

Working in a GNU Source Tree

A guide to how it all works

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Cygnus Support

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1 GNU Coding Standards

This should be fairly obvious, but the basic document describing a tree of GNU software is the GNU Coding Standards (`standards.texi`).

Cygnus maintains an additional standard Makefile target:

`'install-info'`

Install all Info files into `$(infodir)`, and run the program to update the `info.dir` file. This last program currently (04/13/1993) doesn't exist.

In addition to this additional target, the optional targets `'check'` and `'installcheck'` are required for every package in the tree.

2 Configuring the tree

Since many components of the tree use 'autoconf' generated configure scripts, you must configure the tree on the host that you wish to configure for.

A corollary to this is that you also need to have a C compiler available at configure time. `'cc'` is used, unless you specify another compiler by setting the environment variable `CC` during the configuration. The scripts and Makefiles used to build Cygnus releases do something like this:

```
CC='cc -Xs' ../progressive/configure sparc-sun-solaris2 etc
```

You are likely to run into problems if you configure with a different compiler than you use during build time. For example, if you configure using `'gcc'`, and compile with `'cc'` on SunOS 4.x, you'll have problems with programs that expect `'const'` to be useful and valid, since this feature is tested for at configure time.

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