

# Generating PNG images from ASCII text using pngwriter

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This document shows a quick way to install and use the open source C++ graphics library, *pngwriter* available at <http://pngwriter.sourceforge.net/>. Further, this document is restricted to a quick start on a Ubuntu/Debian system.

1. Install the necessary libraries:

```
sudo apt-get install libpng12-dev libpngwriter0-dev libfreetype6-dev
```

2. Include the following header file in your C++ program:

```
#include <pngwriter.h>
```

3. Compile the program as follows:

```
g++ filename.C 'freetype-config --cflags' -I/usr/local/include -L/usr/local/lib  
-lpng -lpngwriter -lz -lfreetype
```

4. Optional time saver:

- (a) Add ~/bin to your path by appending the following to your .bashrc:

```
PATH=$PATH:~/bin  
export PATH
```

- (b) Create a file gpng in ~/bin with execute bit set (chmod +x gpng). Write the following line in this file: g++ \$1 'freetype-config --cflags' -I/usr/local/include -L/usr/local/lib -lpng -lpngwriter -lz -lfreetype

- (c) Compile your program in any directory by typing:

```
gpng filename.C
```