

Advanced Scripting Lab

For this lab you are going to create a lot from scratch. We provide a loose framework for the game but you create the enemies from scratch.

Before we begin there are 3 concepts we want to make sure you understand, the lab will help to reinforce all three of these ideas. If you feel confident feel free to skim. It will be obvious where the actual lab starts

GetComponent and GameObject.Find

You almost certainly have run into at least one of these by now so I will keep it short.

- [GameObject](#)
 - [Find\(\)](#)
 - Note this method is static meaning it is accessed by calling *GameObject.Find* (Note the capital G in GameObject!)
 - This method is considered inefficient. For the work you do in this class, optimization is not a big deal so using this method is fine. If you do want to try optimizing, you could potentially call this method once in the *Start()* method and then store a reference to what you found in the script.
 - Ex: *GameObject.Find('Player');*
 - [GetComponent\(\)](#)
 - Not static and must be called on a GameObject instance (Pretty much anything in Unity)
 - To access the GameObject that your script is attached to you can simply use *gameObject* similarly for the Transform you can just use *transform*
 - *GetComponent<Class or Component Name>()* The syntax is a little odd coming from coding in Java but you can think of it as both Casting and passing in a parameter of which Component to look for
 - This method is also considered inefficient. The same can be said here as was said about *Find()*.
 - Ex: *gameObject.GetComponent<SpriteRenderer>().color=new Color(...);*
 - [SetActive\(\)](#)
 - Nice way to turn off *GameObjects* (or components) while the game is running by passing in *False*

We encourage you to explore the linked Script References. There are a lot of similar methods that we will not be covering that you may find useful!

Singletons

A singleton as you may or may not have learned from other classes is an object that there is only one of. This is a really useful model for centralized systems in your game. Some good examples of scripts where this may be useful *SpawnManager*, *PlayerData*, *LevelLoader* (These are made up names to get the idea across). So how do we make a singleton? Easy!

```
public class Score : MonoBehaviour {
    public static Score st;
    private void Awake()
    {
        st = this;
    }
}
```

Let's break this down.

- First off this is not a true singleton in that you could technically make more of them by attaching this script to more objects, but this does not matter for our use case
- Public means all scripts anywhere can access this variable
- Static means all *Score* script objects share the same *st* variable
 - It also means you can access this shared *st* variable using *Score.st*
 - This is nice because there are no *GetComponent*'s or *GameObject.Find*'s required!
- We do this in *Awake()* because *Awake()* is guaranteed to happen before *Start()* which is a place where this singleton might get used
 - If another script tries to reference *Score.st* from within an *Awake()* call there is no guarantee that *Score.st* will be assigned yet!!! (It will only work sometimes)
- We use a short variable name (*st* short for singleton in this case) to make future uses in other scripts cleaner and easier to read

Now when another script wants to modify the score they can simply say
Score.st.addScore(9001);

vs

Score scoreObj = GameObject.Find("Score").GetComponent<Score>();
scoreObj.addScore(1337);

Time.deltaTime

- [Time.deltaTime](#)
 - This is the amount of time that elapsed since the last frame.
 - I often find it useful to have countdown timers for things like cooldowns or enemy spawns
 - Set the variable to the total time you want to wait
 - Then subtract *Time.deltaTime* in each call to *Update()*
 - once it reaches 0, restart the timer (if applicable)
 - then do whatever action you were waiting to do
- [Time.fixedDeltaTime](#)
 - This is the amount of time between physics updates
 - Unlike *Time.deltaTime*, this value is consistent throughout your game
 - Whenever you use a physics method such as *FixedUpdate()*, you should be using this value instead of *Time.deltaTime* to avoid unwanted behaviour

Misc Tips

- Don't feel too overwhelmed by some of the crazy syntax and differences in C#, you can get really far by just pretending its Java and ignoring the new stuff
- Don't forget the tips from the last scripting lab! It covered ways to get more out of the Unity Inspector for your script (among other things):
 - Structs
 - Arrays/Lists
- There are several ways that your code might start running, the main ways are
 - Through a [MonoBehavior Event](#)
 - These include events such as "*Start()*", "*Update()*", "*FixedUpdate()*", "*OnMouseDown()*"
 - Or through an external method call
 - GUI button press set to call a method, another script calling one of your public methods, etc
- [This is an extremely useful chart of what order things run in](#)
 - Scroll to the bottom of the page

Organization

We all know that this is everyone's favorite subject so please pay very close attention.

- When writing a lot of code, you want to try your best to keep it organized and clear
- Decide on a naming convention to differentiate script variables from local function variables. Personally, I will preface any script variable with an *m_* and leave it out from local function variables. So instead of *score*, I would use *m_Score*.
- Keep ALL variables and functions private. There are very few reasons to make variables public. If you go through the delegates and events lab, there will be exceptions there. Certain functions need to be public as well (*AddScore()*).
- If you need to edit a variable in the editor, give it the [SerializeField] heading AND a [Tooltip("explain what this variable is here")]
- Try your best to group different functions together and then use:
 - #region Region Name
 - #endregionto group these functions together
- Use short accessors and mutators
- You will find examples of each of these points in the scripts of this lab and you are expected to maintain these guidelines

Useful Scripting Reference links

- [Mathf](#)
- [Instantiate\(\)](#) (used for prefabs mainly)
- [Vector2](#), [Vector3](#), [.normalize\(\)](#), and [.normalized](#)
- [BoxCollider2D](#)
- [Rigidbody2D](#) (Used for physics-based movement)
- [Transform](#)

- [SpriteRenderer](#)

The actual lab assignment!

Sorry for the essay above, there is a lot to cover.

For this lab we have a few systems in place. One tracks the mouse input and acts as an attack where the mouse clicks. The other is used to update the score and changes a very simple UI. Your task will be to create the enemies from scratch.

You can think of this game as essentially fruit ninja. You click on the screen to clear enemies in a certain area but you don't want to hit the bombs.

Checkoff (Feel free to surpass these)

- A functioning minigame similar to Fruit ninja (in the loosest sense)
- 2 enemy types
 - One that you want to hit, one that you don't
- Score integration (use `Score.st.addScore()`)
- A functioning spawn system
- Mouse attacks should kill enemies
- And ensuring everything is organized!
 - Use regions
 - Variables and functions should be kept private
 - Variables that can be edited in the editor should have a tooltip

You have a lot of creative freedom here. You can take that and run with it or you can follow the more chunked up, bare minimum steps below.

First off we need an enemy to interact with

- Right click *Hierarchy*, *2D GameObject* > *Sprite*
- Add an image to the *SpriteRenderer* component, any of the defaults will suffice
 - Click the circle next to *Sprite* in the inspector
- Adjust the scale of the transform to your liking
- *Add Component* > *Box Collider 2D* (or *Circle Collider 2D*)
- If you want your enemy to have physics based movement/gravity then add a *Rigidbody2D* Component as well, the rest of these tips will assume you didn't do this
- Make it a prefab so you can spawn copies of it later
 - Just drag it into your assets folder

Now we need the enemy to move (Or not, that's up to you. But it should at the very least spawn in a random location and maybe despawn after some time has passed)

- Right click the *Assets* tab *Create* > *C# Script* (give it some name like *Enemy*)
- Open the script

- In the *Start* function find some satisfiable way to move the enemy to a good spawn location. I recommend using something like
 - `transform.position = new Vector3(Random.Range(-horizontalBound, horizontalBound), Random.Range(-verticalBound, verticalBound), 0);`
 - For the purpose of this lab you can just hard code values for *horizontalBound* and *verticalBound*
 - In a real game you would want to figure out how to do this dynamically (just google it) but it is not worth doing for this lab
- In the *Update* function find some satisfiable way to move the enemy around or you can just leave them stationary
 - `transform.position = startingPosition + new Vector3(radius * Mathf.Sin(elapsedTime), radius * Mathf.Sin(elapsedTime), 0);`
 - Sin and Cos always give fun patterns when you get them out of sync (you can do this by multiplying in a random constant from *Random.value* or *Random.Range*
 - You can keep track of *elapsedTime* with:
 - `elapsedTime = elapsedTime + Time.deltaTime;`
- Make sure to attach the script you made to your enemy!!!

Repeat the above steps for the second enemy type (Or just copy and paste and change the *SpriteRenderer* color and make a new prefab for it)

Now that we have an enemy to hit. Go into the *MouseInput* script and add some code to deal with when the player clicks on an enemy

- The easiest thing to do would be to check whether it is a good or a bad enemy
 - For this we recommend using the *Tag* field at the top of the inspector. You can access the *Tag* in script with *gameObject.tag*
 - A *Tag* is just a way of grouping *GameObjects* essentially for purposes exactly like this
 - *Layers* also group *GameObjects* but are also used when rendering or calculating collisions
- If it is a good enemy call `Score.Singleton.addScore(10);`
- If it is a bad enemy call `Score.Singleton.addScore(-10000);`
 - Or you could find some more elegant way to end the game, but this will suffice for the lab
- Then delete the enemy

Now we have to spawn the enemies! Feel free to simply repurpose the *SpawnManager.cs* script from the basic scripting lab. It should slot in with practically no modifications. You will have to remove the code relating to scores. Or Modify it to work with the new system.

You did it! Congratulations! As a challenge try and go back and improve things as much as you can :D

I keep my scripts organized using the following headers. The bolded headers are ones that you will see in this lab (and you will probably want to use these). If you have any questions about any of them, feel free to ask.

Delegates and Events

Editor Variables

Non-Editor Variables

Cached Components

Cached Instance References

Singletons

First Time Initialization and Set Up

OnEnable, Set Ups, and Resetters

Main Updates

Game Loop Updates

OnDisable and Other Enders

Accessors and Mutators

Getters

Checkers and Verifiers

Collision Methods

Unity Misc

Script Specific Headers