

# NEXTSTEP

**Title:** C++ Libraries

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## Overview

In releases 2.0 through 3.1, NEXTSTEP shipped with a compiler capable of handling C++ code but without any libraries. This meant that C++ developers did not have access to some of the standard C++ functions or header files, such as the "complex" data type or the C++ streams functions. An implementation of the C++ library is available on the internet and can be used with NEXTSTEP.

In releases 3.2 and later, libg++ ships with the system; see the release note in `/NextLibrary/Documentation/NextDev/ReleaseNotes/C++.rtf`.

## Procedure

The Free Software Foundation (which is responsible for the GNU project) has written a large library of routines for C++ called libg++. Under FSF rules in effect when NEXTSTEP 2.0-3.0 shipped, libg++ could only be used by programs which were not distributed commercially. For further information, the Free Software Foundation can be contacted at:

Free Software Foundation, Inc.  
675 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139 USA

Telephone: (617) 876-3296  
Electronic mail: [gnu@prep.ai.mit.edu](mailto:gnu@prep.ai.mit.edu)

Other third parties offer C++ libraries as well. AT&T offers a library which is a subset of libg++ for a fee. Some developers have chosen to develop their own C++ libraries.

The GNU C++ [libg++] Class Library includes support of the following [often requested] features:

- Streams and other I/O

- Complex numbers

- String support

**See Also:**

[1431\\_compiling\\_C++\\_libraries](#)