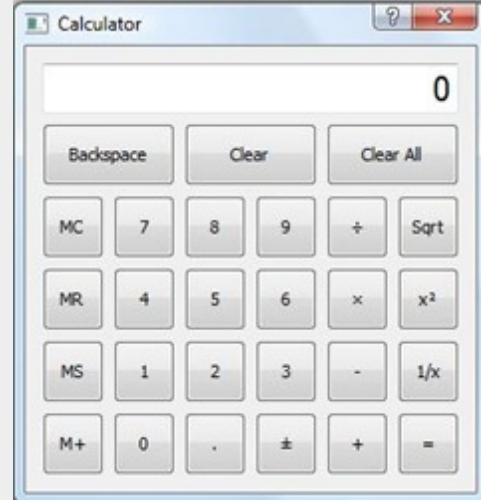
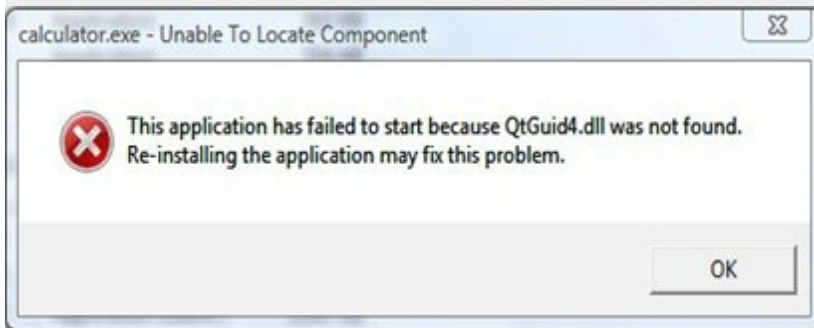
Administrator: Visual Studio 2008 Command Prompt
C:\Qt\2009.01\qt>cd C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\examples
E:\NO_WARNINGS. See online help for details.
c:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio 9.0\VC\INCLUDE\string.h(74) : s
ee declaration of 'strcpy'
.\tokenizer.cpp(554) : warning C4996: 'strcpy': This function or variable may be
unsafe. Consider using strcpy_s instead. To disable deprecation, use _CRT_SECU
E_NO_WARNINGS. See online help for details.
c:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio 9.0\VC\INCLUDE\string.h(74) : s
ee declaration of 'strcpy'
tree.cpp
uncompressor.cpp
webxmlgenerator.cpp
.\webxmlgenerator.cpp(134) : warning C4065: switch statement contains 'default'
but no 'case' labels
yyindent.cpp
link /LIBPATH:"c:\Qt\2009.01\qt\lib" /LIBPATH:"c:\Qt\2009.01\qt\lib" /NO
LOGO /INCREMENTAL:NO /LTCG /SUBSYSTEM:CONSOLE /MANIFEST /MANIFESTFILE:"tmp\obj\re
lease_shared\qdoc3.intermediate.manifest" /OUT:release\qdoc3.exe @C:\Users\rism
ana\AppData\Local\Temp\nn8378.tmp
Generating code
Finished generating code
nt.exe -nologo -manifest "tmp\obj\release_shared\qdoc3.intermediate.mani
fest" -outputresource:release\qdoc3.exe;1
C:\Qt\2009.01\qt>
```

Build and Run the Qt SDK Samples

Once your Qt SDK is ready to be used you can see samples directory in your Qt SDK installation (usually, <C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\examples>) and then open the examples.sln file from your Visual Studio 2008. If double-clicking .sln file does not work, open it manually from your Visual Studio. There are a lot of samples from Qt SDK.



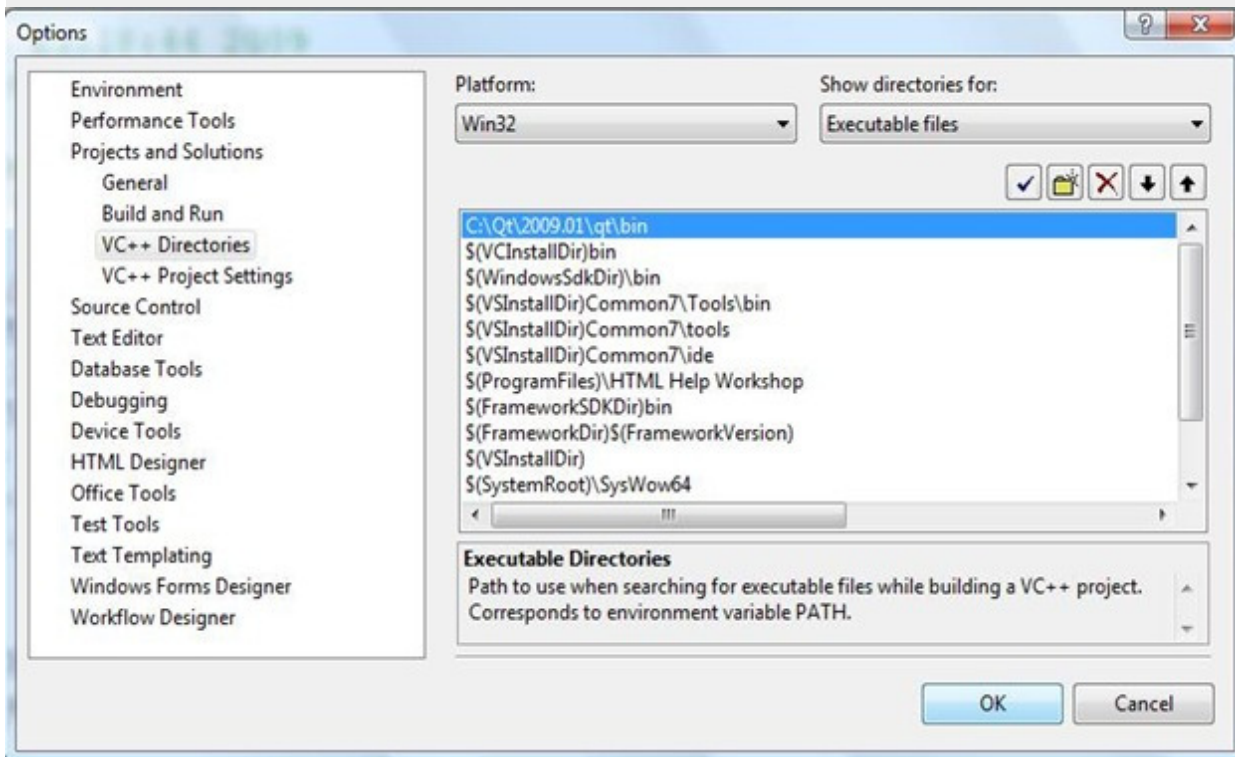
If you build and debug – calculator project of instance – you will notification that the application because QtGuid4.dll was not found.



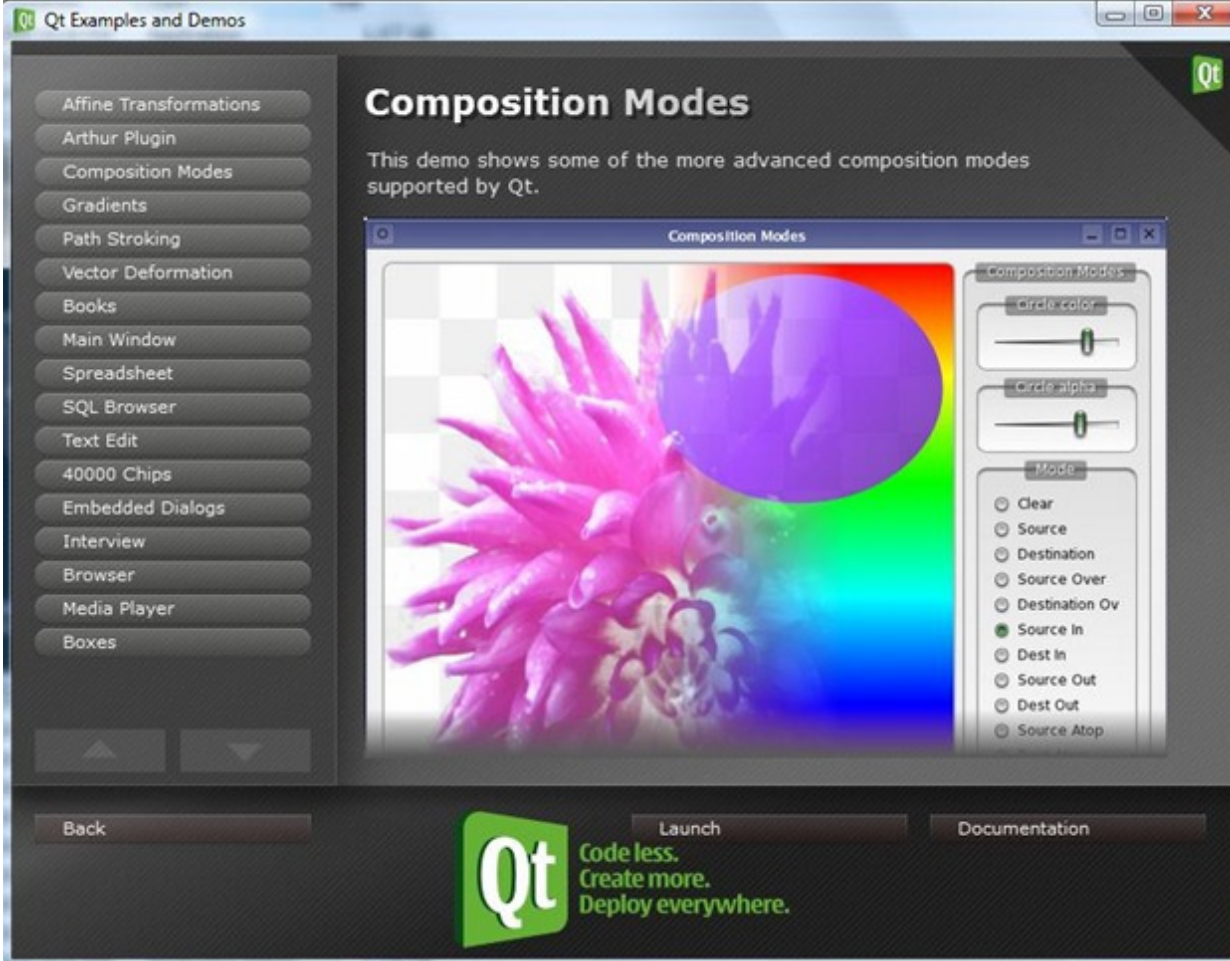
To let Visual Studio know the include and library files of Qt, add their paths to the:

[Visual Studio Tools|Options|Projects and Solutions|VC++ Directories](#)

section. Typically you would want to add [C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\include](#) to the Include, [C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\lib](#) to the libraries and [C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\bin](#) to the Executables sections. Also you can add [C:\Qt\2009.01\qt\bin](#) to the Path System variable so that the Qt dlls get probed correctly when loaded from your application.

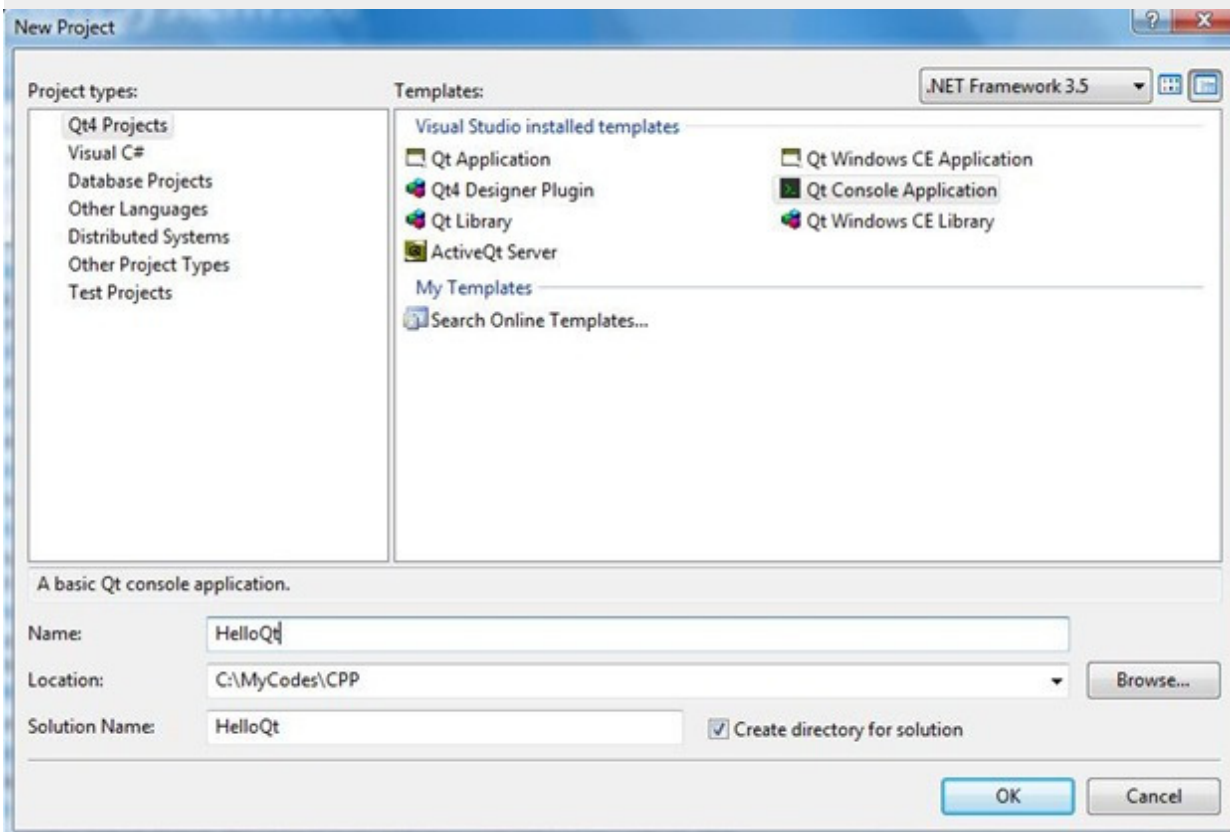


A lot of Qt samples inside the SDK. Try to build and run those sample applications to see how powerful Qt as GUI Toolkit.



Using Qt's Visual Studio 2008 Plug-in

You can try Visual Studio add-in RC version (this will be a commercial product) to get integrated Qt templates and visual IDE features in Visual Studio 2008. I will not cover in this post, but this tools is promising. I will show you in my other Qt-VC++ post.



Hope this helps!

Ciao – RAM

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Published Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:31 AM by [Risman Adnan Mattotorang](#)

Comments

re: Qt 4.5 with Visual Studio 2008 (VC++ Express)

Bookmarked :)

Thursday, April 02, 2009 7:09 AM by [ridi](#)

Working with Qt Visual Studio 2008 Add-In

After built and configured your Qt 4.5 SDK , you can download and install qt-vs-addin-1.0.0- rc1.exe

Thursday, April 02, 2009 7:03 PM by [Risman Adnan](#)

re: Qt 4.5 with Visual Studio 2008 (VC++ Express)

with qt-vs-addin you don't have to add the include/lib-files in visual studio, do you?

An another tutorial tells to set the environment variable QTDIR="" for this addin...

Friday, April 03, 2009 12:19 AM by hiccup

re: Qt 4.5 with Visual Studio 2008 (VC++ Express)

Hi, I just posted how to use the Qt Add-in for VS 2008. Easy, go to menu Qt after installation, choose Options and then set the location of your Qt directory.

Friday, April 03, 2009 8:02 AM by [Risman Adnan Mattotorang](#)

re: Qt 4.5 with Visual Studio 2008 (VC++ Express)

Bookmarked :)

Thursday, April 02, 2009 7:09 AM by ridi

ditto!

Saturday, April 04, 2009 6:20 PM by osm

Windows 7 Release Candidate gets new features

I still can't believe their so ontime for the RC release, Gone are the Vista days i guess.

Monday, April 27, 2009 10:30 PM by [Windows 7 Release Candidate gets new features](#)

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