

**NAME**

go – tool for managing Go source code

**SYNOPSIS**

**go build** [ *-o output* ] [ *build flags* ] [ *packages* ]

**DESCRIPTION**

Build compiles the packages named by the import paths, along with their dependencies, but it does not install the results.

If the arguments are a list of .go files, build treats them as a list of source files specifying a single package.

When the command line specifies a single main package, build writes the resulting executable to output. Otherwise build compiles the packages but discards the results, serving only as a check that the packages can be built.

The *-o* flag specifies the output file name. If not specified, the name is *packagename.a* (for a non-main package) or the base name of the first source file (for a main package).

**OPTIONS**

The build flags are shared by the build, install, run, and test commands:

- a** force rebuilding of packages that are already up-to-date.
- n** print the commands but do not run them.
- p n** the number of builds that can be run in parallel. The default is the number of CPUs available.
- v** print the names of packages as they are compiled.
- work** print the name of the temporary work directory and do not delete it when exiting.
- x** print the commands.
- compiler name**  
name of compiler to use, as in runtime.Compiler (gccgo or gc)
- gccgoflags 'arg list'**  
arguments to pass on each gccgo compiler/linker invocation
- gcflags 'arg list'**  
arguments to pass on each 5g, 6g, or 8g compiler invocation
- ldflags 'flag list'**  
arguments to pass on each 5l, 6l, or 8l linker invocation
- tags 'tag list'**  
a list of build tags to consider satisfied during the build. See the documentation for the go/build package for more information about build tags.

For more about specifying packages, see **go-packages(7)**.

For more about where packages and binaries are installed, see **go-gopath(1)**.

**SEE ALSO**

**go-install(1)**, **go-get(1)**, **go-clean(1)**.

**AUTHOR**

This manual page was written by Michael Stapelberg <stapelberg@debian.org>, for the Debian project (and may be used by others).