

# GNUstep HOWTO

---

Installing the GNUstep development system

*This document explains how to build the different components of the GNUstep core libraries.*

Last Update: 1 January 2008

---

Copyright © 1996 - 2007 Free Software Foundation, Inc.  
Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under  
the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.1 or any later  
version published by the Free Software Foundation.

# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Summary</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Compiling and Installing the packages</b> .....	<b>5</b>
3.1	Installing the Core Libraries .....	5
3.1.1	Alternate Library Setup .....	5
3.1.2	Building the Package .....	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Additional Installation</b> .....	<b>7</b>
4.1	Environment Setup .....	7
4.2	GNUstep Home .....	7
4.3	Time Zone .....	8
4.4	GNUstep daemons .....	8
<b>5</b>	<b>Test Tools and Applications</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Machine Specific Instructions</b> .....	<b>10</b>
6.1	Compilers .....	10
6.2	CentOS/ix86 ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	11
6.3	Darwin/ix86 ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	11
6.4	Darwin/PowerPC ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	12
6.5	Debian/Alpha ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	12
6.6	Debian/i386 ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	12
6.7	Debian/em64t ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	12
6.8	Debian/PowerPC ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	13
6.9	Debian/SPARC ( <i>Release</i> ) .....	13
6.10	FedoraCore/ix86 ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	13
6.11	FreeBSD 5.x ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	13
6.12	FreeBSD 4.x ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	13
6.13	FreeBSD 3.x ( <i>Obsolete</i> ) .....	13
6.14	FreeBSD 2.x ( <i>Obsolete, Unstable</i> ) .....	14
6.15	Gentoo/i686 ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	14
6.16	Gentoo/PPC ( <i>Supported</i> ) .....	14
6.17	Gentoo/amd64 ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	14
6.18	Gentoo/alpha ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	14
6.19	Gentoo/sparc ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	14
6.20	Irix 6.5/MIPS ( <i>Unsupported</i> ) .....	15
6.21	MacOSX/PowerPC ( <i>Release</i> ) .....	15

6.22	MkLinux/PowerPC ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	16
6.23	NetBSD/i386 ( <i>Release</i> )	16
6.24	NetBSD/Sparc64 ( <i>Unstable</i> )	16
6.25	Netwinder ( <i>Unstable</i> )	16
6.26	OpenBSD 3.9 ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	17
6.27	OSF/Alpha ( <i>Needs Testing, Unstable</i> )	17
6.28	RedHat/i386 ( <i>Supported</i> )	17
6.29	Slackware/Intel ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	17
6.30	Slackware/Sparc (Splack) ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	18
6.31	Solaris 2.5.1/Sparc ( <i>Obsolete</i> )	18
6.32	Solaris 2.[678]/Sparc ( <i>Supported</i> )	18
6.33	Solaris 2.7/Intel ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	19
6.34	Suse 6.x/Intel ( <i>Obsolete</i> )	19
6.35	Suse/Intel ( <i>Supported</i> )	19
6.36	Suse 7.x/PPC ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	20
6.37	Unixware-2.1.3/Intel ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	20
6.38	Windows with CYGWIN ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	21
6.39	Windows with MinGW ( <i>Supported</i> )	22
6.40	Yellowdog/PowerPC ( <i>Unsupported</i> )	22
<b>7</b>	<b>Getting Libraries via SVN</b>	<b>23</b>

# 1 Introduction

This document explains how to build the GNUstep core libraries. The core libraries, along with associated tools and other files provide everything necessary for a working GNUstep system.

In order to easily compile and debug GNUstep projects, you will need the GNU Objective-C compiler ‘GCC’ as well as various other GNU packages.

You will need at least 80Mb of hard disk space (150Mb preferred) in order to compile the GNUstep core libraries.

## 2 Summary

In order to compile the libraries, you need to compile and install the following packages first (if you don't already have them):

- gcc (Version 2.95 or greater, 3.0.4 or greater recommended)
- GNU make (Version 3.75 or greater)
- gdb (Version 6.0 or greater recommended), if you plan to do any debugging

You may also need to install some of the following libraries and packages described below. Most of these packages are optional, but some are required.

`'ffcall libraries (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)'`

This is a library that provides stack-frame handling for `NSInvocation` and `NSConnection`. This library is highly recommended. The previous builtin method for stack frame handling is no longer supported and may be removed in the future. `ffcall` is under GNU GPL. As a special exception, if used in GNUstep or in derivate works of GNUstep, the included parts of `ffcall` are under GNU LGPL.

`'libffi library (ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATION)'`

This is a library that provides stack frame handling for `NSInvocation` and `NSConnection` similar to `ffcall`. Use this instead of `ffcall`. You don't need both.

`'libxml2 (RECOMMENDED)'`

The `libxml` library (Version 2) is used to translate some of the documentation for GNUstep and to provide suport for MacOS-X compatible XML-based property-lists. It is not required, but you have to explicitly disable use of XML when compiling GNUstep base if you do not have it.

`'libxslt (OPTIONAL)'`

Stylesheet support for use with XML.

`'openssl (OPTIONAL)'`

The `openssl` library is used to provide support for https connections by the `NSURL` and `HSURLHandle` classes. This functionality is compiled as a separate bundle since the OpenSSL license is not compatible with GPL, and in the hopes that if someone writes an `openssl` replacement, it can quickly be used by creating another bundle.

`'libiconv (OPTIONAL)'`

Note: Do not install this library unless you are sure you need it. You probably don't need it except perhaps on MinGW. Unicode support functions (`iconv`) come with `glibc` version 2.1 or greater. If you don't have `glibc` (try `iconv`

-version), you can get the separate libiconv library from <http://clisp.cons.org/~haible/packages-libiconv.html>. However, neither one is required to use GNUstep.

‘The TIFF library (libtiff) (Version 3.4beta36 or greater) (REQUIRED)’

The GUI library uses this to handle loading and saving TIFF images.

‘The JPEG library (libjpeg) (RECOMMENDED)’

The GUI library uses this to handle loading JPEG images.

‘The PNG library (libpng) (RECOMMENDED)’

The GUI library uses this to handle loading PNG images.

‘gif or ungif (OPTIONAL)’

The GUI library uses either one of these libraries to load GIF images.

‘aspell (OPTIONAL)’

The GUI library uses this to handle spell checking.

‘cups (OPTIONAL)’

The GUI library uses this to handle interface to the CUPS print servers.

‘audiofile (OPTIONAL)’

The GUI library uses this for playing sound files.

‘portaudio (OPTIONAL)’

The GUI library uses this for the sound server. Use v19, which has several API changes since the previous version. v19 hasn’t actually been formally released, but several distributions (SuSE, etc) use it anyway.

‘freetype2 (RECOMMENDED, REQUIRED for art backend)’

This is used for font information. Freetype2 cache API is in flux. GNUstep tries to account for this, but if you get errors about undefined FTC\_ symbols, you might be using an unsupported version of freetype.

‘libart\_lgpl2 (REQUIRED for art backend only)’

Drawing library for the art backend.

‘WindowMaker (Version >= 0.62) (OPTIONAL)’

GNUstep and WindowMaker work together to provide a consistent interface. Although it is not required, GNUstep will work much better if you use it with the WindowMaker window manager. Get WindowMaker from <http://www.windowmaker.info>.

‘gnustep-objc package (REQUIRED BUT ONLY for gcc version < 3.0 or MINGW/Cygwin)’

Note: Do not install this library unless you are sure you need it. You probably don’t need it except on MinGW and Cygwin

(regardless of the gcc version you have). This is a special version of the Objective-C runtime that is compiled as a shared library. It is available at <ftp://ftp.gnustep.org/pub/gnustep/libs> which compiles using the GNUstep Makefile package (so you don't have to get the entire gcc dist). Make sure to set the `THREADING` variable in the GNUmakefile. It's possible to compile the library static (make `shared=no`) and just copy to the place where the gcc `libobjc` library is (type `gcc -v` to get this location). Note you have to install `gnustep-make` (below) before installing this library.

'GDB (OPTIONAL)'

GDB can be obtained from <ftp://ftp.gnu.org/gnu/gdb>. As of release 6.0, gdb has special support for debugging Objective-C programs.

'TeX (OPTIONAL)'

You need a TeX implementation, like `tetex`, to compile some of the documentation (although most of that is available on the web).

## 3 Compiling and Installing the packages

Get the following individual packages:

- gnustep-make
- gnustep-base
- gnustep-gui
- gnustep-back

See <http://www.gnustep.org> for information on where to get these packages.

Make sure you install (if necessary) all the previously mentioned libraries first before configuring and building GNUstep.

You should install these packages as root (read special note for the gnustep-base library, below, if you cannot do this).

For installation on specific systems, read the machine specific instructions at the end of this document or appropriate README files in the gnustep-make Documentation directory (such as README.MingW for Windows).

### 3.1 Installing the Core Libraries

The GNUstep packages uses the Autoconf mechanism for configuration; it checks some host capabilities which are used by all GNUstep software. The first package you will compile is gnustep-make. To configure gnustep-make just type:

```
./configure
```

The GNUstep makefile package can be configured to use different types of filesystem layouts. By default, GNUstep is installed with a GNUstep filesystem layout into `/usr/GNUstep`. That is a good, recommended default if you don't have an opinion on which filesystem layout to use.

But you can also install it somewhere else by using the prefix parameter; the following command makes `/usr/local/GNUstep` the root directory:

```
./configure --prefix=/usr/local/GNUstep
```

You can also install GNUstep using an FHS layout (or some other filesystem layout of your choice) by using the `with-layout` parameter; the following command configures GNUstep to use the standard FHS (unix) filesystem layout:

```
./configure --with-layout=fhs
```

In this document we will always present examples that assume that you are using the default GNUstep filesystem layout in `/usr/GNUstep`. If you are using a different layout, you will need to make the obvious changes.

### 3.1.1 Alternate Library Setup

Read the installation instructions in the Makefile package (make) for more installation options. Make sure you use the same configuration options when configuring each GNUstep library.

### 3.1.2 Building the Package

To build the individual packages, use this familiar set of commands for each package (add any additional options you decide upon):

```
./configure
make
make install
```

Start with the Makefile Package (gnustep-make). After installing gnustep-make you need to execute GNUstep's shell configuration script, as follows:

```
. /usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Makefiles/GNUstep.sh
```

before proceeding any further.

NOTE for gcc 2.X or MinGW users: Now install gnustep-objc. Before building gnustep-objc, edit the 'GNUmakefile' and set the *THREADING* variable to the thread library used on your system (usually its posix, but you can leave it at single if you don't need threads). At this point you should probably re-configure, make and install gnustep-make, so it can pick up on any threading information that gnustep-objc provides.

Now install gnustep-base, gnustep-gui and finally gnustep-back.

NOTE: If you are trying to install the packages without root permission, you may need to change one thing in the base library. Edit the file gnustep-base/Tools/gdomap.h to uncomment the last line and modify the specified port number to a port which you *know* is not in use on your network. You should only do this if absolutely necessary since making this change will break communications with any systems where an identical change has not been made. Also, the standard gdomap port is the one officially registered with IANA and is reserved for use by gdomap - it should only be changed if you can't get your system administrator to start the gdomap server using it.

## 4 Additional Installation

### 4.1 Environment Setup

You need to make sure your environment is properly setup in order to compile and run GNUstep software. The steps to setup your environment differ slightly depending on your filesystem layout.

There is a way of setting up your environment that always works: sourcing the `'GNUstep.sh'` shell script before using GNUstep. The shell script `'GNUstep.sh'` is located in the Makefile package; you may want to add it to your shell startup file (such as `'.profile'`). For instance, if you installed GNUstep with the default GNUstep filesystem layout in `'/usr/GNUstep'`, then adding

```
. /usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Makefiles/GNUstep.sh
```

in your `'.profile'` file will work (Note the period at the beginning of the line, and the space between the period and the following path; if you installed GNUstep somewhere else, you need to replace `'/usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Makefiles'` with the path to your `'GNUstep.sh'` script). The script defines environment variables that are needed to find GNUstep files and executables.

Users of `csh` need to use the `'GNUstep.csh'` script. Read the make package `'README'` for more info. Some systems, like GNU/Linux have an `'/etc/profile.d'` directory where scripts can be executed automatically. If you want to set up GNUstep for every user on your system, you can try copying/linking the `'GNUstep.sh'` there. For `csh` or `tcsh`, try

```
source /usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Makefiles/GNUstep.csh
```

Finally, in most filesystem configuration it's also possible to manually set up your environment by setting `PATH`, the linker library paths and the `GNUSTEP_MAKEFILES` variable (instead of using `'GNUstep.sh'`). For example, on GNU/Linux (with a default GNUstep installation), instead of sourcing `'GNUstep.sh'` you could manually add the Tools directories to your `PATH`:

```
PATH="/usr/GNUstep/System/Tools:/usr/GNUstep/Local/Tools:$PATH"█
```

manually add `'/usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Libraries'` and `'/usr/GNUstep/Local/Library/Libraries'` to your `'/etc/ld.so.conf'` file (don't forget to run `ldconfig` every time you install a library), and set the environment variable `GNUSTEP_MAKEFILES` when you want to compile something:

```
GNUSTEP_MAKEFILES=/usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Makefiles
```

### 4.2 GNUstep Home

Your home GNUstep directory should be created automatically the first time you use a GNUstep tool or application. This is where user defaults are kept as well as other user configuration files. User installed apps, libraries, etc

are also here (if the default user directory is used). By default this is the directory ‘GNUstep’ under your home directory, but you can change this (see the gnustep-make installation documentation).

### 4.3 Time Zone

In most cases, GNUstep should be able to determine your time zone, if you have already set it up correctly when setting up your computer. However, in some cases this might fail or the correct information may not be available. You can set it manually using the GNUstep defaults utility to set *Local Time Zone* to your local time zone. Type something like *defaults write NSGlobalDomain "Local Time Zone" GB*. Where *GB* is a time zone abbreviation.

See ‘/usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Libraries/gnustep-base/Versions/1.14/R (or equivalent on your system depending on your filesystem layout) for typical time zones.

### 4.4 GNUstep daemons

Set up your system to execute some GNUstep daemons. This is optional because if you don’t do this, they will be started automatically when you run your first GNUstep app:

- gdomap - Put this in a system startup file, like ‘/etc/rc.local’ or ‘/etc/rc.d/rc.local’ (customize for your system)

```
if [ -f /usr/GNUstep/System/Tools/gdomap ]; then
    /usr/GNUstep/System/Tools/gdomap
fi
```

- gdnc - Start after sourcing ‘GNUstep.sh’ (e.g. in .profile)
- gpbs - Same as with gdnc, make sure X-Windows is running.
- make\_services - Not a daemon, but a tool that needs to be run everytime you install a new Application or service. This is NOT run automatically.

```
if [ ‘gdomap -L GDNCServer | grep -c Unable’ == 1 ]; then
    echo "Starting GNUstep services..."
    gdnc
    gpbs
fi
make_services
```

## 5 Test Tools and Applications

Example applications are located in the `gstep-examples` package. To build these, just uncompress and untar this package, `cd` to the appropriate directory, and type `make`. You will need to install the GNUstep core libraries first before doing this.

To run the examples. Use the `openapp` utility that is part of the GNUstep makefile package (and stored in `‘/usr/GNUstep/System/Tools’`). Usage is:

```
openapp application_name [additional arguments to app]
```

Good Luck!

## 6 Machine Specific Instructions

\input texinfo

Below is a list of machines that people have attempted to compile GNUstep on. GNUstep compiles with little or no trouble on many of the more popular operating systems. Some machines marked with *Unstable* may have some trouble or may not work at all. Platforms marked *Needs Testing* are not actively tested by developers and need someone to help with reporting problems and fixes. Platforms marked *Obsolete* are very old distributions. No one really knows if GNUstep works on these although they may.

If you have compiled GNUstep on a specific machine, please send information about what you needed and any special instructions needed to GNUstep [bug-gnustep@gnu.org](mailto:bug-gnustep@gnu.org).

### 6.1 Compilers

A recommended compiler is listed for each machine, if known. You should try to use the recommended compiler for compiling GNUstep, as GNUstep is quite complex and tends provoke a lot of errors in some compilers. Even versions newer than the listed compiler may not work, so don't just get the latest version of a compiler expecting it to be better than previous versions.

Compiler notes: If a recommended compiler is not listed, take note of the following information before choosing the compiler you use.

*egcs* or *gcc* < 2.95

Most likely will not work and is not supported.

*gcc* 2.95.x Support for this compiler is deprecated as of Aug 2006. Mostly likely it will work in the near future and bug fixes will be accepted, but any bugs are considered non-critical.

*gcc* 2.96 Not an official gcc release. Some versions (Redhat, Mandrake) have problems that prevent GNUstep from being compiled correctly and cause mysterious errors. Not supported.

*gcc* 3.0.x A fairly good compiler.

*gcc* 3.1 Several bugs were introduced in the version. It's probably better to avoid this one, although it might work fine.

*gcc* 3.2.x Pretty good.

*gcc* 3.3.x Recommended. Fixes some bugs relating to protocols as well as other improvements.

*gcc* 3.4.x Recommended. The `#import` directive is no longer deprecated as of this version of the compiler.

*gcc 4.0* Probably OK. Did start triggering compiler errors on parts of base, but there has been a workaround in base for that. Does not work on MacOSX.

*gcc 4.0.1* Probably OK. This version should work on MacOSX.

*gcc 4.1.x* 4.1.0 and 4.1.1 don't work if you use precompiled headers.

If your having mysterious trouble with a machine, try compiling GNUstep without optimization. Particularly in the newer GCC compilers, optimization can break some code. The easiest way to do this is when configuring, `CFLAGS="" ./configure`. Or when building, `make OPTFLAG=""`.

Also if you manually upgraded gcc and/or make, we recommend reading the documentation at <http://www.LinuxFromScratch.org> for tips on compiling and installing gcc and make. If you had GNUstep previously installed, make sure you completely remove all of it, including installed init scripts.

Support Notes:

*Supported* Regularly used and tested by developers

*Release* Tested before a release

*Unsupported*  
Not regularly used or tested

*Unstable* Has problems either building or running GNUstep or requires special setp procedures to run correctly.

## 6.2 CentOS/ix86 (*Supported*)

This RedHat variant is well-tested and well-supported (tested at least up to CentOS release 4.4). For more information, please check the section on RedHat/i386 below.

## 6.3 Darwin/ix86 (*Unsupported*)

Currently tested on Darwin 7.x

*Recommended compiler*

gcc 3.3.2 or greater 3.3.\* versions. Older versions will not compile on Darwin and 3.4.\* versions don't support GNU runtime compilation on Darwin currently (The GCC bug report is [http://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show\\_bug.cgi?id=11572](http://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show_bug.cgi?id=11572)).

Default compiler (Apple GCC) has unknown problems. Download the FSF GCC compiler and configure it with `-enable-threads=posix`. You don't need binutils or anything else. Use the GNU runtime. Make sure to add

```
export CC=/usr/local/bin/gcc (use the correct path to FSF g
so that the correct compiler is found
```

*Extra libs needed*

Use `ffcall` because `libffi` hasn't been ported to Darwin x86.

*Special Instructions*

Read the `README.Darwin` file in the `gnustep-make/Documentation` directory for complete instructions.

**6.4 Darwin/PowerPC (*Supported*)**

This section is for building the complete GNUstep system. This system will not interact at all with Mac OS X/Cocoa. It uses different compilers, different display systems, etc. For building GNUstep extensions to be used with Mac OS X (for instance, if you want to build something based on GNUstep, such as GSWeb or GNUMail), see the MacOSX/PowerPC section.

Currently tested on Darwin 6.x, 7.x, 8.x

*Recommended compiler*

FSF gcc 4.x, gcc 3.3.2 or greater 3.3.\* versions. Older versions will not compile on Darwin and 3.4.\* versions don't support GNU runtime compilation on Darwin currently (The GCC bug report is [http://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show\\_bug.cgi?id=11572](http://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show_bug.cgi?id=11572)).

Apple gcc with Mac OS X 10.4 or later and XCode 2.5 or later

*Extra libs needed*

Use `libffi` (not `ffcall`). This should be enabled by default in `gnustep-base` so you don't have to type `-enable-libffi`. For 6.x, you need the `dlcompat` library (from [www.opendarwin.org](http://www.opendarwin.org)) to load bundles (not needed for 7.x or later). `libjpeg` that comes with `fink` conflicts with the Apple libraries and screw up other apps on Mac OSX (like X11).

*Special Instructions*

Read the `README.Darwin` file in the `gnustep-make/Documentation` directory for complete instructions. If you compiled FSF gcc by hand, make sure to rename to GNU `libobjc` library to `libobjc-gnu.dylib`

See also the MacOSX/PowerPC section

**6.5 Debian/Alpha (*Unsupported*)****6.6 Debian/i386 (*Supported*)**

Tested on sid.

**6.7 Debian/em64t (*Supported*)**

Tested on 'unstable'.

## 6.8 Debian/PowerPC (*Supported*)

Tested on sid.

## 6.9 Debian/SPARC (*Release*)

Tested on sid.

## 6.10 FedoraCore/ix86 (*Supported*)

This RedHat variant is well-tested and well-supported (tested at least up to Fedora Core release 6). For more information, please check the section on RedHat/i386 below.

## 6.11 FreeBSD 5.x (*Supported*)

Tested on 5.0, 5.1, 5.3

### *Special Instructions*

Can install via `/usr/ports/devel/gnustep`, but not all required dependancies are installed. See the GNUstep-HOWTO for list of libraries.

For 5.3, there is a bug in `libkvm` that requires that `/proc` be mounted. Use `'mount_procfs proc /proc'` or see the `procfs` man page.

## 6.12 FreeBSD 4.x (*Unsupported*)

### *Special Instructions*

For `gcc 3.0.4`, make `WANT_THREADS_SUPPORT=YES`

For `libxml2 2.4.24`, make `WITHOUT_PYTHON=YES`

## 6.13 FreeBSD 3.x (*Obsolete*)

Compiles "out of the box" on FreeBSD 3.4.

### *Special Instructions*

You need to use `gmake` not `make` to compile the GNUstep packages. A special port of `gdb` can be used with the Objective-C patches from <http://ftp.pcnet.com/users/eischen/FreeBSD/gdb-4.17-port.tar.gz>

The best compiler for GNUstep is the latest release of the GNU Compiler Collection (GCC). You can find it at <http://egcs.cygnum.com/>.

If you want to use the native POSIX threads support from `'libc_r'` pass `--enable-threads=posix` to configure. This is

the recommended option as this is the FreeBSD threads package that gives the best results –with others you may be unable to run some examples like ‘diningPhilosophers’.

The whole compilation process can fail if you have another threads library installed so watch out for installed packages like ‘pth’ and such. Besides the support for libc\_r, GNUstep will also look for ‘pth’ and ‘pctthreads’, so if you have installed them and they aren’t detected prepare to write a nice bug report.

This can be done more much easily by using the port version. Just cd to ‘/usr/ports/lang/egcs’ and do a "make WANT\_THREADS=yes install". Easy.

If configure cannot find tiff.h or the tiff library and you have it installed in a non-standard place (even ‘/usr/local’), you may need to pass these flags to configure: CFLAGS="-I/usr/local/include" and LDFLAGS="-L/usr/local/lib".

## 6.14 FreeBSD 2.x (*Obsolete, Unstable*)

### *Special Instructions*

Only static libraries work on this system. Use /stand/sysinstall to install these packages if you have not already done so:

```
gmake          (GNU make)
gcc 2.8.x
```

Seems to compile ok, but some tests crash. Possibly due to a performace ‘hack’ in base. Might be a good idea to upgrade to FreeBSD 3.x. You need to use gmake not make to compile the GNUstep packages.

## 6.15 Gentoo/i686 (*Supported*)

### *Special Instructions*

libffi sometimes causes odd problems. Try to use fcall.

## 6.16 Gentoo/PPC (*Supported*)

## 6.17 Gentoo/amd64 (*Unsupported*)

32-bit mode only?

## 6.18 Gentoo/alpha (*Unsupported*)

## 6.19 Gentoo/sparc (*Unsupported*)

## 6.20 Irix 6.5/MIPS (*Unsupported*)

### *Recommended compiler*

gcc 3.2.1

To use threads, it's necessary to bootstrap a compiler yourself: configure with `-enable-threads=posix`, that will work as long as you link EVERY objective C executable with `-lpthread`, no matter what warnings the irix linker produces!

### *Extra libs needed*

Unknown

### *Special Instructions*

If you cannot link the library because of the very low default limit (20480) for the command line length, then you should either use `systune ncargs` to increase the value (maximum is 262144) or link the library by hand. No `libffi-support`: Use `ffcall`

## 6.21 MacOSX/PowerPC (*Release*)

This section is for building the GNUstep extensions only. Use this if, for instance, if you want to build something based on GNUstep, such as GSWeb or GNUMail. If you want to build the complete GNUstep system independant of Mac OS X, see the Darwin/PowerPC section.

Currently tested on MacOSX 10.1.5, 10.2, 10.3

### *Recommended compiler*

Default. For 10.1.5, you need to add `-no-cpp-precomp` to `CFLAGS` (For instance, `./configure CFLAGS="-no-cpp-precomp" ...`)

### *Extra libs needed*

None.

### *Special Instructions*

Warning ! To know how to install a complete GNUstep system on Mac OS X, read the Darwin/PowerPC section. By default, on Mac OS X, only the GNUstep extensions are built. Read the [README.Darwin](#) file in the `gnustep-make/Documentation` directory for complete instructions.

To build the GNUstep extensions only is useful, when you want to build on Mac OS X, GNUstep related projects like `gdl2`, etc linked to Cocoa. Xcode project files exist, but they may not be up-to-date. Make sure `/usr/sbin` is in your path:

```
PATH=$PATH:/usr/sbin
```

Then type:

```
cd make
./configure --with-library-combo=apple-apple-apple
```

```

make install
. /usr/GNUstep/System/Library/Makefiles/GNUstep.sh
cd ../base
./configure --with-xml-prefix=/usr --disable-xmltest
make debug=yes install

```

On Mac OS X 10.1.5, there is no libxml. Either install libxml2 or configure base with `-disable-xml`.

See also the Darwin/PowerPC section.

## 6.22 MkLinux/PowerPC (*Unsupported*)

Tested with R2 RC2 (2004/03/04).

## 6.23 NetBSD/i386 (*Release*)

Tested on NetBSD 2.0.2 (2005/04/15)

*Recommended compiler*  
Standard

*Extra libs needed*  
libiconv(?), libffi

*Special Instructions*

Use NetBSD packages to install needed libraries. libffi either comes automatically with gcc or can be installed separately and works fine (over fcall).

## 6.24 NetBSD/Sparc64 (*Unstable*)

Tested on NetBSD 2.0.2 (2005/04/15)

*Recommended compiler*  
Standard

*Extra libs needed*  
libiconv(?), libffi

*Special Instructions*

Use NetBSD packages to install needed libraries. libffi either comes automatically with gcc or can be installed separately and is preferred over fcall which does not work on Sparc64 machines.

gdomap crashes. Perhaps other things do not work as well.

## 6.25 Netwinder (*Unstable*)

*Recommended compiler*  
Build #12 of the system.

*Extra libs needed*

Unknown

*Special Instructions*

See <http://www.netwinder.org/~patrix>

## 6.26 OpenBSD 3.9 (*Unsupported*)

Information for version 3.9 (2006/08/13)

Ports at <http://mail.rochester.edu/~asveikau/gnustep-openbsd/>

## 6.27 OSF/Alpha (*Needs Testing, Unstable*)

Information is for Version 3.2C

*Recommended compiler*

Unknown

*Extra libs needed*

Unknown

*Special Instructions*

Can only compile with static libraries. Compiler may fail when linking executables (e.g. `gdnc`). Standard `ranlib` and `ar` programs are too feeble to create libraries. Should use GNU `binutils` versions. Linker sometimes fails to find symbols, in which case you may need to link with a library twice. For instance, add an extra `-lgnustep-gui` in `ADDITIONAL_TOOL_LIBS` in the GNU-`makefile(.preamble)`.

## 6.28 RedHat/i386 (*Supported*)

RedHat and variants/clones such as Fedora Core and CentOS are all very well supported and are regularly tested with all GNUstep releases.

*Recommended compiler*

The default compiler works very well.

*Extra libs needed*

All extra libs needed are easily available from standard packages; the only tricky one is `ffcall`. If you don't find an RPM for that one, download it directly from the GNUstep web site (<http://www.gnustep.org>).

*Special Instructions*

None.

## 6.29 Slackware/Intel (*Unsupported*)

### 6.30 Slackware/Sparc (Splack) (*Unsupported*)

Tested with Splack 8.0 (2005/03/01)

*Recommended compiler*

gcc 3.2, no extra options.

*Extra libs needed*

Unknown.

*Special Instructions*

Tested on an ultra sparc server, kernel 2.4.27, XF86-4.0.3

### 6.31 Solaris 2.5.1/Sparc (*Obsolete*)

This configuration is no longer being tested, but it may still work.

*Recommended compiler*

Unknown

*Extra libs needed*

tiff, Don't use the one in /usr/openwin

*Special Instructions*

See the Solaris 2.6 section for more instructions.

### 6.32 Solaris 2.[678]/Sparc (*Supported*)

Tested on Solaris version 6, 7, 8 and 9

*Recommended compiler*

gcc 3.2.1 or greater gcc 3.04. Not 3.1 - does not compile parts of GNUstep.

*Extra libs needed*

tiff, Don't use the one in /usr/openwin

*Special Instructions*

Using a POSIX shell (zsh or bash, which should come with Solaris) is highly recommended. In fact, some functions, such as compiling frameworks, will not work without it.

Some people have reported problems when using binutils assembler and linker. Using the native Solaris assembler and linker should work fine.

Older Instructions: If you are using threads, make sure the Objective-C runtime (libobjc that comes with gcc) is compiled with threads enabled (This is true by default) AND that it is compiled with the `_REENTRANT` flag defined (This does not seem to be true by default). Or use the `gnustep-objc` package. Also make sure `THREADS` is set to 'posix' not 'solaris'.

### 6.33 Solaris 2.7/Intel (*Unsupported*)

*Recommended compiler*  
Unknown.

*Extra libs needed*  
Unknown

*Special Instructions*

Make sure there are no -g compiler flags (i.e. compiling with debug=yes might be a problem). Unsure of correct bundle flags - You might need to use the alternate flags listed in target.make, line 989. Also, configuring gnustep-make with ‘--disable-backend-bundle’ might be necessary if you can’t get bundles to work. You will probably get a lot of text relocation warnings, which probably can be ignored. See the other Solaris instructions above for more information.

### 6.34 Suse 6.x/Intel (*Obsolete*)

GNUstep has been tested on version 6.2-6.4 of Suse

*Recommended compiler*  
Standard

*Extra libs needed*  
None

*Special Instructions*

It seems that there is a problem with the default kernel build distributed with Suse which means that the socket binding used by gdnc doesn’t work. If you recompile the kernel then it starts working.

### 6.35 Suse/Intel (*Supported*)

GNUstep has been tested on version 7.0, 8.0, 8.1, 8.2, 9.0, 9.1, 9.3, and 10.1 of Suse

*Recommended compiler*

The default compiler that comes with Susu is fine. Also gcc2.95.x, gcc3.0.x, 3.1 and 3.2 work, but 2.95 is faster. Compile with -threads-enabled (non-standard).

*Extra libs needed*  
None

*Special Instructions*

Suse 10.1 does not work with the x11 backend.

### 6.36 Suse 7.x/PPC (*Unsupported*)

GNUstep has been tested on version 7.0 of Suse/PPC

*Recommended compiler*

Standard. gcc2.95.x, gcc3.0.x and gc3.1 work, but 2.95 is faster.  
Compile with `-threads-enabled` (non-standard).

*Extra libs needed*

None

*Special Instructions*

### 6.37 Unixware-2.1.3/Intel (*Unsupported*)

*Recommended compiler*

Unknown

*Extra libs needed*

Unknown

Special Instructions for GNUstep installation on Unixware 2.1 systems

- 1 Tune the kernel to increase the argument space so that we can pass long command-line argument strings to processes (which the makefiles do) (`/etc/conf/bin/idtune ARG_MAX 102400`)
- 2 Install raft of the latest GNU software
  - gzip (you need this to unpack other stuff)
  - make (to build everything)
  - m4 (for autoconf etc)
  - autoconf (if you need to change anything)
  - bison
  - flex
  - binutils (required by gcc if you want to debug)
  - gcc-2.8.1
    - (configure `-with-gnu-as -with-gnu-ld -with-stabs`)
    - NB. gcc-2.8.1 needs a fix to `__do_global_dtors_aux()` in `crtstuff.c` on Unixware 2.1.3 (and possibly other unixware versions)
    - The fix is already in recent versions of egcs.

```
=====
static void
__do_global_dtors_aux ()
{
    static func_ptr *p = __DTOR_LIST__ + 1;
    static int completed = 0;

    if (completed)
```

```

        return;

        while (*p)
        {
            p++;
            (*(p-1)) ();
        }

#ifdef EH_FRAME_SECTION_ASM_OP
    __deregister_frame_info (__EH_FRAME_BEGIN__);
#endif
    completed = 1;
}
=====

```

3 Having got gcc working - it's probably a good idea to rebuild all your GNU software using it!

4 Build gstep as normal.

5 The SIOCGIFCONF ioctl sometimes doesn't work on unixware after applying some of the OS patches.

So I have added a '-a' flag to gdomap to give it the name of a file containing IP address and netmask information for the network interfaces on the system.

You need to set up a file (I suggest '/etc/gdomap\_addresses') containing the information for your machine and modify your system startup files in /etc/rc?.d to run gdomap, telling it to use that file.

eg. If your machine has an IP address of '193.111.111.2' and is on a class-C network, your /etc/gdomap\_addresses file would contain the line

```
193.111.111.2 255.255.255.0
```

and your startup file would contain the lines

```
. /usr/local/GNUstep/Library/Makefiles/GNUstep.sh
gdomap -a /etc/gdomap_addresses
```

If you don't set gdomap up correctly, Distributed Objects will not work.

## 6.38 Windows with CYGWIN (*Unsupported*)

*Recommended compiler*

gcc 3.3.1 or later (with libobjc and libjava (if using libffi))

*Extra libs needed*

Objective-C library DLL (<ftp://ftp.gnustep.org/pub/gnustep/windows> for shared libs. It's a good idea to remove the libobjc.a that

comes with gcc (gcc -v for location) so that it isn't accidentally found. For fcall, you should get version 1.8b or above (the earlier ones don't compile). There are still some problems with structure passing, but that is generally not supported on any architecture. libffi also works.

#### *Special Instructions*

Make sure you have good shared libraries for everything. Sometimes a bad shared library (like libtiff) will cause odd and untraceable problems. See [README.Cygwin](#) for information on compiling.

### **6.39 Windows with MinGW (*Supported*)**

#### *Recommended compiler*

See below.

#### *Extra libs needed*

See below.

#### *Special Instructions*

See the [README.MinGW](#) file located in the gnustep-make Documentation directory for instructions. Windows NT/2000/XP only. Win98 machines and earlier are very buggy and are not supported. Native GUI backend is alpha version.

### **6.40 Yellowdog/PowerPC (*Unsupported*)**

## 7 Getting Libraries via SVN

If you didn't get one of the snapshots, or if you want to be sure to stay on the bleeding edge, then you should get the libraries via SVN. Go to <http://www.gnustep.org/resources/sources.html> for information on how to get the sourcecode.

If you haven't already done so, change to the directory, where you want the source to reside. To checkout all of the GNUstep repository, type

```
svn co http://svn.gna.org/svn/gnustep/modules
```

To check out only the 'core', which contains all the GNUstep core libraries:

```
svn co http://svn.gna.org/svn/gnustep/modules/core
```

After you have checked out the source you can compile it as usual. To update the source, go into the directory of the source tree you want to update, for example, go into 'base', and type:

```
svn update
```

You don't have to re-checkout after you have the source, just update!