tutorial

Windows App SDK

Setup and Start

Buy me a coffee

Setup and Start

Windows App SDK provides a modern development platform for developing applications for **Windows 11**, but you can also develop applications for **Windows 10** version 1809 and later.

Setup

You will need to enable **Developer Mode** in **Windows 11** if this has not been enabled then you can do so with the following:

Right-click on **Start** then select or search for **Settings** from the **Start Menu** and then select it.

Task Manager
Settings
File Explorer
Search
Run
Shut down or sign out >
Desktop
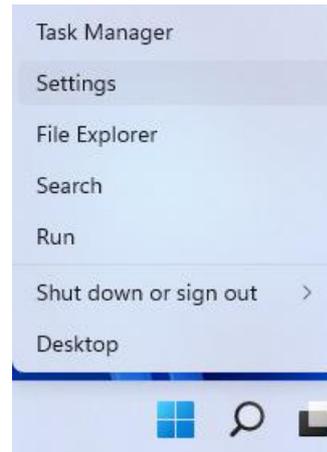
Next from **Settings** select **Privacy & security**

Privacy & security

Then in **Privacy & security** select **For developers**

For developers
These settings are intended for development use only
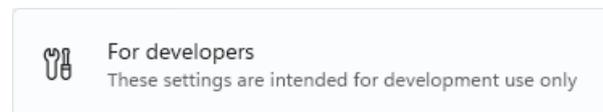
Finally in **For developers** make sure that the **Toggle** in **Developer mode** underneath *Install apps from any source, including loose files* is set to **On** if it is not already.

Developer Mode

Install apps from any source, including loose files.

On

Install

Windows App SDK applications can be created using **Visual Studio 2022** to **Install** it, if this has not been done already or to check you have what you need, you can do so with the following:

Visit visualstudio.com from your **Browser**, then from the **Download Visual Studio** section you can pick **Community 2022** which is a version of **Visual Studio 2022** that you can use for free to create your own applications with.

Next once the **Download** has completed from the *Thank you for downloading Visual Studio* screen choose the **Open file** option or similar in your **Browser** or find the **VisualStudioSetup.exe** in your **Downloads** and double-click on it.

Once the **VisualStudioSetup.exe** has started this will launch the **Visual Studio Installer**, select **Continue** to begin installation.

Next select **.NET desktop development** from the **Workloads** section in the **Visual Studio Installer**.

Then from **Installation details** make sure that **Windows App SDK C# Templates** is selected and then select **Install** or **Modify** and follow any further instructions to complete the installation of **Visual Studio 2022** and the **Windows App SDK**.
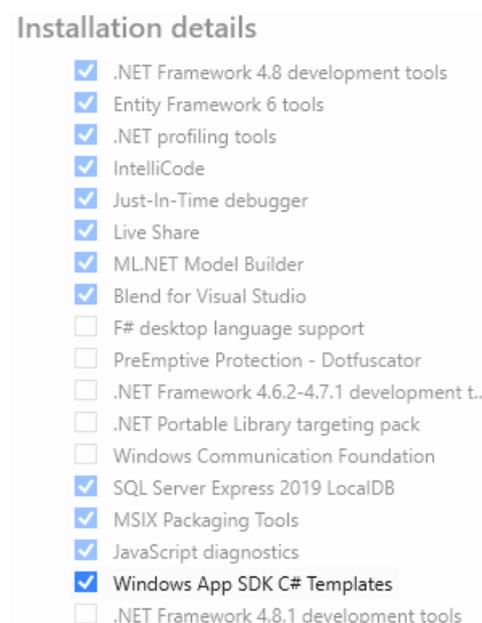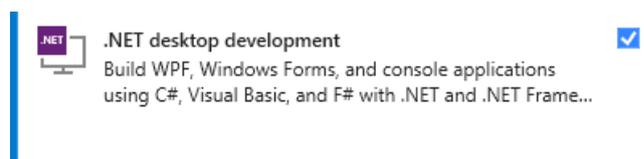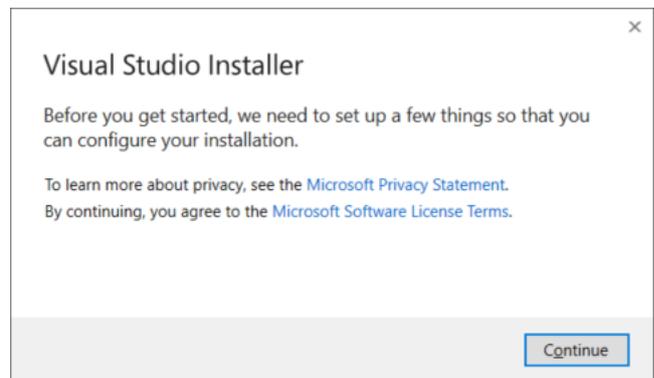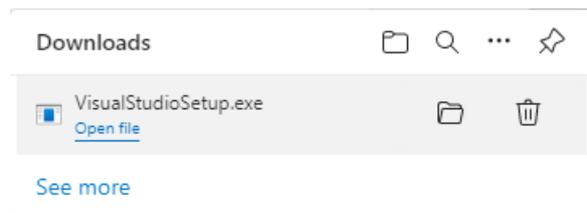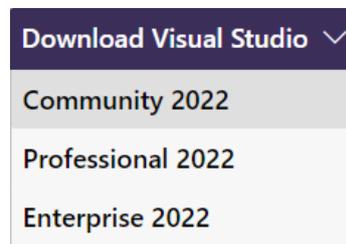
Start

To create an application using the **Windows App SDK** you will need to open **Visual Studio 2022** and **Create a new project**, by doing the following:

In **Windows 11** choose **Start** and then find or search for **Visual Studio 2022** and then select it.

Visual Studio 2022
App

Once **Visual Studio 2022** has started select **Create a new project**.

Create a new project
Choose a project template with code scaffolding to get started
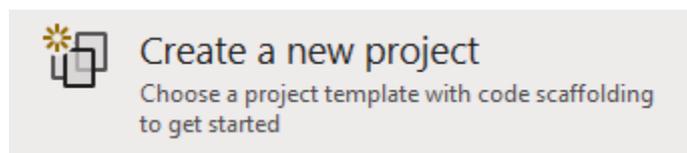
Then choose the **Blank App, Packages (WinUI in Desktop)** and then select **Next**.

Blank App, Packaged (WinUI 3 in Desktop)   New
A project template for creating a Desktop app based on the Windows UI Library (WinUI 3) along with a MSIX package for side-loading or distribution via the Microsoft Store.

C#   XAML   Windows   Desktop   WinUI
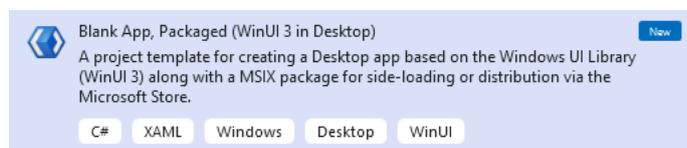
After that in **Configure your new project** pick a **Project name** and **Location** and then select **Create**

Configure your new project

Blank App, Packaged (WinUI 3 in Desktop)   C#   XAML   Windows   Desktop   WinUI

Project name

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Location

C:\Tutorials\

Solution name ⓘ

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☐ Place solution and project in the same directory
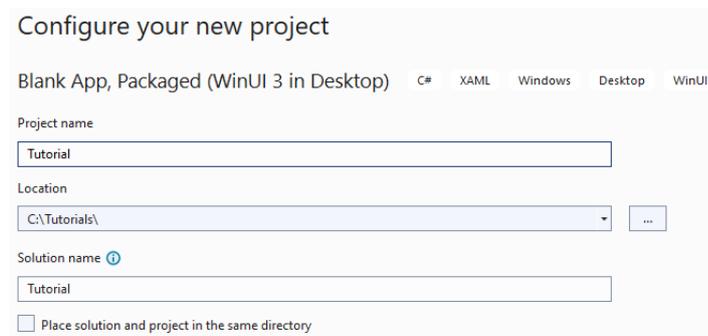
Finally, the **Solution** for your application will be opened in **Visual Studio 2022**
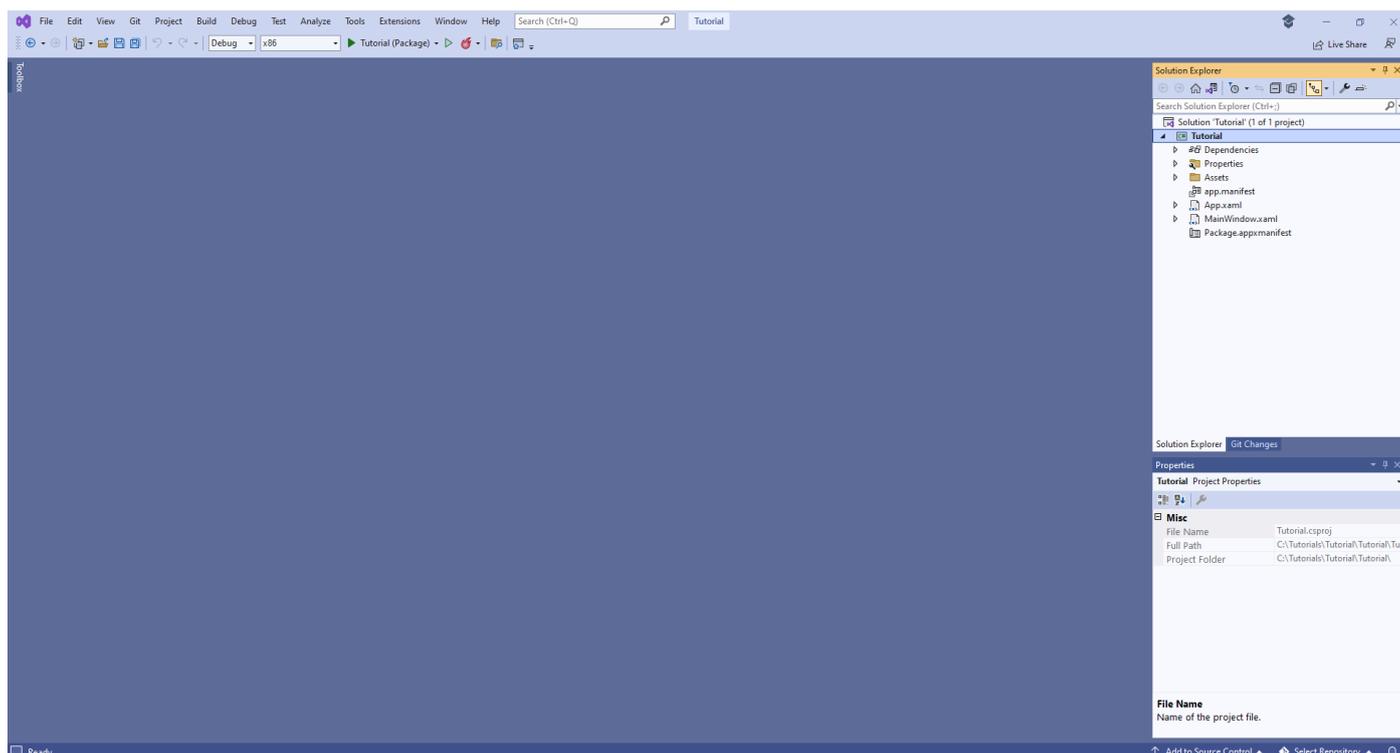
Guide

Visual Studio has a **Menu** at the top of the **Window**, when you need to do something from the **Menu** this is where you need to do it and there is also a **Search** box to find commands if needed.
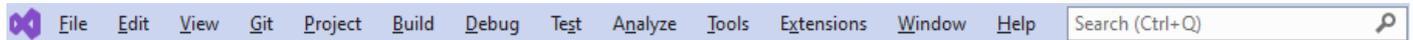
In **Visual Studio**, below the **Menu** is the **Toolbar** options include **Debug** shown with the name of the application which will start your application along with other options including **Save**, although please note your **Toolbar** may look different.

When your application is running, the **Toolbar** will change to include other options including **Stop** to finish **Debugging** and **Close** your application although again your **Toolbar** may look different.

When a **Solution** has been opened or created in **Visual Studio** to then **Edit** or **Add** any **XAML** for the **Main Window** for your application in **Visual Studio** from **Solution Explorer** double-click on **MainWindow.xaml** for the **XAML** of **Main Window**.
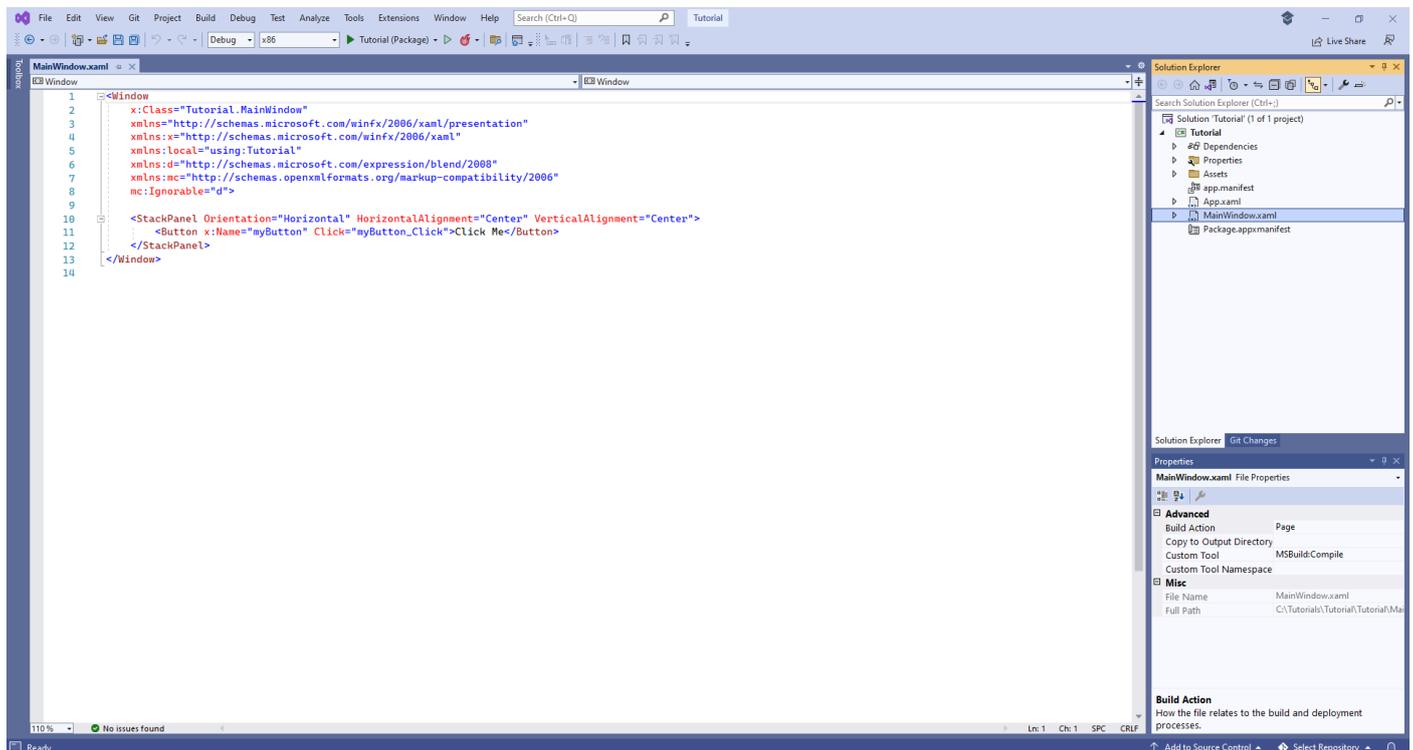
Then to **Edit** or **Add** any **Code** for the **Main Window** for your application, from **Solution Explorer** select the arrow next to **MainWindow.xaml** to reveal **MainWindow.xaml.cs** then double-click on it to for the **Code** for the **Main Window**.
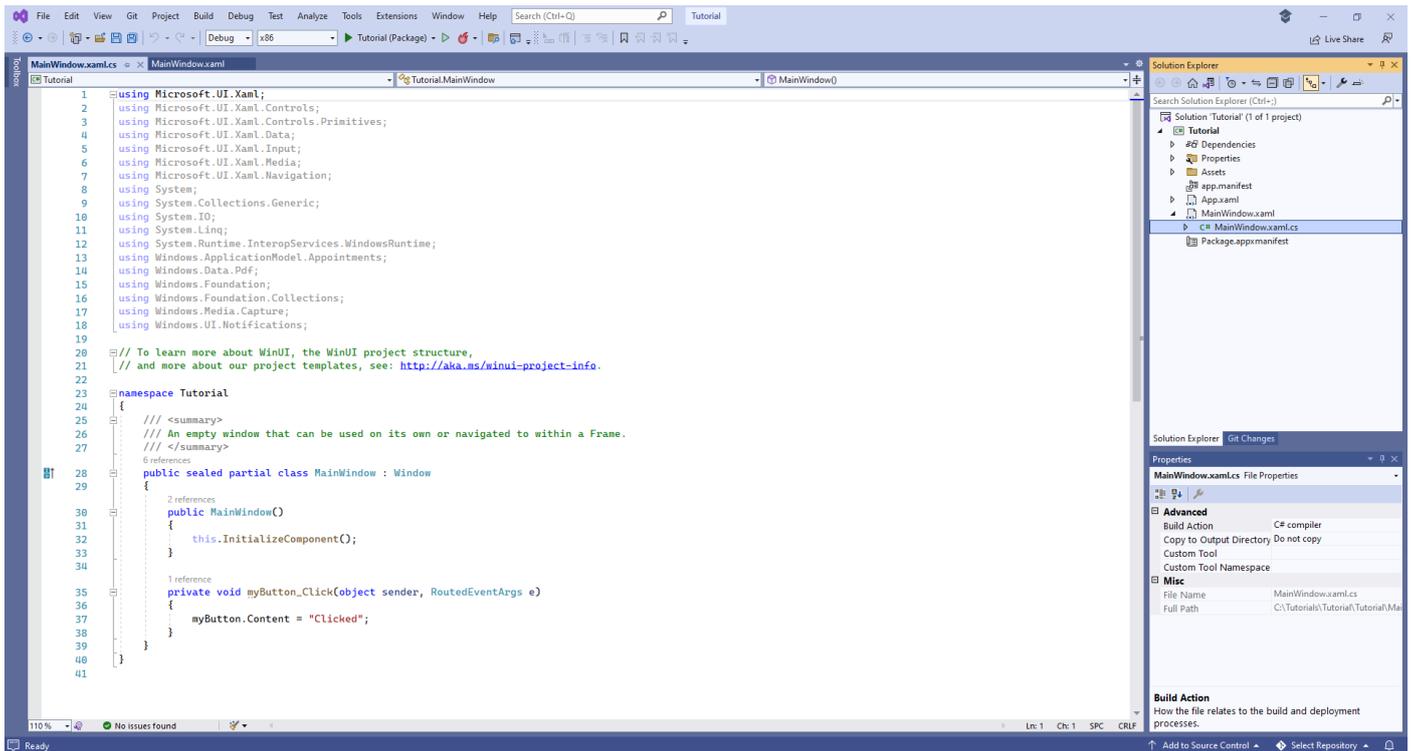
If you need to **Add** anything else to your application, in **Visual Studio** from **Solution Explorer** right-click on the **Project** which is displayed under the **Solution** and then select the **Add** then **New Item…** option.
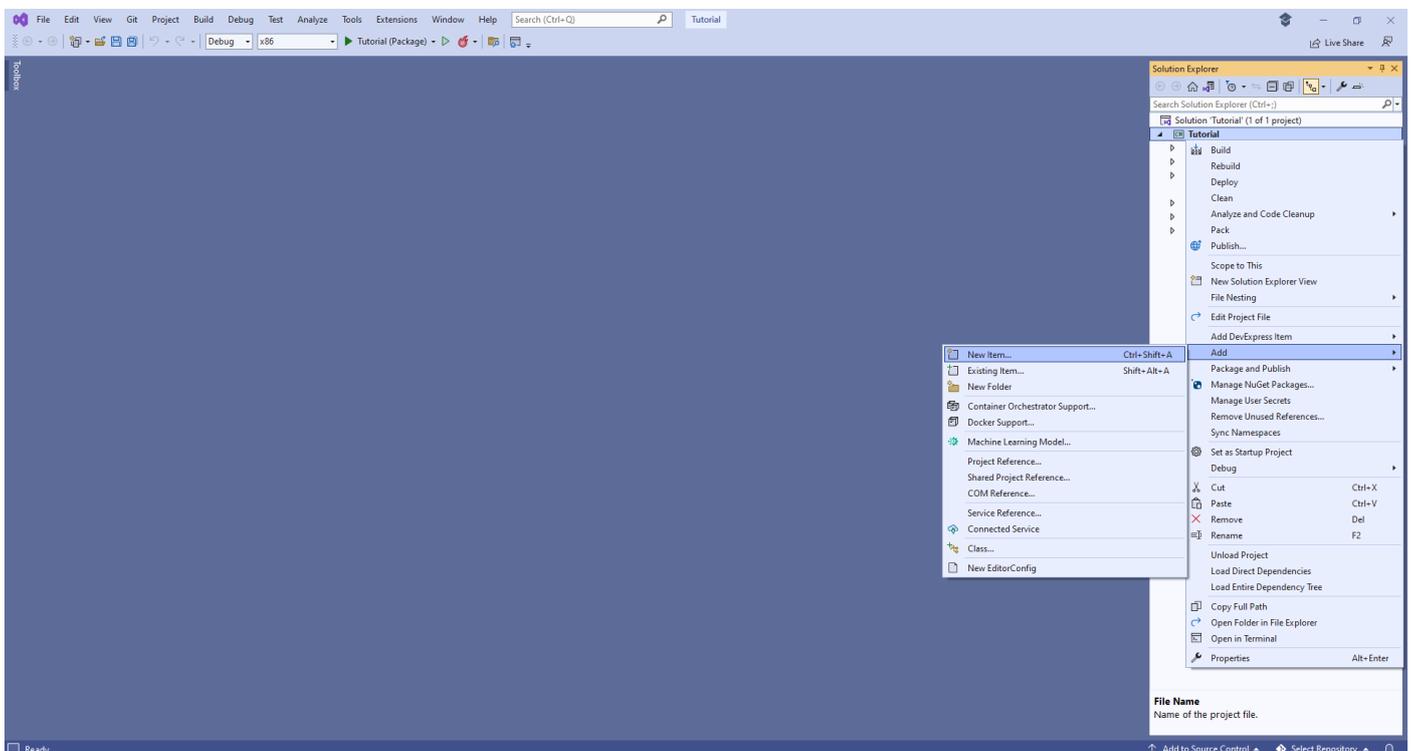
In **Add New Item** you could select **Code File** in **Code** for a **Class** such as *Library.cs* or a **Blank Page** in **WinUI**, and then select the **Add** to include this new item in your application.
Once done you should be ready to start developing the **Windows App SDK** with this from tutorialr.com!