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# propellerforth

Interactive ANS-subset Forth for the Parallax Propeller microcontroller

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## PropellerForth

A brief introduction to PropellerForth with some helpful links to more info.

Updated Jan 27, 2008 by [cbiffle](#)

## Introduction

[PropellerForth](#) is an implementation of the Forth programming language for the Parallax Propeller microcontroller.

[PropellerForth](#) is still a young project, and isn't as full-featured as many other Forth implementations. Forth compensates for this: everything in the system can be changed and extended by the user, so if [PropellerForth](#) lacks something you need, simply type it in.

That said, [PropellerForth](#)'s [standard library](#) is good-sized and growing, and it's ready to support modest applications.

## Why [PropellerForth](#)?

- [PropellerForth](#) is an *interactive* programming environment. You can enter formulas, compile or redefine functions, and build and test entire applications right on the Propeller, without needing a separate computer to download code.
- [PropellerForth](#) is powerful, providing both SMP (by running Forth words on other Cogs) and [cooperative multitasking](#) within a single Cog. (The authors have demonstrated over 200 threads running on a single Cog!)
- [PropellerForth](#) is small, requiring only 8-10KiB of RAM for the entire core system -- including the standard library, an interactive compiler/interpreter, and the machine-code kernel.
- [PropellerForth](#) is flexible and extensible, thanks to its Forth roots. Don't like how the standard library works? Change it. Want to add features to the compiler or kernel? Go ahead -- without leaving your Propeller.
- [PropellerForth](#) is highly tuned to run fast on the Propeller. While it's not as fast as raw machine code, it's roughly 5x faster than programs in Parallax's SPIN language, and getting faster as we optimize it.
- [PropellerForth](#) provides a subset of ANS Forth, so Forth programs from other sources should work. (The ones that don't will work soon!)

## Getting [PropellerForth](#)

The current version is 8.01.

- [Release Notes](#)
- [List of Downloads](#)

## Learning More

- [GettingStarted](#)
- [CoreWords](#)
- [SystemArchitecture](#) (for those wishing to hack the kernel)

Comment by [prof.braino](#), Jun 01, 2008

I just stumbled across this. I am interested in the propeller chip and forth. Any recent work? Can I contribute programming or documentation hours?

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Comment by [bmentink](#), Aug 08, 2008

I stumbled across this too, would like to look at the source code but the CVS site mentioned only allows you to checkout an empty directory. Is any on-going work being done on this forth?

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Comment by [snashikkar](#), Jan 13, 2009

So where can one get the source ? The SVN tree does not seem to be populated?

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