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This chapter describes the new features and enhancements in Punch.

Support for .NET Framework 4.5

Punch supports the next version of the .NET Framework. Take advantage of all the new features in .NET 4.5. As an in-place upgrade, .NET Framework 4.5 is backwards-compatible with .NET Framework 4.0.

Support for Windows 8 Store apps

Build new immersive, touch-centric mobile applications for Windows 8. Deliver applications to your mobile workforce that fit into your current ecosystem and leverage existing development skills and familiar patterns.

Task-based Asynchronous Pattern

Develop asynchronous applications with ease the way it should have always been. Leverage the compiler support that comes with C# 5.0 and VB 11 and write your code almost as if it was synchronous. Learn more about how to [migrate](#) an existing code base to the Task-based Asynchronous Pattern using the Punch Compatibility Pack.

Design with Data

Punch supports design-time data on all supported platforms. Design your views without the expensive build, run, navigate, test cycle.

Simple installation

Installation of Punch takes place through NuGet. All dependencies including DevForce 2012 are automatically installed to ensure you always have the correct versions of all required dependencies.