

VISUAL STUDIO 2008 OVERVIEW

MICROSOFT® VISUAL STUDIO® 2008 is the development system for designing, developing, and testing next-generation Microsoft Windows®-based solutions, Web applications, and services. By improving the user experience for Windows Vista®, the 2007 Microsoft Office system, mobile devices, and the Web, Visual Studio 2008 helps individuals and organizations rapidly create and deliver complete, connected, comprehensive, and compelling software solutions with breakthrough user experiences.



VISUAL STUDIO 2008 DELIVERS THE FOLLOWING KEY ADVANCES:

RAPID APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

From modeling to coding and debugging, Visual Studio 2008 delivers improved language, designer, editor, and data features that will help you experience a breakthrough in productivity.

Work with Data in a Unified and Integrated Way

Visual Studio 2008 significantly improves the way developers handle data. Traditionally, developers have to manipulate data differently, depending on where the data resides and how the user connects to it. With Language-Integrated Query (LINQ), developers can use a single model to query and transform XML, Microsoft SQL Server™, and object data without having to learn or use specialized language, thereby reducing complexity and boosting productivity for developers.

Build Applications That Run on Multiple Versions of the .NET Framework

With Visual Studio 2008, developers now have the ability to use one tool to manage and build applications that target multiple versions of the .NET Framework. Visual Studio 2008 will adapt the projects and settings available for the version of the .NET framework specified by developers. Developers no longer need to have multiple versions of Visual Studio installed to maintain applications that run on more than one version of the .NET Framework.

COLLABORATE ACROSS THE DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

Visual Studio 2008 enables developers, designers, testers, architects, and project managers to work together through shared tools and process integration, which reduces the time to solution.

Integrate Database Features into the Application Lifecycle Management

Visual Studio 2008 provides multiple discipline team members with an integrated set of tools for architecture, design, development, database development, and testing of applications. Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Database Edition is now fully integrated into Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Team Suite.

Enable Seamless Collaboration Between Developers and Designers

Microsoft has released a new family of tools for designers called Microsoft Expression®. In Visual Studio 2008, design elements from both Microsoft Expression Web and Microsoft Expression Blend™ can now be brought in and out of Visual Studio without modifying of the code behind these elements. This means developers and designers can collaborate seamlessly with more confidence and without fear of a breaking change when user interface design has to be modified.



CREATE OUTSTANDING USER EXPERIENCES

Visual Studio 2008 offers developers new tools that speed creation of outstanding, highly personalized user experiences and connected applications using the latest platforms, including the Web, Windows Vista, the 2007 Microsoft Office system, Microsoft SQL Server 2008, Windows Mobile®, and Windows Server® 2008.

Experience New Tools and Support for Web Development

Visual Studio 2008 offers organizations a robust, end-to-end platform for building, hosting, and exposing applications over the Web. With Visual Studio 2008, developers can easily incorporate new Windows Presentation Foundation (WPF) features into both existing Windows Forms applications and new applications to create high-fidelity user experiences on Windows. Building AJAX-enabled applications is made faster by the addition of ASP.NET AJAX 1.0 and Microsoft IntelliSense® and debugging support for JavaScript 8.0. The enhanced Web designer with the new split-view editing helps developers improve the Web development experience by helping them see both the HTML and resulting page, along with visual design clues simultaneously.

Build Reliable and Scalable Applications for the Microsoft Office System

Visual Studio Tools for Office is now fully integrated into Visual Studio 2008 Professional Edition. Visual Studio 2008 enables developers to customize Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Excel®, Microsoft Office PowerPoint®, Microsoft Office Outlook®, Microsoft Office Visio®, Microsoft Office InfoPath®, and Microsoft Office Project to improve user productivity and take advantage of the many improvements in the 2007 Office system. With full support for ClickOnce deployment of all Microsoft Office customizations and applications, developers now have the right tools and framework for easy deployment and maintenance of their Microsoft Office solutions.

Build Stunning Applications for Windows Vista

Visual Studio 2008 includes enhancements that enable developers to quickly and easily create applications that exhibit the Windows Vista “look and feel” and take advantage of the more than 8,000 new native APIs available in Windows Vista.



VISUAL STUDIO 2008 OFFERS A DIVERSE PRODUCT LINE DESIGNED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPERS OR DEVELOPMENT TEAMS.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Team Foundation Server is a team collaboration platform that combines team portal, version control, work-item tracking, build management, process guidance, and business intelligence into a unified server. All Visual Studio Team System 2008 Editions are deeply integrated with Team Foundation Server to give users complete visibility into development artifacts and activities on a project. Team Foundation Server allows everyone on the team to collaborate more effectively and deliver better-quality software.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Team Suite provides multiple discipline team members with the ultimate set of tools for architecture, design, development, database development, and testing of applications. Team members can continuously learn new skills and utilize a complete set of tools and guidance at every step of the application lifecycle.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Architecture Edition focuses on improving the design and validation of distributed systems. It gives architects, operations managers, and developers the ability to visually construct service-oriented solutions and validate them against their operational environments prior to deployment.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Database Edition provides advanced tools for database change management and testing and offers functionality to help database developers and administrators be more productive and increase application quality in the database tier.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Development Edition provides developers with an advanced set of tools to identify inefficient, insecure, or poor-quality code, specify coding best practices, and automate software unit testing. These tools help team members write better-quality code, reduce security-related issues, and avoid bugs later in the development lifecycle.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Test Edition provides a comprehensive suite of testing tools for Web applications and services that are integrated into the Visual Studio environment. These testing tools enable testers to author, execute, and manage tests and related work items—all from within Visual Studio.

Microsoft Visual Studio Team System 2008 Test Load Agent generates test loads for Web applications. It enables organizations to improve quality of service by more accurately testing the performance of Web applications and servers under load.

Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 Professional Edition is a full-featured development environment that provides a superset of the functionality available in Visual Studio 2008 Standard Edition. It is designed for individual professional developers or small development teams to develop high-performance, connected applications with breakthrough user experiences targeting the Web (including ASP.NET AJAX), Windows Vista, Windows Server, the Microsoft Office system, SQL Server, and Windows Mobile devices. Visual Studio 2008 Professional Edition now provides unit testing capability to enable developers to identify errors early in the development process. Visual Studio Tools for Office is now an integral part of Visual Studio 2008 Professional Edition, which enables developers to build applications that easily integrate with Microsoft's productivity suite.

Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 Standard Edition provides a full-featured development environment for Windows and Web developers. It offers many productivity enhancements for building data-driven client and Web applications. Individual developers looking to create connected applications with the next-generation user experience will find Visual Studio 2008 Standard Edition a perfect fit.

MSDN® Subscriptions provide Software Assurance for Visual Studio and a wide variety of resources and technical support options to help development teams be more efficient, effective, and productive. With MSDN Subscriptions, development teams can have access to virtually all of Microsoft's operating systems, server products, and productivity applications to design, develop, test, and demonstrate your software application.

**MULTI-LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT
FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPERS**

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[1] Visual Studio Team System 2008 Team Foundation Server Workgroup Edition is limited to five designated users. One Client Access License is provided for use of the full version of Team Foundation Server.

[2] One copy of the indicated applications may be used for general business use on one device for any purpose.