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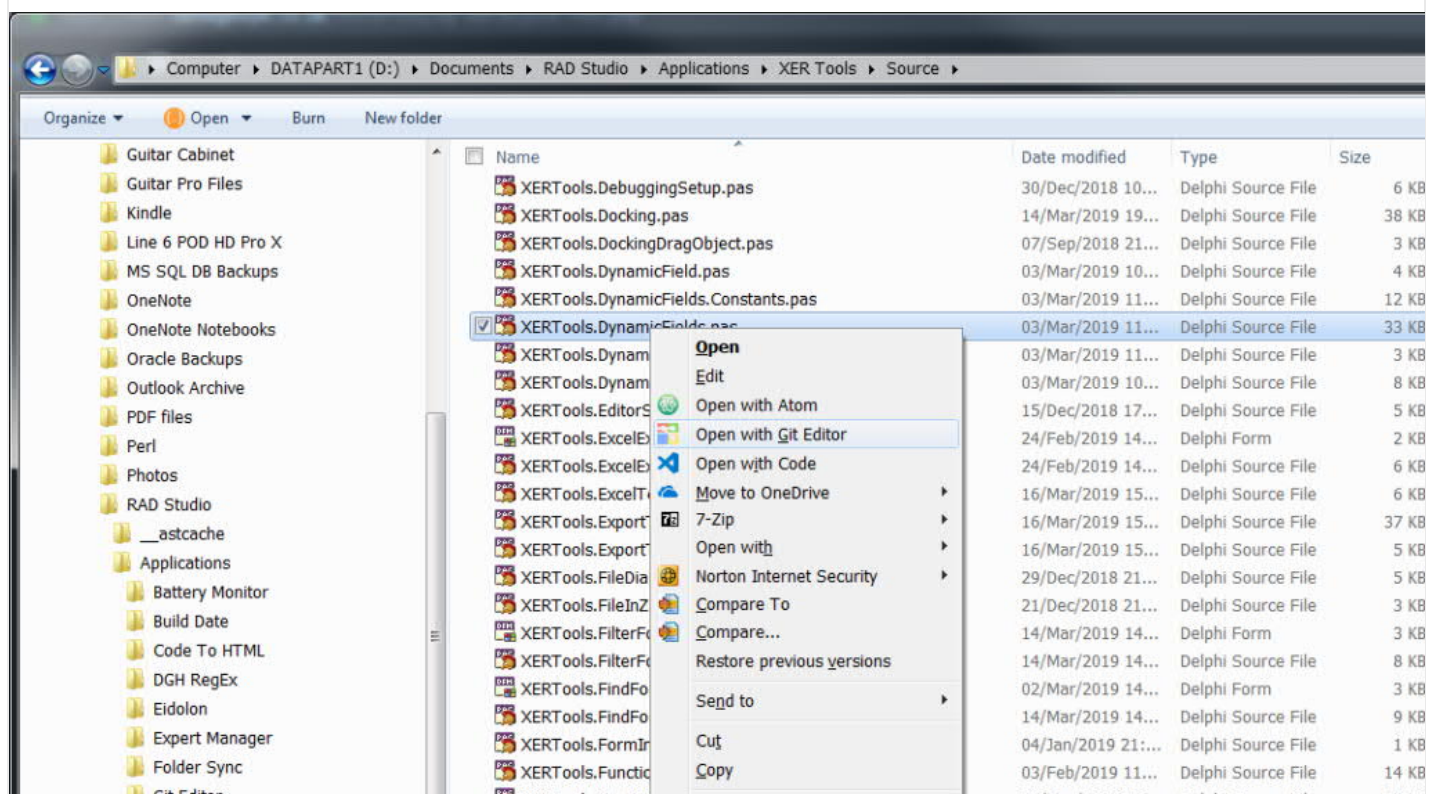


Favourite Editor on the Explorer context menu

By David | March 24, 2019

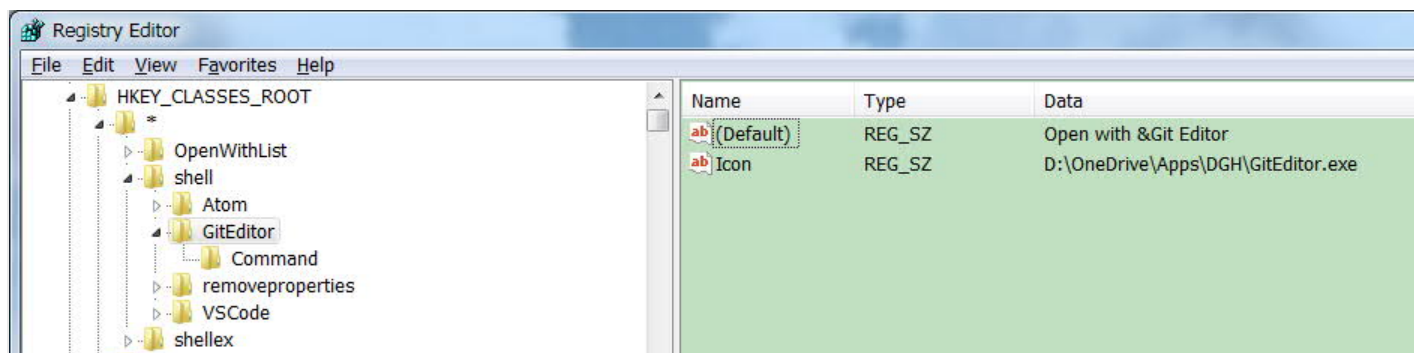
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I've always wanted to put an editor of my choice on the **Explorer** context menu but never got around to looking up how to do this until now (its really easy).



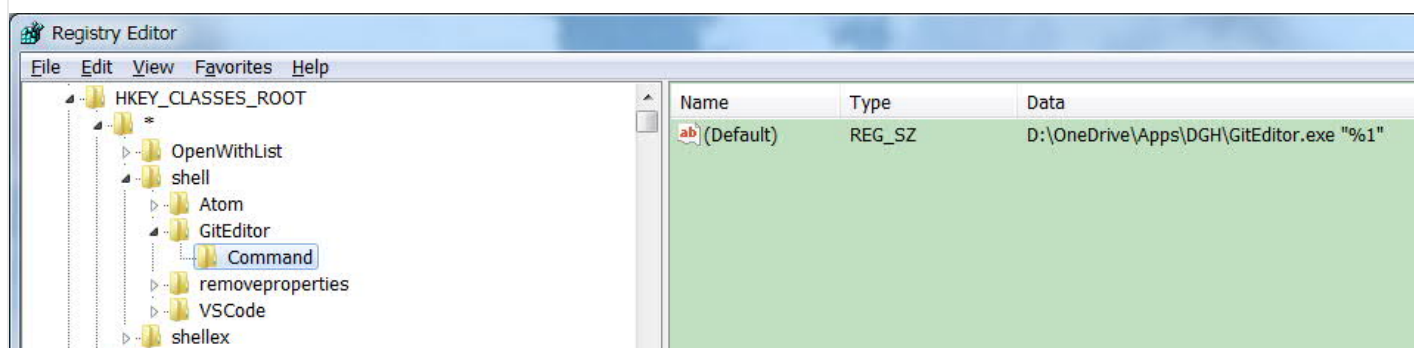
You can accomplish this with some simple registry additions but you will need to be an administrator to gain access to the `HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT` area.

Under the above key you hopefully have and asterisk before the first file extension is shown, if not you will have to create it. This is where we need to add some entries (**VSCode** and others install their entries here for the same reason). Under the asterisk you should have a `Shell` key, if not you will need to create it. Then under that `Shell` key create another key for your favourite editor, in the below case a text editor I created for working with **Git** commits and simple text editing outside the IDE ('cause I didn't like **VIM**).



Under this new editor key update the `Default` value to contain the text you want to see in the context menu in **Explorer**. Then add another string value named `Icon` with a value that points to the executable for the editor you want to use and **Windows** will extract the icon for you.

So far this only creates the context menu item, we still need to tell **Explorer** how to open the file by creating another sub key called `Command`.



Under this new key update the `Default` value to be the path of your favourite editor and the command line that is required to open the file.

regards
Dave

Category: Miscellaneous