Delphi XE FAQ

Delphi Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

What is Delphi XE?

Embarcadero® Delphi® XE is the fastest way to deliver ultra-rich, ultra-fast Windows applications. Used by millions of developers, Delphi combines a leading-edge object-oriented language, fast native compilation, heterogeneous database connectivity, and a rich visual component-based development framework supported by thousands of third party components and add-ons. Delphi’s fully visual two-way RAD IDE is designed to dramatically simplify and speed development of visual and data-intensive applications including native Windows GUI desktop applications, interactive touch-screen, kiosk, and database-driven multi-tier, cloud, and Web applications. Deliver applications up to 5x faster and with fewer developers across multiple Windows and database platforms.

Which editions are available and what are the differences between the editions?

Delphi XE Professional

Delphi® XE Professional is designed for developers building high-performance desktop GUI and touch-screen applications with or without embedded and local database persistence. Delphi XE Professional’s ability to generate fast single exe Windows applications with rich user experiences makes it especially well-suited for ISVs building highly-graphical “packaged” Windows applications that seamlessly support an array of Windows versions without modification. Features include:

- Local database connectivity to InterBase® and MySQL
- VCL for the Web (limited) with support for standalone apps only and limit of 5 connections. No support for ISAPI or HTTPS.
- UML code visualization, providing a visual representation of source code for easier understanding

Delphi XE Enterprise

Delphi XE Enterprise is designed for developers building rich, data-oriented client/server, cloud, and multi-tier GUI and Web applications that work seamlessly with a wide variety of database servers and data sources. Delphi Enterprise’s high-performance heterogeneous database server support is ideal for multi-vendor database server scenarios, or building turnkey applications that can work with a wide array of database servers. Delphi Enterprise includes everything in the Professional edition, plus the following for building client/server and multi-tier database and Web applications:

- Database server connectivity to InterBase, Firebird, MySQL, Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle, DB2, Informix and Sybase
DataSnap multi-tier application development
FinalBuilder Embarcadero Edition and command line tools for build automation
VCL for the Web for standalone apps, service apps, and ISAPI extensions; with HTTPS support and no connection limit
Full two-way UML modeling capabilities with multiple diagram types, synchronization between code and models, documentation generation, and design patterns

Delphi XE Architect

Delphi® XE Architect is designed for developers and teams building data-intensive client/server, cloud, GUI and Web applications with large or complex enterprise database systems. Delphi Architect combines data-driven rapid application development and heterogeneous high-speed data access with rich visual data modeling to help developers understand, design, and get the most value out of existing enterprise databases and data structures. Delphi Architect includes everything in the Enterprise edition plus powerful database modeling and design capabilities:

- Reverse-engineer, analyze, and optimize databases
- Automatically generate database code from models for forward engineering
- Create logical and physical models based on information extracted from databases and script files
- Work with highly readable and navigable diagrams

Advanced compare and merge with bidirectional comparisons and merges of model and database structures

What’s new in Delphi XE?

Delphi XE (Delphi 2011) is filled with hundreds of new features and enhancements to help you build ultra-rich applications ultra-fast. With Delphi XE you’ll find new ways to get your work done faster, build higher quality apps, and take advantage of multi-tier and cloud.

Faster coding and performance with new coding tools and an expanded developer toolbox

- Subversion version control tightly integrated into the Delphi IDE to manage your source code and your team’s
- FinalBuilder Embarcadero Edition tools, command line audits, metrics, formatting and doc gen to automate and extend your build process
- AQTime Standard profiling tools to identify issues so you can deliver ultra-high performance apps
- Code editor enhancements for searching, formatting and navigating plus Beyond Compare Text Compare
- CodeSite Express logging tools and enhanced debugging for building quality applications
- Modeling enhancements in Delphi to generate sequence diagrams and better code

Build tomorrow’s applications today with cloud and multi-tier

- New components that make it easy to work with Microsoft Windows Azure data types including blobs, queues and tables
- Easy deployment to Amazon EC2 cloud infrastructure
- New DataSnap features including new wizards, RESTful server support, encryption,
compression, and new client options to extend the capabilities of your multi-tier applications.

Get even more with XE exclusives

- Get free access to earlier version licenses for Delphi 2010, 2009, 2007 and 7
- ToolCloud network licensing option for managing licenses and software provisioning within your team, company or organization
- Easy upgrade to All-Access if you want to always be up-to-date with our complete range of developer tools and database tools

What is the XE in Delphi XE?

XE is the new product version/badge for all new major Embarcadero product releases. X signifies heterogeneous and E signifies Embarcadero. The XE badge signifies that a product is part of the Embarcadero family of heterogeneous application and database develop tools and identifies Embarcadero’s unique market advantage supporting heterogeneous database or platform connectivity and deployment out of the box. For Delphi specifically XE signifies Delphi’s unique heterogeneous database and DataSnap cloud deployment capabilities, and in future releases will include heterogeneous client and server deployment to a variety of OS platforms and architectures. XE designated products are also ToolCloud ready or include ToolCloud capabilities to facilitate streamlined on-demand tool access and administration.

XE also unifies the wide variety of differing version numbers and schemes among nearly twenty different Embarcadero products. For example some products previously used year designations such as 2010 to signify the year they are released in and others used the year to designate the upcoming year a product will be released and yet others used a variety of differing decimal schemes such as v3 or v7.5.2 with some products incrementing the major version number annually and others incrementing the second decimal version annually.

Beginning with products released in the calendar year 2010 all Embarcadero XE feature qualifying products will be designated XE, subsequent major version releases designated as XE2, XE3, XE4, etc. To assist in support and identifying specific technical lineages, products will continue to include internal technical version numbers as they have in the past. For example Delphi 2010’s internal technical version number found in the about box was actually v14.0.XXXX and as such Delphi XE’s internal technical version number will retain the same scheme and is v15.0.XXXX.

What does Delphi include?

**Delphi XE** – Embarcadero® Delphi® XE is the fastest way to deliver ultra-rich Windows applications. Dramatically reduce coding time and create applications 5x faster with component-based development

**ER/Studio 8.5 Developer Edition** (full license in Delphi Architect, trial license in Delphi Pro/Ent) – ER/Studio helps data architects discover, document, and re-use data
assets and gives you the power to easily reverse-engineer, analyze, and optimize existing databases.

**InterBase SMP 2009 Developer Edition** – InterBase SMP 2009 Developer Edition provides developers with the best cross-platform database to build and test database applications for embedded and SME applications.

**Additional Tools** – Delphi includes a comprehensive set of additional tools to help you do more than ever before.

- InstallAware Express provides an unsurpassed feature set, enabling you to build sophisticated installations in record time without any programming or scripting skills.
- Rave Reports from Nevrona provides a wide variety of reporting solutions
- TeeChart Standard from Steema provides quick and easy-to-use charting components
- VCL for the Web (IntraWeb) from AtoZed is a complete RAD Web Application framework
- FinalBuilder Embarcadero Edition helps you automate your build process
- CodeSite Express logging tools for building quality applications
- AQTime Standard from SmartBear for performance profiling
- Beyond Compare Text Compare lets you view differences between source files

**Partner Software** – Delphi users have access to a variety of free and trial editions of tools and components from Embarcadero Technology Partners accessible from the product launcher as either a partner DVD ISO or online from the Embarcadero developer network.

Are earlier version licenses included with Delphi XE?


If you purchase individual named user licenses, 5-packs or 10-packs, just go to [http://www.embarcadero.com/xe-earlier-versions](http://www.embarcadero.com/xe-earlier-versions) after you register your XE product serial number. You can enter your registered XE serial number and get serial numbers and downloads for the older versions. Those licenses will be tied to your user account and cannot be given away or sold. If your XE license is an upgrade, you will not receive duplicate licenses for the older version(s) you upgrade from.

You must request your older version licenses within 180 days of your purchase of the
XE product.

If you purchase Network Named ToolCloud or Network Concurrent ToolCloud licenses, the older version licenses for versions 2007-2010 will be included as part of your network license. Each network license count is a suite license that can be used to run one of the included versions at a time. Delphi 7 is not available as part of the network licenses so you will receive one Delphi 7 serial number per license purchased. The Delphi 7 licenses cannot be managed via the license server or used concurrently.

Older versions are not included with Academic licenses.

What is Embarcadero® RAD Studio?

Embarcadero RAD Studio XE is a comprehensive application development suite and the fastest way to visually build GUI-intensive, data-driven applications for Windows, .NET, PHP and the Web. RAD Studio XE includes Delphi®, C++Builder®, Delphi Prism, and RadPHP™ enabling developers to deliver applications up to 5x faster across multiple Windows, Web, and database platforms.

What is Embarcadero All-Access?

If you’re interested in Delphi XE, in combination with development tools for C++, .NET, Java, PHP, Ruby on Rails; plus a complete range of database design, management and performance tools, Embarcadero All-Access is the solution for you. Embarcadero All-Access XE provides all the application development and database tools you need – when you need them. It’s the easiest to use ‘toolbox’ solution for any size team of developers, architects, performance testers, and DBAs. All-Access is ideal for both large enterprise teams working on a wide range of technologies; and for smaller teams, consultants, and individuals who find their time split across the software development life cycle.

Where can I purchase Delphi XE? How much does it cost?

You can view pricing and purchase Delphi from one of our valuable partners or our online Embarcadero Shop site. See http://www.embarcadero.com/products/how_to_buy.php for more information.

What is Support and Maintenance for Delphi?

Support and Maintenance can be purchased at the time you purchase your Delphi product or upgrade. The support and maintenance agreement gives you a year of upgrades (including major and minor upgrades) and a specified number of support incidents. See the Support dropdown menu item of our web site for additional information.

Where can I get the latest updates for Delphi?
Updates and additional software for Delphi users are available on the registered users download page at [http://cc.embarcadero.com/reg/delphi](http://cc.embarcadero.com/reg/delphi). More major new feature upgrades are available only to users with current Maintenance agreements. Notifications for those upgrades are delivered via email and the upgrades can be downloaded via the Maintenance Portal web site by following the instructions in the email.

Is Delphi available in languages other than English?

Delphi is available in English, French, German and Japanese. The installer lets you choose any combination of languages and it’s easy to switch between languages in the IDE.

Which types of licenses are available?

Delphi XE is available with multiple licensing options including:

- Individual named user licenses
- Named and concurrent user ToolCloud licenses managed using the Embarcadero License Server or FLEXnet which provide the additional flexibility of managing licenses on a license server plus software provisioning
- 5-pack and 10-pack licenses at discounted prices
- Academic individual licenses for students and educators
- Academic volume licenses for classroom use

What are the limitations of the Academic editions?

The Academic edition can be used only for learning in an academic or classroom environment. Educational institutions cannot use the academic version to produce software for use within their institution. Academic products do not qualify for upgrade pricing. Academic licenses don’t include access to older version licenses. Academic licenses don’t qualify for upgrade pricing to commercial licenses.

Who qualifies for the upgrade pricing on Delphi XE?

- Professional upgrade eligibility – Upgrade pricing is available to registered owners of 2007-2010 versions of RAD Studio, Delphi or C++Builder. For a limited time through December 31, 2010, registered owners of 2006 versions of Delphi, C++Builder, Borland Developer Studio products (Professional, Enterprise or Architect editions) and Turbo Professional products also qualify for upgrade pricing.
- Enterprise upgrade eligibility – Upgrade pricing is available to registered owners of 2007-2010 versions of RAD Studio, Delphi or C++Builder; Professional, Enterprise or Architect editions. For a limited time through
December 31, 2010, registered owners of 2006 versions of Delphi, C++Builder, and Borland Developer Studio; Professional, Enterprise or Architect editions; also qualify for upgrade pricing.

- Architect upgrade eligibility – Upgrade pricing is available to registered owners of 2007-2010 versions of RAD Studio, Delphi or C++Builder; Enterprise or Architect editions. For a limited time through December 31, 2010, registered owners of 2006 versions of Delphi, C++Builder, and Borland Developer Studio; Enterprise or Architect editions; also qualify for upgrade pricing.

Upgrade pricing is not available from Academic editions.

Is Blackfish SQL still included with Delphi?

Blackfish SQL is no longer included with Delphi as of the XE version. We recommend InterBase which is available in multiple configurations is a great choice as an embedded database.

How is InterBase licensed in Delphi?

InterBase 2009 Developer Edition is InterBase SMP 2009 Server licensed for up to 20 users and 80 logical connections. You can install InterBase Developer Edition on a server for testing purposes using the serial number included in the Delphi XE readme file or you can download and request a serial number from the InterBase download page at [https://downloads.embarcadero.com/free/interbase](https://downloads.embarcadero.com/free/interbase).

When you're ready to deploy applications using InterBase, Embarcadero offers a variety of editions (Desktop, Server and To-Go) and a variety of licensing options (flexible server licensing, multi-packs and OEM licensing). Contact Embarcadero Sales or partners for more information. See the license terms in the Delphi license.rtf file for additional licensing details.

Technical Questions

Can I develop applications on one version of Windows and deploy to others?

Yes. You develop applications on the Windows OS that is most productive for you, so you can develop applications on your choice of operating systems (Windows 7, Windows Vista, XP, Server 2008 or Server 2003). Applications built with Delphi will run on all of those Windows versions plus Windows 2000.

Will applications built with Delphi XE run on older versions of Windows including Windows 2000, 95, 98 and Me?

Because of the use of Unicode as the default string type, Windows 98, 95, and ME will not run applications produced with Delphi XE, 2010 and 2009. These operating systems do not support Unicode strings, and Microsoft has dropped support for them.
Applications built with Delphi XE, 2010 and 2009 will run on Windows 2000.

What are the pre-requisites for installing Delphi?
To install, you will need to have installed on your system:

- The Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0 or higher
- The Microsoft Visual J# 2.0 redistributable package
- Windows Internet Explorer® 6.0 or higher
- MSXML 6

The installer will install the prerequisite software if you don’t already have it installed.

I'm wondering about moving my existing code to Unicode. What do I need to do?
Most existing code will work fine using the new default UnicodeString. Code that does byte level manipulation of string data, or that carries data in string variables probably needs to be examined and perhaps updated to account for the new character sizes inherent in Unicode string data. For more information, see the documentation and Embarcadero Developer Network for information about moving existing code to Unicode.

Do I have to register my copy of Delphi?
Yes. When you first run the product, a small application will open and ask you to register the product. Once that is done, and your product key is validated, then your product will be registered and installed.

Can I open my projects created with earlier versions of Delphi?
Yes, you should be able to do so, depending on the installed components required by your projects. Delphi XE uses the MSBuild system for the build engine, and thus requires a new project file if you are upgrading from version 2007 or earlier. However, the IDE will seamlessly update your projects to the new format.

Can I develop .NET applications with Delphi XE?
No. Delphi XE produces only native Win32 binaries. You can import .NET assemblies as COM objects, but the code produced by Delphi XE is strictly native Win32 code. Embarcadero offers Delphi Prism for .NET development with a Delphi-based language. Delphi Prism is available standalone or combined with Delphi XE in Embarcadero RAD Studio XE.

Why do I need to install the Microsoft .NET runtimes and SDK with Delphi?
Some of the functionality of the IDE requires these software packages.

Will my users / customers need the .NET runtimes / SDK in order to run my apps built with Delphi?

No. Applications produced with Delphi do not require any .NET runtime support. The product produces pure native Windows applications.

What are the differences between the ER/Studio Developer Edition data modeling capabilities in Delphi Architect and the standard ER/Studio product?

The ER/Studio data modeling and visualization in Delphi Architect is a subset of the full ER/Studio. Delphi Architect doesn’t include metadata import/export capabilities or access to ER/Studio team repository servers. It includes limited reporting functionality (HTML only). The ER/Studio functionality in Delphi Architect supports a specific set of databases in line with those supported by dbExpress, while the full ER/Studio products offer flexible configurations for those databases and more.

Can I install Delphi XE on a machine with previous versions of RAD Studio, Delphi or C++Builder on it?

Yes. Delphi XE coexists nicely with earlier versions of RAD Studio, C++Builder and Delphi.

Are there new COMPILEVERSION and RTLVERSION values defined for Delphi XE?

Yes. For Delphi XE, COMPILEVERSION is set to 22.0, and RTLVERSION is set to 22.0.