

# Package ‘pkgbuild’

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**Title** Find Tools Needed to Build R Packages

**Version** 1.4.7

**Description** Provides functions used to build R packages. Locates compilers needed to build R packages on various platforms and ensures the PATH is configured appropriately so R can use them.

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**URL** <https://github.com/r-lib/pkgbuild>, <https://pkgbuild.r-lib.org>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/r-lib/pkgbuild/issues>

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## Contents

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| build . . . . .     | 2 |
| clean_dll . . . . . | 4 |

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| compiler_flags . . . . .   | 5  |
| compile_dll . . . . .      | 5  |
| has_build_tools . . . . .  | 7  |
| has_compiler . . . . .     | 8  |
| has_latex . . . . .        | 9  |
| pkgbuild_process . . . . . | 9  |
| pkg_has_src . . . . .      | 10 |
| rcmd_build_tools . . . . . | 10 |
| without_compiler . . . . . | 11 |
| with_debug . . . . .       | 11 |

## Index 13

---

|       |                      |
|-------|----------------------|
| build | <i>Build package</i> |
|-------|----------------------|

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### Description

Building converts a package source directory into a single bundled file. If `binary = FALSE` this creates a `tar.gz` package that can be installed on any platform, provided they have a full development environment (although packages without source code can typically be installed out of the box). If `binary = TRUE`, the package will have a platform specific extension (e.g. `.zip` for windows), and will only be installable on the current platform, but no development environment is needed.

### Usage

```
build(
  path = ".",
  dest_path = NULL,
  binary = FALSE,
  vignettes = TRUE,
  manual = FALSE,
  clean_doc = NULL,
  args = NULL,
  quiet = FALSE,
  needs_compilation = pkg_has_src(path),
  compile_attributes = FALSE,
  register_routines = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <code>path</code>      | Path to a package, or within a package.  |
| <code>dest_path</code> | path in which to produce package. If it is an existing directory, then the output file is placed in <code>dest_path</code> and named according to the current R conversions (e.g. <code>.zip</code> for Windows binary packages, <code>.tgz</code> for macOS binary packages, etc). If it is an existing file, then it will be overwritten. If <code>dest_path</code> does not exist, then it is used as a file name. If <code>NULL</code> , it defaults to the parent directory of the package. |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| binary             | Produce a binary ( <code>--binary</code> ) or source ( <code>--no-manual --no-resave-data</code> ) version of the package.  |
| vignettes, manual  | For source packages: if <code>FALSE</code> , don't build PDF vignettes ( <code>--no-build-vignettes</code> ) or manual ( <code>--no-manual</code> ).  |
| clean_doc          | If <code>TRUE</code> , clean the files in <code>inst/doc</code> before building the package. If <code>NULL</code> and the <code>Config/build/clean-inst-doc</code> entry is present in <code>DESCRIPTION</code> , then that is used. Otherwise, if <code>NULL</code> , and <code>interactive</code> , ask to remove the files prior to cleaning. In most cases cleaning the files is the correct behavior to avoid stale vignette outputs in the built package. |
| args               | An optional character vector of additional command line arguments to be passed to <code>R CMD build</code> if <code>binary = FALSE</code> , or <code>R CMD install</code> if <code>binary = TRUE</code> .   |
| quiet              | if <code>TRUE</code> suppresses output from this function.  |
| needs_compilation  | Usually only needed if the packages has <code>C/C++/Fortran</code> code. By default this is autodetected.   |
| compile_attributes | if <code>TRUE</code> and the package uses <code>Rcpp</code> , call <code>Rcpp::compileAttributes()</code> before building the package. It is ignored if package does not need compilation.  |
| register_routines  | if <code>TRUE</code> and the package does not use <code>Rcpp</code> , call <code>register_routines</code> with <code>tools::package_native_routine</code> before building the package. It is ignored if package does not need compilation.  |

## Details

### Configuration:

`DESCRIPTION` entries:

- `Config/build/clean-inst-doc` can be set to `FALSE` to avoid cleaning up `inst/doc` when building a source package. Set it to `TRUE` to force a cleanup. See the `clean_doc` argument.
- `Config/build/copy-method` can be used to avoid copying large directories in `R CMD build`. It works by copying (or linking) the files of the package to a temporary directory, leaving out the (possibly large) files that are not part of the package. Possible values:
  - `none`: `pkgbuild` does not copy the package tree. This is the default.
  - `copy`: the package files are copied to a temporary directory before `R CMD build`.
  - `link`: the package files are symbolic linked to a temporary directory before `R CMD build`. Windows does not have symbolic links, so on Windows this is equivalent to `copy`.
 You can also use the `pkg.build_copy_method` option or the `PKG_BUILD_COPY_METHOD` environment variable to set the copy method. The option is consulted first, then the `DESCRIPTION` entry, then the environment variable.
- `Config/build/extra-sources` can be used to define extra source files for `pkgbuild` to decide whether a package DLL needs to be recompiled in `needs_compile()`. The syntax is a comma separated list of file names, or globs. (See `utils::glob2rx()`.) E.g. `src/rust/src/*.rs` or `configure*`.
- `Config/build/bootstrap` can be set to `TRUE` to run `Rscript bootstrap.R` in the source directory prior to running subsequent build steps.

*Options:*

- `pkg.build_copy_method`: use this option to avoid copying large directories when building a package. See possible values above, at the `Config/build/copy-method DESCRIPTION` entry.
- `pkg.build_stop_for_warnings`: if it is set to `TRUE`, then `pkgbuild` will stop for R CMD build errors. It takes precedence over the `PKG_BUILD_STOP_FOR_WARNINGS` environment variable.

*Environment variables:*

- `PKG_BUILD_COLOR_DIAGNOSTICS`: set it to `false` to opt out of colored compiler diagnostics. Set it to `true` to force colored compiler diagnostics.
- `PKG_BUILD_COPY_METHOD`: use this environment variable to avoid copying large directories when building a package. See possible values above, at the `Config/build/copy-method DESCRIPTION` entry.

will stop for R CMD build errors. The `pkg.build_stop_for_warnings` option takes precedence over this environment variable.

**Value**

a string giving the location (including file name) of the built package

---

clean\_dll

*Remove compiled objects from /src/ directory*

---

**Description**

Invisibly returns the names of the deleted files.

**Usage**

```
clean_dll(path = ".")
```

**Arguments**

`path` Path to a package, or within a package.

**See Also**

[compile\\_dll\(\)](#)

---

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| compiler_flags | <i>Default compiler flags used by devtools.</i> |
|----------------|---|

---

**Description**

These default flags enforce good coding practice by ensuring that CFLAGS and CXXFLAGS are set to -Wall -pedantic. These tests are run by cran and are generally considered to be good practice.

**Usage**

```
compiler_flags(debug = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

debug                    If TRUE adds -g -O0 to all flags (Adding FFLAGS and FCFLAGS)

**Details**

By default `compile_dll()` is run with `compiler_flags(TRUE)`, and check with `compiler_flags(FALSE)`. If you want to avoid the possible performance penalty from the debug flags, install the package.

**See Also**

Other debugging flags: [with\\_debug\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
compiler_flags()
compiler_flags(TRUE)
```

---

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| compile_dll | <i>Compile a .dll/.so from source.</i> |
|-------------|--|

---

**Description**

`compile_dll` performs a fake R CMD install so code that works here should work with a regular install (and vice versa). During compilation, debug flags are set with `compiler_flags(TRUE)`.

**Usage**

```
compile_dll(
  path = ".",
  force = FALSE,
  compile_attributes = pkg_links_to_cpp11(path) || pkg_links_to_rcpp(path),
  register_routines = FALSE,
  quiet = FALSE,
  debug = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| path               | Path to a package, or within a package.   |
| force              | If TRUE, for compilation even if <code>needs_compile()</code> is FALSE.   |
| compile_attributes | if TRUE and the package uses Rcpp, call <code>Rcpp::compileAttributes()</code> before building the package. It is ignored if package does not need compilation.   |
| register_routines  | if TRUE and the package does not use Rcpp, call register routines with <code>tools::package_native_routine</code> before building the package. It is ignored if package does not need compilation.  |
| quiet              | if TRUE suppresses output from this function.   |
| debug              | If TRUE, and if no user Makevars is found, then the build runs without optimisation (-O0) and with debug symbols (-g). See <code>compiler_flags()</code> for details. If you have a user Makevars (e.g., <code>~/R/Makevars</code> ) then this argument is ignored. |

**Details**

Invisibly returns the names of the DLL.

**Configuration:***Options:*

- `pkg.build_extra_flags`: set this to FALSE to opt out from adding debug compiler flags in `compile_dll()`. Takes precedence over the `PKG_BUILD_EXTRA_FLAGS` environment variable. Possible values:
  - TRUE: add extra flags,
  - FALSE: do not add extra flags,
  - "missing": add extra flags if the user does not have a `$HOME/.R/Makevars` file.

*Environment variables:*

- `PKG_BUILD_EXTRA_FLAGS`: set this to false to opt out from adding debug compiler flags in `compile_dll()`. The `pkg.build_extra_flags` option takes precedence over this environment variable. Possible values:
  - "true": add extra flags,
  - "false": do not add extra flags,
  - "missing": add extra flags if the user does not have a `$HOME/.R/Makevars` file.

**Note**

If this is used to compile code that uses Rcpp, you will need to add the following line to your Makevars file so that it knows where to find the Rcpp headers:

```
PKG_CPPFLAGS=`$(R_HOME)/bin/Rscript -e 'Rcpp::CxxFlags()'`
```

**See Also**

`clean_dll()` to delete the compiled files.

---

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| has_build_tools | <i>Are build tools available?</i> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|

---

### Description

has\_build\_tools returns a logical, check\_build\_tools throws an error. with\_build\_tools checks that build tools are available, then runs code in an correctly staged environment. If run interactively from RStudio, and the build tools are not available these functions will trigger an automated install.

### Usage

```
has_build_tools(debug = FALSE)

check_build_tools(debug = FALSE, quiet = FALSE)

with_build_tools(code, debug = FALSE, required = TRUE)

local_build_tools(
  debug = FALSE,
  required = TRUE,
  .local_envir = parent.frame()
)
```

### Arguments

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| debug        | If TRUE, will print out extra information useful for debugging. If FALSE, it will use result cached from a previous run. |
| quiet        | if TRUE suppresses output from this function.  |
| code         | Code to rerun in environment where build tools are guaranteed to exist.  |
| required     | If TRUE, and build tools are not available, will throw an error. Otherwise will attempt to run code without them.        |
| .local_envir | The environment to use for scoping.  |

### Details

Errors like running command "'C:/PROGRA~1/R/R-34~1.2/bin/x64/R" CMD config CC' had status 127 indicate the code expected Rtools to be on the system PATH. You can then verify you have rtools installed with has\_build\_tools() and temporarily add Rtools to the PATH with\_build\_tools({ code }).

It is possible to add Rtools to your system PATH manually; you can use [rtools\\_path\(\)](#) to show the installed location. However because this requires manual updating when a new version of Rtools is installed and the binaries in Rtools may conflict with existing binaries elsewhere on the PATH it is better practice to use with\_build\_tools() as needed.

**See Also**

has\_rtools

**Examples**

```
has_build_tools(debug = TRUE)
check_build_tools()
```

---

|              |                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| has_compiler | <i>Is a compiler available?</i> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|

---

**Description**

These functions check if a small C file can be compiled, linked, loaded and executed.

has\_compiler() and has\_devel() return TRUE or FALSE. check\_compiler() and check\_devel() throw an error if you don't have developer tools installed. If the "pkgbuild.has\_compiler" option is set to TRUE or FALSE, no check is carried out, and the value of the option is used.

The implementation is based on a suggestion by Simon Urbanek. End-users (particularly those on Windows) should generally run [check\\_build\\_tools\(\)](#) rather than [check\\_compiler\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
has_compiler(debug = FALSE)
```

```
check_compiler(debug = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| debug | If TRUE, will print out extra information useful for debugging. If FALSE, it will use result cached from a previous run. |
|-------|--|

**See Also**

[check\\_build\\_tools\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
has_compiler()
check_compiler()

with_build_tools(has_compiler())
```



---

|           |                            |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| has_latex | <i>Is latex installed?</i> |
|-----------|----------------------------|

---

**Description**

Checks for presence of pdflatex on path.

**Usage**

```
has_latex()
```

```
check_latex()
```

---

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| pkgbuild_process | <i>Build package in the background</i> |
|------------------|--|

---

**Description**

This R6 class is a counterpart of the `build()` function, and represents a background process that builds an R package.

**Usage**

```
bp <- pkgbuild_process$new(path = ".", dest_path = NULL,  
  binary = FALSE, vignettes = TRUE, manual = FALSE, args = NULL)  
bp$get_dest_path()
```

Other methods are inherited from `callr::rcmd_process` and `processx::process`.

**Arguments**

See the corresponding arguments of `build()`.

**Details**

Most methods are inherited from `callr::rcmd_process` and `processx::process`.

`bp$get_dest_path()` returns the path to the built package.

**Examples**

```
## Here we are just waiting, but in a more realistic example, you  
## would probably run some other code instead...  
bp <- pkgbuild_process$new("mypackage", dest_path = tempdir())  
bp$is_alive()  
bp$get_pid()  
bp$wait()
```

```
bp$read_all_output_lines()
bp$read_all_error_lines()
bp$get_exit_status()
bp$get_dest_path()
```

---

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| pkg_has_src | <i>Does a source package have src/ directory?</i> |
|-------------|---|

---

### Description

If it does, you definitely need build tools.

### Usage

```
pkg_has_src(path = ".")
```

### Arguments

|      |  |
|------|--|
| path | Path to package (or directory within package). |
|------|--|

---

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| rcmd_build_tools | <i>Call R CMD 'command' with build tools active</i> |
|------------------|---|

---

### Description

This is a wrapper around `callr::rcmd_safe()` that checks that you have build tools available, and on Windows, automatically sets the path to include Rtools.

### Usage

```
rcmd_build_tools(..., env = character(), required = TRUE, quiet = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| ...      | Parameters passed on to <code>rcmd_safe</code> .  |
| env      | Additional environment variables to set. The defaults from <code>callr::rcmd_safe_env()</code> are always set.    |
| required | If TRUE, and build tools are not available, will throw an error. Otherwise will attempt to run code without them. |
| quiet    | if TRUE suppresses output from this function.   |

**Examples**

```
# These env vars are always set
callr::rcmd_safe_env()

if (has_build_tools()) {
  rcmd_build_tools("CONFIG", "CC")$stdout
  rcmd_build_tools("CC", "--version")$stdout
}
```

---

|                  |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| without_compiler | <i>Tools for testing pkgbuild</i> |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|

---

**Description**

with\_compiler temporarily disables code compilation by setting CC, CXX, makevars to test. without\_cache resets the cache before and after running code.

**Usage**

```
without_compiler(code)

without_cache(code)

without_latex(code)

with_latex(code)
```

**Arguments**

|      |                                       |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| code | Code to execute with broken compilers |
|------|---------------------------------------|

---

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| with_debug | <i>Temporarily set debugging compilation flags.</i> |
|------------|---|

---

**Description**

Temporarily set debugging compilation flags.

**Usage**

```
with_debug(
  code,
  CFLAGS = NULL,
  CXXFLAGS = NULL,
  FFLAGS = NULL,
  FCFLAGS = NULL,
  debug = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| code     | to execute.   |
| CFLAGS   | flags for compiling C code  |
| CXXFLAGS | flags for compiling C++ code  |
| FFLAGS   | flags for compiling Fortran code.   |
| FCFLAGS  | flags for Fortran 9x code.  |
| debug    | If TRUE adds <code>-g -O0</code> to all flags (Adding FFLAGS and FCFLAGS) |

**See Also**

Other debugging flags: [compiler\\_flags\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
flags <- names(compiler_flags(TRUE))
with_debug(Sys.getenv(flags))
## Not run:
install("mypkg")
with_debug(install("mypkg"))

## End(Not run)
```

# Index

## \* **debugging flags**

  compiler\_flags, [5](#)  
  with\_debug, [11](#)

build, [2](#)  
build(), [9](#)

callr::rcmd\_process, [9](#)  
check\_build\_tools (has\_build\_tools), [7](#)  
check\_build\_tools(), [8](#)  
check\_compiler (has\_compiler), [8](#)  
check\_compiler(), [8](#)  
check\_latex (has\_latex), [9](#)  
clean\_dll, [4](#)  
clean\_dll(), [6](#)  
compile\_dll, [5](#)  
compile\_dll(), [4](#), [5](#)  
compiler\_flags, [5](#), [5](#), [12](#)  
compiler\_flags(), [6](#)

has\_build\_tools, [7](#)  
has\_compiler, [8](#)  
has\_devel (has\_compiler), [8](#)  
has\_latex, [9](#)

local\_build\_tools (has\_build\_tools), [7](#)

needs\_compile(), [6](#)

pkg\_has\_src, [10](#)  
pkgbuild\_process, [9](#)

rcmd\_build\_tools, [10](#)  
Rcpp::compileAttributes(), [3](#), [6](#)  
rtools\_path(), [7](#)

utils::glob2rx(), [3](#)

with\_build\_tools (has\_build\_tools), [7](#)  
with\_debug, [5](#), [11](#)  
with\_latex (without\_compiler), [11](#)

without\_cache (without\_compiler), [11](#)  
without\_compiler, [11](#)  
without\_latex (without\_compiler), [11](#)