

**NAME**

install-tl – TeX Live cross-platform installer

**SYNOPSIS**

install-tl [*option*]...

install-tl.bat [*option*]...

**DESCRIPTION**

This installer creates a runnable TeX Live installation from various media, including over the network. The installer works across all platforms supported by TeX Live. For information on initially downloading the TeX Live, see <<http://tug.org/texlive/acquire.html>>.

The basic idea of TeX Live installation is to choose one of the top-level *schemes*, each of which is defined as a different set of *collections* and *packages*, where a collection is a set of packages, and a package is what contains actual files.

Within the installer, you can choose a scheme, and further customize the set of collections to install, but not the set of the packages. To do that, use `tlmgr` (reference below) after the initial installation is completely.

The default is `scheme-full`, to install everything, and this is highly recommended.

**REFERENCES**

Post-installation configuration, package updates, and much more, are handled through **tlmgr**(1), the TeX Live Manager (<<http://tug.org/texlive/tlmgr.html>>).

The most up-to-date version of this documentation is on the Internet at <http://tug.org/texlive/doc/install-tl.html> <<http://tug.org/texlive/doc/install-tl.html>>.

For the full documentation of TeX Live, see <<http://tug.org/texlive/doc>>.

**OPTIONS**

**-gui** [[=*module*]

If no *module* is given starts the `perlTk` (see below) GUI installer.

If *module* is given loads the given installer module. Currently the following modules are supported:

`text`     The text mode user interface which is the default on Unix systems, and can be forced with by giving `text` as *module*, or with the `-no-gui` switch.

`wizard`     The wizard mode user interface asking only a few questions before installing all of TeX Live. This is the default on Windows systems.

`perlTk`     The all-in-one GUI installer. It can also be selected by giving the `-gui` option without any *module*.

The `perlTk` and `wizard` modules, and thus also when calling with a simple `-gui` (without *module*) requires the Perl/Tk module (<<http://tug.org/texlive/distro.html#perlTk>>); if Perl/Tk is not available, installation continues in text mode.

**-no-gui**

Use the text mode installer (default except on Windows).

**-lang *llcode***

(only for GUI installer) If possible, start the installer translated into the language specified by the 2-letter (ISO 639-1) language code (with the exception for selecting simplified or traditional Chinese). Currently supported languages: English (en, default), Czech (cs), German (de), French (fr), Italian (it), Dutch (nl), Polish (pl), Russian (ru), Slovak (sk), Slovenian (sl), Serbian (sr), Vietnamese (vi), simplified Chinese (zh-cn), and traditional Chinese (zh-tw).

**-repository *url/path***

Specify the package repository to be used as the source of the installation, either a local directory via `/path/to/directory` or a `file:// url`, or a network location via a `http://` or `ftp://` url. (No other protocols are supported.)

The default is to pick a mirror automatically, using `<http://mirror.ctan.org/systems/texlive/tlnet>`; the chosen mirror is used for the entire download. You can use the special argument `ctan` as an abbreviation for this. See `<http://ctan.org>` for more about CTAN and its mirrors.

If the repository is on the network, trailing `/` characters and/or trailing `/tlpkg` and `/archive` components are ignored. For example, you could choose a particular CTAN mirror with something like this:

```
-repository http://ctan.example.org/its/ctan/dir/systems/texlive/tlnet
```

Of course a real hostname and its particular top-level CTAN path have to be specified. The list of CTAN mirrors is available at `<http://ctan.org/mirrors>`.

If the repository is local, the installation type (compressed or live) is automatically determined, by checking for the presence of a `archive` directory relative to the root. Compressed is preferred if both are available, since it is faster. Here's an example of using a local directory:

```
-repository /local/TL/repository
```

After installation is complete, you can use that installation as the repository for another installation. If you chose to install less than the full scheme containing all packages, the list of available schemes will be adjusted accordingly.

For backward compatibility and convenience, `--location` and `--repo` are accepted as aliases for this option.

**-all-options**

Normally options not regarding the current platform are not shown. Giving this cmd line option allows to configure settings in the final `tlpdb` that do not have any immediate effect.

**-custom-bin *path***

If you have built your own binaries for your system (probably because your platform was not supported by TeX Live out of the box), this option allows you to give the *path* to a directory where the binaries for the current system are present. The installation will continue as usual, but at the end all files from *path* are copied over to `bin/custom` in your installation folder and this directory will be added to the path for the post-install actions.

**-debug-translation**

In GUI mode, this switch makes `tlmgr` report any missing, or more likely untranslated, messages to standard error. Helpful for translators to see what remains to be done.

**--help, -help, -?**

Display this help and exit.

**-logfile *file***

Write both all messages (informational, debugging, warnings) to *file*, in addition to standard output or standard error.

If this option is not given, the installer will create a log file in the root of the writable installation tree, for example, `/usr/local/texlive/YYYY/install-tl.log` for the *YYYY* release.

**-force-platform *platform***

Instead of auto-detecting the current platform, use *platform*. Binaries for this platform must be present and they must actually be runnable, or installation will fail. `-force-arch` is a synonym.

**-no-cls**

(only for text mode installer) do not clear the screen when entering a new menu (for debugging purposes).

**-non-admin**

For Windows only: configure for the current user, not for all users.

**--persistent-downloads****--no-persistent-downloads**

For net installs, activating this option makes the installer try to set up a persistent connection using the Net::LWP Perl module. This opens only one connection between your computer and the server per session and reuses it, instead of initiating a new download for each package.

This option is turned on by default, and the installation program will fall back to using `wget` if this is not possible. To disable usage of LWP and persistent connections, use `--no-persistent-downloads`.

**-portable**

Install for portable use on e.g. a USB stick. Also selectable from within the `perlTk-` and text installers.

**-in-place**

This is a quick-and-dirty installation option in case you already have an `rsync-` or `svn` checkout of TeX Live. It will use the checkout as-is and will just do the necessary post-install. Be warned that the file `tlpkg/texlive.tlpdb` may be rewritten, that removal has to be done manually, and that the only realistic way to maintain this installation is to redo it from time to time. This option is not available via the installer interface. USE AT YOUR OWN RISK.

**-print-platform**

Print the TeX Live identifier for the detected platform (hardware/operating system) combination to standard output, and exit. `-print-arch` is a synonym.

**-profile *profile***

Load the *profile* file for repeated installations on different systems. A *profile* contains the values of all necessary variable for the installation. After normal installation has finished a profile for that exact installation is written into `DEST/tlpkg/texlive.profile`. That file can be used to do the exact same installation on a different computer.

You can also hand-craft such a profile starting from a generated one by changing some values. Normally a profile has to contain the value 1 for each collection that should be installed, even if the scheme is specified. That follows from the logic of the installer that you first select a scheme and then can change the actual collections being installed.

There is one exception to this: If the profile contains a variable for `selected_scheme` and *no* collection variable is defined in the profile, then the collections which the specified scheme requires are installed. Thus, a simple line `selected_scheme scheme-medium` together with the definitions of the paths (`TEXDIR`, `TEXMFHOME`, `TEXMFLOCAL`, `TEXMFSYSCONFIG`, `TEXMFSYSVAR`) suffices to install the medium scheme with all default options.

**-q** Omit normal informational messages.

**-scheme** *scheme*

Schemes are the highest level of package grouping in TeX Live; the default is to use the full scheme, which includes everything. This option overrides that default. You can change the scheme again before the actual installation with the usual menu. The *scheme* argument may optionally have a prefix `scheme-`. The list of supported scheme names depends on what your package repository provides; see the interactive menu list.

**-v** Include debugging messages; repeat for maximum debugging, as in `-v -v`. (Further repeats are accepted but ignored.)

**--version, -version**

Output version information and exit. If `-v` has been given the revisions of the used modules are reported, too.

As usual, all options can be specified with either `-` or `--`, and arguments can be separated from their options by either a space or `=`.

## AUTHORS AND COPYRIGHT

This script and its documentation were written for the TeX Live distribution (<http://tug.org/texlive>) and both are licensed under the GNU General Public License Version 2 or later.