

why you should keep multiple gcc versions around (a case study in stupidity)

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So i bumped dev-libs/cloog-ppl to a newer version just now. cloog-ppl (and it's buddy PPL) are new dependencies of the new Graphite framework in GCC 4.4 (still masked). They're optional dependencies, and on a whim I wanted to see if configure would fail if they were missing or just detect it and continue on. So I did this:

```
emerge -C cloog-ppl
```

Oops.

```
configure: error: C compiler cannot create executables
```

Every Gentoo user has seen this at some point. It's a very general error that can range in meaning from "you misspelled a CFLAG" to "wow you're screwed". I knew what the error here would be without looking, but for those following along at home:

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Links:

[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/109>

[2] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/38>

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