

Programmer's Guide for  
QT Gui + openFrameworks (OF)  
in C++  
(Visual Studio 2008 & 2010)

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## Requirements

QT GUI VS2008: <http://qt.nokia.com/downloads/windows-cpp-vs2008>

QT Creator: <http://qt.nokia.com/downloads/qt-creator-binary-for-windows>

QT VS Add-in: <http://qt.nokia.com/downloads/visual-studio-add-in>

Qtwinmigrate: [ftp://ftp.qt.nokia.com/qt/solutions/lgpl/qtwinmigrate-2.8\\_1-opensource.zip](ftp://ftp.qt.nokia.com/qt/solutions/lgpl/qtwinmigrate-2.8_1-opensource.zip)

openFrameworks (OF): <http://www.openframeworks.cc/download> (v0.061 for VS2008, v0.062 for VS2010)

**NOTE:** This integration was tested on Windows XP, Windows 7, Visual Studio 2008, Visual Studio 2010, QtWinmigrate 2.8.1, Qt Gui 4.7.0, Qt Gui 4.7.1, openFrameworks v0.061 and openFrameworks v0.062.

**VisualStudio 2010 NOTE:** The  $\$(QTDIR)$  should be replaced by the absolute path "C:\yourQtpath". We used the QT GUI VS2008, this caused an error in console but the application still worked. Perhaps, building QT GUI for VS2010 the error will disappear.

## QT Gui and openFrameworks (OF) working together

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1. Download and Install [QT GUI VS2008](#). Add the "C:\yourQt\path\bin" to your environment variable **PATH**.
2. Download and Install [QT Creator](#) and [QT VS Add-in](#).
3. Download and install [openFrameworks](#).
4. Download [QTwinmigrate](#).

Run **configure.bat** in the windows command prompt and use QT Creator to build the buildlib project (buildlib\buildlib.pro), with the aim to create the lib file (QtSolutions\_MFCMigrationFramework-2.8d.lib) in the \libs directory (if the file is not created, try to build and run the qtwinmigrate project in the Qt Creator).

OR

You can also use the Qt command prompt (**Start -> Qt by Nokia -> Qt Command Prompt**) for this step: run the **configure.bat** file, cd buildlib, run nmake.

5. Open any VS Solution from the OF Examples and create a **New Project**. Choose **Qt4Projects -> Qt Library** and add to the solution with the **static library checked (.lib)**.
6. In Solution Properties, go to Project Dependencies and choose the OF Project from the Project list. In the "**Depends On**" box, check your Qt Library Project. For VS2010 you need also to check Project Properties -> Common Properties -> Framework and References.
7. Configuration of QT Library Project Properties:
  - Add to C/C++ -> General -> Additional Directories:  
**\$(QTDIR)\include, (your qtwinmigratedirectory)\src**
  - Add to C/C++ -> Preprocessor -> Preprocessor Definitions:  
**QT\_QTWINMIGRATE\_IMPORT, QT\_DLL, QT\_GUI\_LIB, QT\_CORE\_LIB**
8. Configuration of OF Project:
  - Add to C/C++ -> General -> Additional Directories:  
**\$(QTDIR)\include, (your qtwinmigratedirectory)\src**
  - Add to C/C++ -> Preprocessor -> Preprocessor Definitions:  
**QT\_QTWINMIGRATE\_IMPORT, QT\_DLL, QT\_GUI\_LIB, QT\_CORE\_LIB, QT\_THREAD\_SUPPORT**
  - Add to Linker -> Additional Library Directories :  
**(your qtwinmigratedirectory)\lib, \$(QTDIR)\lib**

- Add to Linker -> Input : **qtmaind.lib, QtCored4.lib, QtGuid4.lib, QtSolutions\_MFCMigrationFramework-2.8d.lib**

9. Add this code (highlighted in red) to the **main.cpp** of the OF Project:

```
#include <QtGui\QApplication>

int main(int argc, char *argv[]){//you have to add
                                //int argc, char *argv[]

    QApplication app(argc, argv); //Qt app
    //Q_INIT_RESOURCE(yourResources); //Load Qt resource (icons)
    //named "yourResources" in the lib. Only needed if you have
    //image icons

    ofAppGlutWindow window;
    ofSetupOpenGL(&window, 1024,768, OF_WINDOW); // <--- setup the
                                                //GL context

    // this kicks off the running of my app
    // can be OF_WINDOW or OF_FULLSCREEN
    // pass in width and height too:
    ofRunApp( new testApp());

    return app.exec(); //Qt app
}
```

10. Add a Qt Widget Form to the **Form Files** folder in the Qt Library Project: **Right click in Forms folder -> Add-> New Item -> Qt Forms -> Qt Widget Form**. This will add a .ui file to the Form Files and can be edited in the Qt Designer. In the Qt Designer change the name of the Form: **click in the form, using the right button of the mouse and choose Change objectName or use the Object Inspector or Property Editor and Save it**. In this form you can add any Qt widget. This will also generate a ui\_youruifile.h where is the code generated from the created form. (see Generated Files folder).

11. Add this code (highlighted in red) in your **header** file (.h) of the Qt Library Project:

```
#include <qwinwidget.h>
#include "GeneratedFiles\ui_yourgeneratedfile.h"

class yourQtClass {
    ...
public:
    void addDock(HWND wnd);

private:
    QWinWidget * w;
    ...
}
```

12. Add this code (highlighted in red) in your **source** file (.cpp) of the Qt Library Project:

```
#include "windows.h"
#include "ui_youruifile.h"

void yourQtClass::addDock(HWND wnd){

    w = new QWinWidget(wnd); //creates an QWinWidget object,
    //which is associated with the HWND wnd (child of).

    QWidget *widget = new QWidget(w);
    //creates an QWidget object, which is associated with the
    //QWinWidget w (child of).

    Ui::yourFormName ui; // this line loads a form created
    //using Qt Designer, see Qt/C++ manuals for this issue1

    ui.setupUi(widget); // this line associates ui form to the
    //object widget, see Qt/C++ manuals for this issue1

    w->setGeometry(0,0,100,100); // set position (0,0) and
    //dimensions (100,100) for the QWinWidget object

    widget->show();// shows QWidget object

    w->show();//shows QWinWidget object

}
```

<sup>1</sup> [C++ GUI Programming with Qt 4 \(First Edition\)](#) (ISBN 0131872494) by Jasmin Blanchette & Mark Summerfield (see page 26) or <http://doc.qt.nokia.com/4.4/designer-using-a-component.html> (last visit: Tuesday, November 23, 2010)

**NOTE:** QWinWidget objects have priority over regular QWidgets. Properties, like position and dimensions, should be defined on QWinWidget and not on QWidgets.

13. Add your Qt object in the **testApp.h** file (OF Project):

```
#include "..\..\yourQtLibrary\yourQtClass.h"

yourQtClass Qtstuff
```

14. Add this code (highlighted in red) to the **testApp.cpp** file (OF Project):

```
#include "windows.h"

void testApp::setup(){
    ...
    Qtstuff = yourQtClass(); // constructs your Qt object

    HWND wnd = WindowFromDC(wglGetCurrentDC());
    // gets the HWND of the OF main window

    Qtstuff.addDock(wnd); //class addDock defined above
    ...
}
```

15. Compile, Link and Run the Solution.

**NOTE:** When using this method you are NOT able to USE the Qt Main Window. If you want to know why, just try it and see the result for yourself. ;-)

## Qt Signals and Slots in openFrameworks (OF)

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If you want to connect actions performed in widgets to the OF content, you must use **QObject::connect()** function. To do this, you should derive the class that calls **QObject::connect()** from **Q\_Object** class<sup>2</sup> and declare the SLOT methods.

For example in **testApp.h**:

```
class testApp : public QObject, public ofBaseApp{
    Q_OBJECT
private:
    bool drawing;
public slots:
    void buttonClicked();
...
}
```

In **testApp.cpp**, you should implement the corresponding SLOT method:

```
void testApp::setup(){
    Qtstuff = yourQtClass(); // constructs your Qt object
    HWND wnd = WindowFromDC(wglGetCurrentDC()); // gets the HWND of
//the OF main window
    Qtstuff.addDock(wnd); //class addDock defined above
    drawing = false;

    QObject::connect(Qtstuff.yourFormName.pushButton,
    SIGNAL(clicked()), this, SLOT(buttonClicked()));
}

void testApp::buttonClicked(){
    drawing = !drawing;
}

void testApp::draw(){
    if(drawing){
        ofSetColor(0,0,0);
        ofDrawBitmapString("hello world", 600,600);
    }
}
```

<sup>2</sup> [C++ GUI Programming with Qt 4 \(First Edition\)](#) (ISBN 0131872494) by Jasmin Blanchette & Mark Summerfield (see page 21)

After that, you have to moc the class (in this case testApp.h)<sup>3</sup>. You can moc the class by running on the windows command prompt the following command line, `moc -o yourclass.moc.cc yourclass.h`, or by setting the following configuration in Custom Build Tool on Properties Menu → Custom Build Step → General of the yourclass.h file (just right click on the yourclass.h file to access this menu):

**Note1:** In VS2010, go first to Properties Menu → Configuration Properties → General → Item Type and choose Custom Build Tool and click on Apply to access the Custom Build Tool.

**Note2:** You can also do the pairing signals/slots using the Qt Designer, but only between widgets and not between widgets and OF.

In the Solution Explorer, right Click on **MyHeaderFile.h** and select **Properties -> Custom Build Step -> General**

Set <b>Command Line</b> to	<code>\$(QTDIR)\bin\moc "\${ProjectDir}\src\MyHeaderFile.moc.cc" -o "\${ProjectDir}\src\MyHeaderFile.h"</code>
Set <b>Description</b> to	<b>Moc'ing MyHeaderFile.h ...</b>
Set <b>Outputs</b> to	MyHeaderFile.moc.cc
Set <b>Additional Dependences</b>	<code>\$(QTDIR)\bin\moc.exe</code>

Replace **MyHeaderFile** with the actual name of the header file to be Moc'd.

Then you have to add the generated file, **MyHeaderFile.moc.cc**, to your OF Project.

When finished, you'll accomplish something like that:

<http://img.di.fct.unl.pt/~diogocabral/qt+ofresult.swf>

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<sup>3</sup> <http://ldmartin68.com/QTSetup4VSNET.html>