

The `go\src` folder is where you will save the programs you write. The `go\bin` and `go\pkg` will be used later to store executable files and package archives.



The `GO111MODULE` environment variable is set to `ON` by default (this was `OFF` by default in earlier versions of GO). The examples in this book cannot be executed as described until this is turned `OFF`. You should enter this command to correct the issue:
`go env -w GO111MODULE=off`

Create the Go Workspace

When you install Go, the installer sets a number of Go environment variables. For example, the directory (folder) location of the Go tools is stored in a `GOROOT` environment variable – by default, at `C:\Go` on a Windows PC, and at `/usr/local/go` on Linux and macOS.

The installer also sets a `GOPATH` environment variable for the location of your workspace. By default, this is a directory named “go” within your home directory. For example, on a Windows PC its path is `C:\Users\userName\go`, on Linux systems its path is `/home/userName/go`, and on macOS it’s at `/Users/userName/go` – but the installer doesn’t actually create any directories.

To create the workspace, you can simply add a directory named “go” in your home directory. You must then add sub-directories named “bin”, “pkg” and “src” within the workspace directory – all your Go programs can then be created inside the “src” directory.

It’s useful to have a shortcut on your desktop that will open a command-line in this sub-directory to easily run your programs.

- 1 On a Windows PC, open a Command Prompt window, as described on page 11, or open a Terminal window
- 2 Enter the command `go env GOPATH` to see the current expected workspace location

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\mike_>go env GOPATH
C:\Users\mike_\go
```

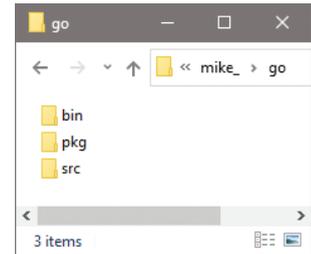
- 3 Next, issue a `mkdir` command to create the “go” workspace directory at the location specified by the `GOPATH` environment variable

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\mike_>mkdir go
C:\Users\mike_>_
```

...cont'd

- 4 Now, issue further **mkdir** commands to create the “bin”, “pkg” and “src” sub-directories in the workspace directory

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\mike_>mkdir go\bin
C:\Users\mike_>mkdir go\pkg
C:\Users\mike_>mkdir go\src
C:\Users\mike_>_
```



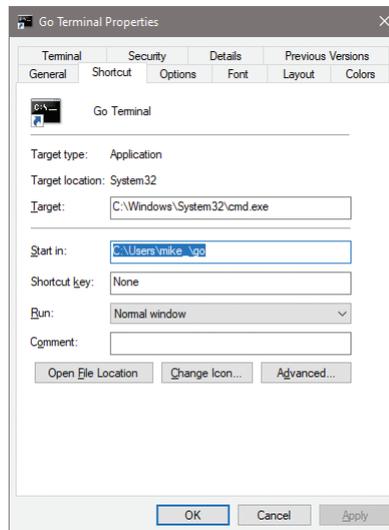
- 5 Right-click on a Windows desktop and select **New, Shortcut** to open a “Create Shortcut” dialog

- 6 Enter **cmd** as the location and click **Next**, then enter **Go Terminal** as the name and click **Finish** to create a shortcut icon on your desktop



The **mkdir** command name is simply short for “make directory”.

- 7 Right-click on the shortcut icon and select the **Properties** item, to open its “Properties” dialog



- 8 Choose the **Shortcut** tab, then enter the location of your workspace directory

- 9 Click **Apply, OK** to close the dialog, then double-click the shortcut icon to open a command-line in your “src” folder

```
C:\Users\mike_ go\src>_
```



Go programs can be written in a plain text editor, such as Windows’ Notepad app. It’s useful to have a desktop shortcut that opens a text editor in your “src” directory folder. Repeat the steps on this page, but in Step 7 enter **notepad** as the location and **Go Editor** as the name, to create another useful desktop shortcut.