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The empty CiShell framework can be [downloaded from our GitHub page](#). However, because the CiShell framework starts out with no plugins inside it, it can be an intimidating place to start exploring.

We recommend downloading [Network Workbench](#) or [Sci2](#), two existing CiShell-powered tools that can easily be extended, and trying to develop a new plugin in one of those environments first. The [CiShell Algorithm Developer's Guide](#) will help you through your first steps.

Once you create a new algorithm or two in those environments it should become more clear how to build an entirely new CiShell-based tool from scratch. If you are interested in developing a new tool based on the CiShell framework, [we would love to hear from you and offer our assistance](#).