LiveCode 10.0.0-dp-1 Release Notes

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Overview

This document describes all the changes that have been made for LiveCode 10.0.0-dp-1, including bug fixes and new syntax.

Platform support

The engine supports a variety of operating systems and versions. This section describes the platforms that we ensure the engine runs on without issue (although in some cases with reduced functionality).

Windows

LiveCode supports the following versions of Windows:

- Windows 7 (both 32-bit and 64-bit)
- Windows Server 2008
- Windows 8.x (Desktop)
- Windows 10
- Windows 11

Note: On 64-bit Windows installations, LiveCode can run either as a 32-bit application through the WoW layer or as a native 64-bit Windows application, depending on the installer that is chosen.

Linux

LiveCode supports the following Linux distributions, on 32-bit or 64-bit Intel/AMD or compatible processors:

- Ubuntu 14.04 and 16.04
- Fedora 23 & 24
- Debian 7 (Wheezy) and 8 (Jessie) [server]
- CentOS 7 [server]

LiveCode may also run on Linux installations which meet the following requirements:

- Required dependencies for core functionality:
    - glibc 2.13 or later
    - glib 2.0 or later
- Optional requirements for GUI functionality:
    - GTK/GDK 2.24 or later
    - Pango with Xft support
    - esd (optional, needed for audio output)
    - mplayer (optional, needed for media player functionality)
    - lcms (optional, required for color profile support in images)
    - gksu (optional, required for privilege elevation support)

Note: If the optional requirements are not present then LiveCode will still run but the specified features will be disabled.

Note: The requirements for GUI functionality are also required by Firefox and Chrome, so if your

Linux distribution runs one of those, it will run LiveCode.

Note: It may be possible to compile and run LiveCode Community for Linux on other architectures but this is not officially supported.

Mac

The Mac engine supports:

- 10.9.x (Mavericks)
- 10.10.x (Yosemite)
- 10.11.x (El Capitan)
- 10.12.x (Sierra)
- 10.13.x (High Sierra)
- 10.14.x (Mojave)
- 10.15.x (Catalina)
- 11.x (Big Sur)
- 12.x (Monterey)

iOS

iOS deployment is possible when running LiveCode IDE on a Mac, and provided Xcode is installed and has been set in LiveCode *Preferences* (in the *Mobile Support* pane).

Currently, the supported versions of Xcode are:

- Xcode 9.2 on MacOS 10.12 (Note: You need to upgrade to 10.12.6)
- Xcode 10.1 on MacOS 10.13 (Note: You need to upgrade to 10.13.4)
- Xcode 11.3 on MacOS 10.14 (Note: You need to upgrade to 10.14.4)
- Xcode 12.4 on MacOS 10.15 and above (Note: You need to upgrade to 10.15.4)
- Xcode 12.5 on MacOS 11.0 and above

It is also possible to set other versions of Xcode, to allow testing on a wider range of iOS simulators. For instance, on MacOS 10.13 (High Sierra), you can add *Xcode 9.2* in the *Mobile Support* preferences, to let you test your stack on the *iOS Simulator 11.2*.

We currently support building against the following versions of the iOS SDK:

- 11.2 (included in Xcode 9.2)
- 12.1 (included in Xcode 10.1)
- 13.2 (included in Xcode 11.3)
- 14.4 (included in Xcode 12.4)
- 14.5 (included in Xcode 12.5)

Android

LiveCode allows you to save your stack as an Android application, and also to deploy it on an Android device or simulator from the IDE.

Android deployment is possible from Windows, Linux and Mac OSX.

The Android engine supports devices using x86, x86-64, ARM and ARM64 processors. It will run on the following versions of Android:

- 5.0-5.1 (Lollipop)
- 6.0 (Marshmallow)
- 7.x (Nougat)
- 8.x (Oreo)
- 9.0 (Pie)
- 10.0 (Q)
- 11.0 (R)

To enable deployment to Android devices, you need to download the Android SDK, and then use the 'Android SDK Manager' to install:

- the latest "Android SDK Tools"
- the latest "Android SDK Platform Tools"

You also need to install the Java Development Kit (JDK). On Linux, this usually packaged as "openjdk". LiveCode requires JDK version 1.6 or later.

Once you have set the path of your Android SDK in the "Mobile Support" section of the LiveCode IDE's preferences, you can deploy your stack to Android devices.

Some users have reported successful Android Watch deployment, but it is not officially supported.

HTML5

LiveCode applications can be deployed to run in a web browser, by running the LiveCode engine in JavaScript and using modern HTML5 JavaScript APIs.

HTML5 deployment does not require any additional development tools to be installed.

LiveCode HTML5 standalone applications are currently supported for running in recent versions of Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome or Safari. For more information, please see the "HTML5 Deployment" guide in the LiveCode IDE.

Setup

Installation

Each version of LiveCode installs can be installed to its own, separate folder. This allow multiple versions of LiveCode to be installed side-by-side. On Windows (and Linux), each version of LiveCode has its own Start Menu (or application menu) entry. On Mac OS X, each version has its own app bundle.

On Mac OS X, install LiveCode by mounting the `.dmg` file and dragging the app bundle to the `Applications` folder (or any other suitable location).

For Windows and Linux, the default installation locations when installing for "All Users" are:

Platform	Path
Windows	`<x86 program files folder>/RunRev/LiveCode <version>`
Linux	`/opt/livecode/livecode-<version>`

The installations when installing for "This User" are:

Platform	Path
Windows	`<user roaming app data folder>/RunRev/Components/LiveCode <version>`
Linux	`~/.runrev/components/livecode-<version>`

Note: If installing for "All Users" on Linux, either the **gksu** tool must be available, or you must manually run the LiveCode installer executable as root (e.g. using **sudo** or **su**).

Uninstallation

On Windows, the installer hooks into the standard Windows uninstall mechanism. This is accessible from the "Add or Remove Programs" applet in the windows Control Panel.

On Mac OS X, drag the app bundle to the Trash.

On Linux, LiveCode can be removed using the `setup.x86` or `setup.x86_64` program located in LiveCode's installation directory.

Reporting installer issues

If you find that the installer fails to work for you then please report it using the LiveCode Quality Control Centre or by emailing support@livecode.com.

Please include the following information in your report:

- Your platform and operating system version
- The location of your home or user folder
- The type of user account you are using (guest, restricted, admin etc.)
- The installer log file.

The installer log file can be located as follows:

Platform	Path
Windows 2000/XP	`<documents and settings folder>/<user>/Local Settings/`
Windows Vista/7	`<users folder>/<user>/AppData/Local/RunRev/Logs`
Linux	`<home>/.runrev/logs`

Activating LiveCode

The licensing system ties your product licenses to a customer account system, meaning that you no longer have to worry about finding a license key after installing a new copy of LiveCode.

Instead, you simply have to enter your email address and password that has been registered with our customer account system and your license key will be retrieved automatically.

Alternatively it is possible to activate the product via the use of a specially encrypted license file. These will be available for download from the customer center after logging into your account. This method will allow the product to be installed on machines that do not have access to the internet.

Command-line installation

It is possible to invoke the installer from the command-line on Linux and Windows. When doing command-line installation, no GUI will be displayed. The installation process is controlled by arguments passed to the installer.

Run the installer using a command in the form:

```
<installer> install -ui [OPTION ...]
```

where `<installer>` should be replaced with the path of the installer executable or app (inside the DMG) that has been downloaded. The result of the installation operation will be written to the console.

The installer understands any of the following `OPTION`s:

Option	Description
`-allusers`	Install the IDE for "All Users". If not specified, LiveCode will be installed for the current user only.
`-desktopshortcut`	Place a shortcut on the Desktop (Windows-only)
`-startmenu`	Place shortcuts in the Start Menu (Windows-only)
`-location LOCATION`	The folder to install into. If not specified, the `LOCATION` defaults to those described in the "Installation" section above.
`-log LOGFILE`	The file to which to log installation actions. If not specified, no log is generated.

Note: the command-line installer does not do any authentication. When installing for "All Users", you will need to run the installer command as an administrator.

As the installer is actually a GUI application, it needs to be run slightly differently from other command-line programs.

On Windows, the command is:

```
start /wait <installer> install -ui [OPTION ...]
```

Command-line uninstallation

It is possible to uninstall LiveCode from the command-line on Windows and Linux. When doing command-line uninstallation, no GUI will be displayed.

Run the uninstaller using a command of the form:

```
<uninstaller> uninstall -ui
```

Where is *.setup.exe* on Windows, and *.setup.x86* on Linux. This executable, for both of the platforms, is located in the folder where LiveCode is installed.

The result of the uninstallation operation will be written to the console.

Note: the command-line uninstaller does not do any authentication. When removing a version of LiveCode installed for "All Users", you will need to run the uninstaller command as an administrator.

Command-line activation

It is possible to activate an installation of LiveCode for all users by using the command-line. When performing command-line activation, no GUI is displayed. Activation is controlled by passing command-line arguments to LiveCode.

Activate LiveCode using a command of the form:

```
<livecode> activate -file LICENSEFILE -passphrase SECRET
```

where `<livecode>` should be replaced with the path to the LiveCode executable or app that has been previously installed.

This loads license information from the manual activation file `LICENSEFILE`, decrypts it using the given `SECRET` passphrase, and installs a license file for all users of the computer. Manual activation files can be downloaded from the My Products page in the LiveCode account management site.

It is also possible to deactivate LiveCode with:

```
<livecode> deactivate
```

Since LiveCode is actually a GUI application, it needs to be run slightly differently from other command-line programs.

On Windows, the command is:

```
start /wait <livecode> activate -file LICENSE -passphrase SECRET
start /wait <livecode> deactivate
```

On Mac OS X, you need to do:

```
<livecode>/Contents/MacOS/LiveCode activate -file LICENSE -passphrase SECRET
<livecode>/Contents/MacOS/LiveCode deactivate
```

New Features

Android

Accelerated Rendering

An OpenGL ES 3 implementation of the accelerated rendering backend has been added. This makes it possible for future versions of LiveCode to leverage the new technology to improve accelerated rendering performance. It also enables accelerated rendering to be used with Android emulators.

Barcode Scanner

Android barcode snapshot clipping

By default, if a snaphot is taken by the Android barcode scanner widget, the resulting image is clipped to the actual rect of the barcode. A new property `clipSnapshots` has been added which can be set to false to prevent this behavior, so that the resulting snapshot is the full image.

iOS

Accelerated Rendering

An OpenGL ES 3 implementation of the accelerated rendering backend has been added. This makes it possible for future versions of LiveCode to leverage the new technology to improve accelerated rendering performance.

LiveCode Builder

Image validity

New syntax has been added to allow querying an image to determine if it contains valid data.

The image `is valid` operator returns a boolean value indicating whether or not its data is valid.

Canvas effect layer bounds

New syntax has been added to the Canvas library to allow specifying the drawing boundary when beginning a new layer for an effect. This should be a rectangle signifying the bounds of any

drawing performed on the layer.

This information allows the canvas library to limit the amount of memory allocated to the new layer by restricting the size of its backing buffer to only that area required to correctly render effects based on the given drawing bounds.

Example:

```
public handler OnPaint
    // initialize effect
    variable tProps as Array

    put color [0,0,0,0.5] into tProps["color"]
    put "source over" into tProps["blend mode"]
    put 0 into tProps["spread"]
    put 3 into tProps["size"]
    put 25 into tProps["distance"]
    put 45 into tProps["angle"]

    variable tShadow as Effect
    put outer shadow effect with properties tProps into tShadow

    // initialize shape bounds
    variable tBounds as Rectangle
    put rectangle [25, 25, 75, 75] into tBounds

    // draw rounded rectangle with shadow
    begin layer with tShadow for tBounds on this canvas
    fill rounded rectangle path of tBounds on this canvas
    end layer on this canvas
end handler
```

Canvas current transform

New syntax has been added to enable getting the current transform of a canvas.

The canvas `device transform` property returns the affine transform from logical units to backing device pixels.

Web

WebAssembly

The LiveCode engine is now deployed to HTML5 in WebAssembly format. WebAssembly is supported in most major web browsers.

The WebAssembly engine is smaller, and substantially faster than the previous asm.js version.

In addition, moving to this new architecture means that the `wait` command now works - along

with any engine functionality which internally uses wait-like functionality.

Other Changes

Android

The IME (soft keyboard on mobile) is now activated and deactivated if required only on redraw. The change allows `lock screen` to delay changes to the IME.

iOS

The IME (soft keyboard on mobile) is now activated and deactivated if required only on redraw. The change allows `lock screen` to delay changes to the IME.

Issues Resolved

Features implemented

23138	**A new `clipSnapshots` property has been added to the barcode scanner on Android**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
23322	**Support for GLES3.x `acceleratedRendering` has been added for Android and iOS devices**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
23329	**A new bounds option has been added to the LCB `begin layer` command**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
23332	**A new `device transform` property has been added to the LCB canvas object**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
23334	**A new `is valid` operator has been added to the LCB image object**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
23441	**Web deployment now uses WebAssembly**	**10.0.0-dp-1**

Bugs fixed

16076	**The wait command is now supported when using web deployment**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
22840	**The IME is now activated and deactivated if required only on redraw**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
22914	**The `keyboardActivated` and `keyboardDeactivated` messages**	**10.0.0-**

	now break `wait for messages` on Android.	**dp-1**
22996	**Java methods which trigger LCB handlers no longer cause a JNI error**	**10.0.0-dp-1**
14436	A wider range of TrueType font files will now work on Android and Web	pending 9.6.6-rc-1
19419	Conversions between global and local co-ordinates are now correct on multi-screen macOS systems.	pending 9.6.6-rc-1
23271	The `iphoneDeviceModel` function now returns the correct model string when run on an iOS/iPadOS simulator.	pending 9.6.6-rc-1
23366	Audio-only players no longer consume excessive CPU when in Edit Mode on macOS Big Sur	pending 9.6.6-rc-1
23394	WebGL content now displays in the browser widget when running on macOS 12.x (Monterey)	pending 9.6.6-rc-1

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