

## **How to work with Visual Studio (including VS Express) alongside with NinjaTrader (7)**

**Note:** This is mostly a summary of information found on this forum and elsewhere with personal notes.

**Part 1: Creating a Project:** (this section is taken from <https://www.bigmiketrading.com/ninjatrade-programming/4781-ninjatrade-vs2010-dummies.html> Thanks to MXASJ for contributing.)

1-On VS, File > Open > Project > Documents > Ninja Trader 7 > bin > Custom > NinjaTrader.Custom  
That should open a project called NinjaTrader.Custom.

2-Remove the references for NinjaTrader.Core and WilsonORMapper.

3-Add references for NinjaTrader.Core and WilsonORMapper by navigating to the NT7 directory in Program Files.

4-Build Solution (F6).

You should get no errors, and you should now have VS2010 Solution in the NT7 directory in Documents. This is the one you will now use.

5-Add the Strategies or Indicators you want to edit by right clicking on the Strategy folder in Solution Explorer, and Add > Existing Item. Navigate to Documents > Ninja Trader 7 > bin > Custom > Strategy or Indicator and pick one and use the "Add as link" option in the Add button (though I discovered it is not necessary).

### **Part 2: How to launch NinjaTrader from within VS (The description below also allows to set VS Express version into the debug mode as well)**

1-Open up NinjaTrader.Custom project file (CSPROJ) with a text editor like Notepad (Documents > Ninja Trader 7 > bin > Custom).

2-Add the following lines of XML code at the end of Property Group statements and save.

```
<PropertyGroup>
```

```
    <StartAction>Program</StartAction>
```

```
    <StartProgram>C:\Program Files (x86)\NinjaTrader 7\bin\NinjaTrader.exe</StartProgram>
```

```
</PropertyGroup>
```

3-Now when NinjaTrader.Custom class library is run, NinjaTrader will launch automatically.

### **Part 3: How to set Visual Studio in Debug mode:**

1- Part 2 shall be done first. (only if you are using VS Express)

2-Run NinjaTrader from VS and open up your indicator inside VS.

3-Go to NinjaTrader and open up indicator as script.

4-Right click mouse and set "Debug Mode" on.

5-Compile NT Script

6-Go back to VS and set a breakpoint (in one of the lines)

7-Go back to NinjaTrader and open up a chart with your indicator. This will bring you automatically back to VS in Debug mode.

Important notes: (please keep in mind that this is my personal experience ,may not be entirely correct)

- important that all your other c# projects are under Documents > Ninja Trader 7 > bin > Custom >(projects could be anything from windows form to class library)
- important that you compile your class libraries into directory Documents > Ninja Trader 7 > bin > Custom >
- important that you set .Net version 3.5 for your class libraries.
- **Never add NinjaTrader.Core.dll as a reference to the Class Library you create (THIS CRASHES ENTIRE NT Platform and you may have to clean re-install NT!)**