

## Re: Where to Start?

**Source:** [http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C\\_CPP/alt.comp.lang.learn.c-cpp/2003-10/0668.html](http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C_CPP/alt.comp.lang.learn.c-cpp/2003-10/0668.html)

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**From:** WW ([wolof\\_at\\_freemail.hu](mailto:wolof_at_freemail.hu))

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Steve wrote:

- > *I used to program in C using Borland C++ Builder v4.52 but havent done*
- > *anything for a while.*
- >
- > *I want to buy a new compiler but dont know which.*
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- > *I would like to be able to compile all my old code but dont mind the*
- > *effort to port over if required.*
- >
- > *My main venture is to create a serial port listener that can be run*
- > *from both DOS and a Windows Platform. Currently im running Windows*
- > *2000 but I also have a laptop running XP. I would like to be able to*
- > *develop the software on both systems.*
- >
- > *Im confused by all the .NET jargon and dont understand what it means.*
- >
- > *Should I go for Borland C Builder 6 or Microsoft Visual C++ .NET*

.NET is basically something which (currently) has nothing to do with the C++ language itself.

IMHO you would need to ask this this question in Windows programming newsgroups. As far as I see what you want to do, I would say that even the freely available gcc should do the trick. It even has an IDE called DevC++ (with the mingw compiler) and there is also CygWin, but I guess that would be an overkill for your purposes. As of Borland vs. Microsoft... Today IMO Microsoft is closer to be standard than Borland, but I might be very wrong. Sicne you do not need any GUI (and the big differences are there) Microsoft seems to be a safer choice (if you do not want to use gcc). It is their OS what you want to program. But these are all guesses. Guys programming Widnows in Windows related newsgroups should be able to ask the right questions and give the right answers to you.

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WW aka Attila