

## The Pascal Programming Language

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### Chapter 5

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by Bill Catambay

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## V. Pascal Today

Pascal is still used today, both as a powerful educational tool for programming, as well as a viable language for industrial, commercial, scientific, shareware and freeware applications. The Pascal language is available on a number of different platforms, both commercially and through open source.

### Platforms

Pascal is available for:

- OpenVMS VAX
- OpenVMS Alpha
- Tru64 Unix
- Windows 95/98/ME
- Windows NT
- Linux
- FreeBSD Unix
- OS/2
- Macintosh

See Table V in the [Compilers](#) section for a list of available compilers.

### Compilers

Commercial versions of Pascal include Borland Pascal (aka, Turbo Pascal), Delphi, Compaq Pascal, THINK Pascal, and CodeWarrior Pascal. Turbo Pascal and THINK Pascal have not been updated for quite some time; likewise, CodeWarrior Pascal's final update is in progress at the time of this writing. Delphi and Compaq Pascal are both still commercially viable products, with yearly updates and full vendor support. Finally, FreePascal and GNU Pascal are ongoing open source projects, providing versions of Pascal freely available to the public.

Table V below provides a list of the more popular Pascal compilers available. In the "Supports" column, each compiler is rated for how well it adheres to the unextended Pascal standard (PAS) and the Extended Pascal standard (EPAS), and whether it

supports the Object Pascal model (OP). For each standard, the compiler is also rated to what extent it supports that standard: Full, Nearly Full, or Partial. In addition to the Object Pascal as defined in the Object Pascal Technical Report, Borland designed a variation of Object Pascal. Compilers which adhere to Borland's Object Pascal model are designated as such.

<b>Compiler and Vendor</b>	<b>Platforms</b>	<b>Supports</b>
<b>Compaq Pascal</b> by Compaq Computer <a href="http://www.openvms.compaq.com/commercial/pascal/">http://www.openvms.compaq.com/commercial/pascal/</a>	OpenVMS Tru64 Unix	PAS - Full EPAS - Nearly Full
<b>Prospero Extended Pascal</b> by Prospero Software <a href="http://www.prospersoftware.com/e32iw.html">http://www.prospersoftware.com/e32iw.html</a>	Windows	PAS - Full EPAS - Full OP
<b>Delphi</b> by Borland <a href="http://www.borland.com/delphi/">http://www.borland.com/delphi/</a>	Windows	Rapid Development **
<b>THINK Pascal</b> by Symantec <a href="http://www.think-pascal.com/">http://www.think-pascal.com/</a>	Macintosh	PAS - Full EPAS - Partial OP
<b>CodeWarrior Pascal</b> by Metrowerks	Macintosh Windows	PAS - Full EPAS - Partial OP
<b>Borland Pascal</b> by Borland	Windows	PAS - Nearly Full EPAS - Partial OP (Borland)
<b>FreePascal</b> <a href="http://www.freepascal.org/">http://www.freepascal.org/</a>	Linux OS/2 FreeBSD Windows	PAS - Nearly Full EPAS - Partial OP (Borland)
<b>GNU Pascal</b> by Free Software Foundation <a href="http://www.gnu-pascal.de/">http://www.gnu-pascal.de/</a>	Linux OS/2 FreeBSD Windows	PAS - Full EPAS - Partial OP (Borland)

**Table V: Available Pascal Compilers**

\*\* Borland's Delphi is a Rapid Application Development (RAD) Environment. It is based upon Pascal, but uses menus and windows for application building, hiding the code for the most part.

## Internet

There is a number of internet resources which provide information, tools and support for Pascal programmers. Table VI below provides a list of a few of these resources. For a more complete list, visit <http://pascal-central.com/plinks.html>, the Pascal Links and Forums web page, at Pascal Central.

<b>Web Site</b>	<b>Description</b>
Learn Pascal <a href="http://www.taoyue.com/tutorials/pascal/">http://www.taoyue.com/tutorials/pascal/</a>	A very complete and comprehensive Pascal tutorial. The tutorial is searchable, and serves as a useful Pascal reference even after one has completed it.
Pascal Central <a href="http://pascal-central.com/">http://pascal-central.com/</a>	Provides the Pascal community one place to obtain Pascal technical information, Pascal source code, and Pascal-related internet links.
Prospero Pascal <a href="http://www.prosperosoftware.com/e32iw.html">http://www.prosperosoftware.com/e32iw.html</a>	Prospero fully supports both Pascal standards as well as the Pascal Committee's Object-oriented extensions.
Introduction to Pascal <a href="http://www.cit.ac.nz/smac/pascal/">http://www.cit.ac.nz/smac/pascal/</a>	Courses to help teach Pascal programming.
FreePascal <a href="http://www.freepascal.org/">http://www.freepascal.org/</a>	Open Source Freeware Pascal Compiler supporting a variety of platforms.
GNU Pascal <a href="http://www.gnu-pascal.de/">http://www.gnu-pascal.de/</a>	Open Source Freeware Pascal Compiler supporting a variety of platforms.
MacTech Macintosh Pascal <a href="http://www.mactech.com/macintosh-pascal/">http://www.mactech.com/macintosh-pascal/</a>	MacTech hosts the Macintosh Pascal Hobbyist Guide page.
THINK Pascal Guide <a href="http://www.think-pascal.com/">http://www.think-pascal.com/</a>	Ingemar's Guide to Think Pascal, a free Mac development environment.
Ingemar's Corner <a href="http://pascal-central.com/ingemars-corner.html">http://pascal-central.com/ingemars-corner.html</a>	A descriptive list of very useful Pascal sample code at Ingemar's FTP site
How to Code Pascal <a href="http://www.allegro.com/papers/http.html">http://www.allegro.com/papers/http.html</a>	A paper focused on how to write quality Pascal code.
Khaan's Place <a href="http://www.alqonet.se/~khaan/">http://www.alqonet.se/~khaan/</a>	A site devoted to Borland Pascal Programming, where you can learn Pascal and find lots of source code.
Pascal Tools <a href="http://pascal-central.com/tools.html">http://pascal-central.com/tools.html</a>	Free Pascal tools for Macintosh, Windows and Linux.

**Table VI: Pascal Web Sites**

In addition to these web sites, there are Pascal mailing lists that can be useful to both novice and expert Pascal programmers. Use the mailing lists to ask questions, trouble shoot problems with code, and share your expertise. A list of these Pascal mailing lists, including instructions on how to subscribe, can be found at the following web site:

<http://pascal-central.com/plinks.html#anchor-lists>

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