

Tyrant Version Control User Manual

What is Tyrant Version Control?

Tyrant Version Control is a plugin for Maya which provides users with access to standard version control functionality for their scripting projects: tracking, looking at or rolling back to a previous versions of your project. The plugin includes a special UI panel to the Maya Environment which allows you to access all of this functionality in an intuitive way.

Prerequisites

- Maya 2017 or newer
- Python 3

Installing Tyrant Version Control

In the folder you have downloaded you will find a file named `install_plugin.py`. This file should move all of the plugin script files to the correct location on your disk. To run it, on Windows double click on it or run `py -3 install_plugin.py` in the command prompt, or on MacOSX run `python3 install_plugin.py` in the terminal.

If this does not work you can perform the installation manually by moving all of the files included in the *scripts* folder to this location:

Windows: `\Users\<username>\Documents\maya\<year>\scripts`

MacOSX: `$HOME/Library/Preferences/Autodesk/maya/<year>/scripts`

Once the plugin is installed, you should restart Maya if it was open and now there should be a new tab in the shelves panel called TyrantVC. In that tab there is an icon, which once clicked will open up the main panel of the plugin. Instructions on what each element of that panel does and how to operate the plugin are listed below.

Creating Or Importing A Project

With the plugin installed, the first order of business is starting a new scripting project or importing an existing project. Starting a new project can be performed through clicking on the “My Project” button within the TyrantVC panel which will open a window where you would be able



select an option to create a new project. You will be prompted for a location for your project. Once the location is specified your project will be shown in the file browsing area of the UI panel.

Importing a project is very similar except instead of choosing the option to create a new project you will be able to choose an option to import the project.

Note: If you want to apply the plugin on a project that you have not used version control on, you should follow the instructions for creating a new project and then add all the relevant files in your first commit.

Files Tracking Area

The files tracking area allows you to view the files in your current project. Files highlighted as green are up to date with the latest commit while files that are highlighted with red have been modified since the last commit. You can hover over the files to see the history button show up which you can click to explore the previous versions of that file. You can also expand the minimize the folders to see what is stored in those folders.

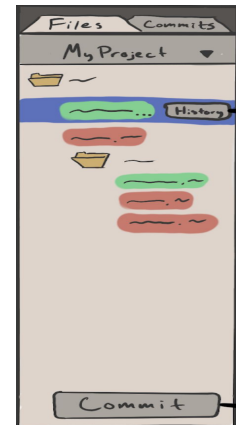
Project Commit Tracking Area

The Commit Tracking area allows you to view a history of commits for the current project. To navigate to the Commit Tracking area, click the “Commits” tab at the top of the main panel. You will be presented with a list of commits, each showing a date, the commit message, and the number of files in the commit. To view more information about any individual commit, you can click on the commit in the list and you will be taken to the Past Commit View.

Past Commit View

Past Commit View allows you to view the details of an earlier commit. To navigate to the Past Commit View, go to the “Commits” tab and then click on the commit for which you would like to see more information. The Past Commit View will show you each file that was a part of this commit, as well as the amount of lines added and removed. To view the version of the file that was added at this commit, click on the file in the list and you will be taken to the Previous File Version view.

To return to the Commit Tracking area, click the “Back” button in the upper lefthand corner.



Staging Area

The staging area allows you to commit files.

To navigate to the staging area, click the “Commit” button at the bottom of the window.

This will open a pop-up window which displays a list of the files which have been modified since your last commit. By default they are all checked (which means they will all be committed). If you don’t want to commit certain files, you can uncheck them.

You will also be prompted for a mandatory commit message, which should describe the changes you’ve made since your last commit.

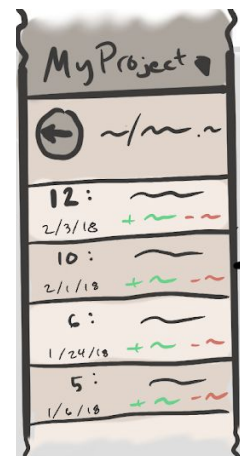
To finalize your commit, click “Commit”. Otherwise, click “Cancel” or close the popup window.

History View

History View allows you to view the previous commits of a given file.

To navigate to History View, first select the “Files” tab. Next, navigate to the desired file, then click the “History” button to its right. This will display a list of previous commits. Note that it does not display every commit, it only displays commits which modified the file you selected. Clicking one of these commits will display the state of the file at the time of that commit (see “Past Commit View”)

To return to File View, click the “Back” button in the upper lefthand corner.



Previous File Version View

Previous File Version View allows you to view previous versions of your files.

To navigate to a file’s Previous File Version View, first navigate to that file’s History View, then select the desired commit from the list of previous commits. This will open a pop-up window, displaying the state of the file at that previous commit. Because this is a past version of the file, it cannot be edited. However, you can copy and paste any or all of the file into your current file editor window.

