The `learn` folder is where you place all the files created in this book.

Linux, FreeBSD, Mac OS X, or Unix: To create a folder for your C programming projects, obey these steps:

1. **If you're using a graphical shell, open a terminal window. You need to get at the command prompt.**

   The terminal window should open into your account's home directory. If you aren't in your home directory, type the **cd** command to return there.

   Ensure that you're not logged in as the root account; creating programs as the root user is a security risk.

2. **Create the prog/c/learn directory branch:**

   ```
   mkdir -p prog/c/learn
   ```

   The `-p` switch directs `mkdir` to create all the subdirectories that are specified; it's the same as issuing three separate `mkdir` commands at once. With one command, you have created the `prog` directory, the `c` subdirectory, and, finally, the `learn` subdirectory. Ta-da.

You use the `learn` folder for storing all the source code and program files created in this book.

Mac (before OS X). Alas, the old Mac operating system lacked a "home folder" for all your stuff. If you have such a folder, use it as a base to create the subfolders in the following steps. Otherwise, you can create these folders right on the desktop for handy access:

1. **Press ⌘+N to create a new folder.**

2. **Name that folder** `prog`, **for "programming."**

3. **Open the** `prog` **folder.**

4. **Press ⌘+N to create a subfolder inside the** `prog` **folder.**

5. **Name that folder** `c`.

6. **Open the** `c` **folder.**

7. **Press ⌘+N to create a subfolder inside the** `c` **folder.**

8. **Name that subfolder** `learn`.

9. **Close all the open windows you just created.**

When using your compiler, remember to save all your files in the `learn` folder.