



Embarcadero® RAD Studio XE8

# Delphi XE8

## Development Essentials

Delphi XE8 Development Essentials  
1<sup>st</sup> edition, April 2015

**42**  
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Apart from this Delphi XE8 Development Essentials courseware manual, with a general overview of the new features in Delphi XE8 compared to previous versions of Delphi XE (and the free bonus manual Delphi XE Development Essentials with new features since Delphi 7), there are a number of Delphi courseware manuals available with far more in-depth coverage of certain topics:

- **Delphi XML, SOAP and Web Services**
- **Delphi DataSnap Development**
- **Delphi Mobile Development (Android and iOS)**
- **Delphi Web Development (WebBroker and IntraWeb)**

See <http://www.eBob42.com/courseware> or <http://www.drBob42.com/courseware> for more details on these and other Delphi courseware manuals.

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**The information in this courseware manual is presented to the best of my knowledge at the time of writing. However, in case of errors or omissions, I welcome your feedback or comments (by e-mail) as Bob Swart Training & Consultancy cannot be held responsible for any damage that results from using the information in this manual or the example source code snippets. Thanks in advance for your understanding.**

# 1. Delphi XE8

Delphi XE8 was released in April 2015. The Delphi XE8 Install from the Web can be downloaded from CodeCentral registered users (if you've installed and registered Delphi XE8 already). For unregistered users, you can download and install/register Delphi from [http://altd.embarcadero.com/download/radstudio/xe8/delphi\\_xe8\\_esd.exe](http://altd.embarcadero.com/download/radstudio/xe8/delphi_xe8_esd.exe) and also from [http://altd.embarcadero.com/download/radstudio/xe8/radstudio\\_xe8\\_esd.exe](http://altd.embarcadero.com/download/radstudio/xe8/radstudio_xe8_esd.exe). You can download the 5.2GB ISO for the RAD Studio XE8 installation (to burn on a DVD) from [http://altd.embarcadero.com/download/radstudio/xe8/delphicbuilder\\_xe8\\_win.iso](http://altd.embarcadero.com/download/radstudio/xe8/delphicbuilder_xe8_win.iso)

In this document, I will cover some of the Delphi XE8 noteworthy new features. Some available only in the Enterprise or higher editions (like the DataSnap enhancements), but mostly new features available in all editions. I will also cover some features that were introduced in previous versions of Delphi, and were enhanced in Delphi XE8.



## XE8 Editions

There are five (5!) different editions of Delphi XE8 available for purchase. Below, I'll list the New User and Upgrade prices (in EURO without 21% VAT, available from <http://www.bobswart.com/CodeGear> for EU customers), plus – in the last column - the subscription price (for the first 12 months, renewable each year):

Delphi XE8	New User	Upgrade	Subscription
<b>Starter</b>	225,=	171,=	n/a
<b>Professional</b>	<b>1119,=</b>	<b>613,=</b>	<b>373,=</b>
<b>Enterprise</b>	<b>2798,=</b>	<b>1678,=</b>	<b>933,=</b>
<b>Ultimate</b>	3918,=	2464,=	1306,=
<b>Architect</b>	4477,=	2798,=	1493,=

There are two add-on packs for Delphi Professional: one is called the Mobile Add-On Pack, and the other is called the FireDAC Client/Server Add-On Pack. Both cost 559 Euro for a New User, 332 Euro for an Upgrade, and 186 Euro for the annual subscription. Note that if you take them both, it may be a better idea to turn to the Enterprise edition of Delphi (which also includes DataSnap for multi-tier development).

Subscription is possible for New User or Upgrades. For an upgrade, you need to own at least Delphi XE4 or higher. Otherwise, a New User license is required, or you need to purchase Subscription together with the Upgrade.

*Until June 30, 2015, you can Upgrade from Delphi XE3 without subscription required.*

**Delphi XE8 Ultimate** is the same as Delphi XE8 Enterprise plus the addition of DB PowerStudio. **Delphi XE8 Architect** is the same as Delphi XE8 Enterprise plus the addition of ER/Studio. The two database products are from Embarcadero (who is the owner of Delphi). To be honest, as a reseller I mostly sell Professional and Enterprise editions of Delphi. The biggest difference between the Professional and the Enterprise editions is the DataSnap technology, which is part of the Enterprise edition only, as well as the Mobile Development and the FireDAC functionality which can also be purchased separately if you own the Professional edition.

For the complete details, see the official Embarcadero Delphi XE8 feature matrix at <http://www.embarcadero.com/products/delphi/delphi-feature-matrix>

The Starter edition is limited, *check out the conditions and constraints before you purchase this edition (especially if you plan to make some money with it).*

Apart from these five commercial editions, you can also get special Academic versions of these Delphi editions, but only if you are a registered student at a school or university (obviously, these Academic editions cannot be used for any commercial development). Finally, you can download a 30-day trial edition of Delphi Architect to get a hands-on feeling of what the product is capable of. This does not include source code by the way, and you obviously are not allowed to deploy applications compiled with the trial edition.

## Subscription

Subscription is offered for the Professional edition and higher, and is valid for a period of a year (optionally extended each year by another year before the subscription expires). With an active subscription, developers will automatically get the new editions of Delphi once released by Embarcadero. Plus they get the right for three so-called "incident support calls" with Embarcadero (for example for problems that even your reseller cannot solve for you). Subscription is especially beneficial for the high-end editions of Delphi, but even for Professional users if they upgrade at least once every two years, especially since Embarcadero is currently releasing two new version of Delphi each year!

## RAD Studio

If you purchase Embarcadero RAD Studio, which includes C++Builder and HTML5 Builder apart from Delphi, the prices are as follows (see <http://www.bobswart.com/CodeGear> for more details):

RAD Studio XE8	New User	Upgrade	Subscription
Professional	2023,=	1216,=	674,=
Enterprise	3358,=	2238,=	1119,=
Ultimate	4477,=	3013,=	1493,=
Architect	5037,=	3358,=	1679,=

With an active subscription of Delphi or RAD Studio, you also get a (5-15%) discount on my training days and courseware manuals, see again <http://www.bobswart.com> for more details.

***Make sure to purchase your license and subscription through a reseller (and not directly from Embarcadero itself). A reseller will most often offer you added-value, and it's always possible to switch from one reseller to another (but it's not possible to switch from Embarcadero to one of the resellers, especially not if your subscription is already "bound" to Embarcadero itself).***

The official RAD Studio 2015 Roadmap from Embarcadero can be seen at <http://community.embarcadero.com/index.php/blogs/entry/rad-studio-2015-roadmap>. Also, an image was shown at several of the road shows and presentations, showing the focus of Embarcadero to bring Delphi applications to different platforms:



This list is missing Linux, for which Embarcadero also mentioned doing initial research (especially for Linux server applications).