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Microsoft Visual Studio Installer Projects

This official Microsoft extension provides support for Visual Studio Installer Projects in Visual Studio.

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Overview

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NOTE: The version that works with Visual Studio 2022 can be found here.

This extension provides the same functionality that currently exists in Visual Studio 2015 for Visual Studio Installer projects. To use this extension, you can either open the Extensions and Updates dialog, select the online node, and search for "Visual Studio Installer Projects Extension," or you can download directly from this page.

Once you have finished installing the extension and restarted Visual Studio, you will be able to open existing Visual Studio Installer projects, or create new ones.

The documentation is available here: https://aka.ms/vdproj-docs

For modern deployment targeting Windows 10 you can also use the Windows Packaging Project to create APPX and/or MSIX packages.

NOTE: This extension is designed to work with Visual Studio 2017 and Visual Studio 2019. You can download a version of this extension compatible with Visual Studio 2015 here. For Visual Studio 2022, see here.

What's new in 1.0.2

 Fixing a bug preventing running generated msi on downlevel OS, see https://developercommunity.visualstudio.com/t/Visual-Studio-Installer-Projects-101-f/1638341

Categories

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Works with

Visual Studio 2017, 2019

Resources

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More Info

Version 1.0.2

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Publisher Microsoft

- Fixing a crashing bug
- Fixing dll casing issue (see https://developercommunity.visualstudio.com/t/Visual-Studio-Installer-Projects-insists/1412621)

What's new in 1.0.0

- Adding support for 64-bit registry capture
- Minor bug fixes, including this issue: https://developercommunity2.visualstudio.com/t/setup-deployment-project-gets-project-di/1291304

What's new in 0.9.9

- Improved diagnostics when working with .NET Core 3.1+ projects (https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/visualstudio/deployment/installer-projects-net-core)
- Minor bug fix

What's new in 0.9.8

• Fixing a bug that would cause a build failure for projects with localization set to neutral.

What's new in 0.9.7

- Changing certain instances of the error "Unable to update the dependencies of the project. The
 dependencies for the object 'Foo.dll' cannot be determined" to be a warning instead. This was done to
 unblock certain scenarios, like when you want to include a managed assembly that was run through an
 obfuscator.
- (VS 2019 only) Adding support for launch conditions for .NET Core 3+ apps. A launch condition will get automatically added for installer projects that consume the output of a .NET Core 3+ project. The version, architecture and framework (Core/Desktop) of the necessary runtime will be automatically detected, unless you specify it by editing the .NET Core launch condition in the Launch Conditions editor.

What's new in 0.9.6

- (VS 2019 only) Updating default .NET framework version used in prerequisites and launch conditions
- Fixing a crashing bug

What's new in 0.9.5

- Fixing various accessibility issues
- Some improvements to the .NET Core publish profile support added in the previous version
- Fixing bug with file extension when generating multiple cab files
- Additional bug fixes

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What's new in 0.9.4

- Fixing accessibility issues in generated installers
- Adding new support .NET Core 3 scenarios. The output of .NET Core 3 projects should be consumed using "PublishItemsOutputGroup" instead of "Primary Output". There's also a new "PublishProfilePath" field in the properties window when "PublishItemsOutputGroup" is selected which allows for the creation of self contained .NET Core 3 installers. More details to come.

What's new in 0.9.3

• Fixing a potential out of memory error when building

What's new in 0.9.2

• 64bit custom action support requires Opt-in for each custom action

What's new in 0.9.1

- Support custom actions targeting x64
- Support SDK Style Projects (e.g. ASP.NET Core)

What's new in 0.9.0

- Support for Visual Studio 2019 and Visual Studio 2017
- Fix an OutOfMemory exception when including large files as part of the setup

What's new in 0.8.8

- Fix an issue with RegCap.exe to capture COM registry information
- Fix default IIS detection on Win10

What's new in 0.8.7:

• License update.

What's new in 0.8.6:

• Fixes an issue in the Setup Wizard.

What's new in 0.8.5:

• Fixes an issue with the latest Visual Studio updates where the MSI creation failed with the error "No such interface supported".

What's new in 0.8.4:

This version solves the following issues:

- Solves Lightweight Solution Load issues
- Updated literals that were using bad encoding
- Avoid crashes with specific project types

0.8.3 Changes:

We have addressed the following issues in this update:

- Property Dialog available on right clicking the project file.
- Adding a helper tool to enable command line builds using Visual Studio 2017. You can run the executable
 located in \Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual
 Studio\2017\Enterprise\Common7\IDE\CommonExtensions\Microsoft\VSI\DisableOutOfProcBuild to easily
 configure your Visual Studio 2017 environment.

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