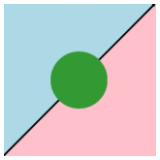
SVG Family-Tree Generator (v6.0.0) — Installation



Tony Proctor, 24 Mar 2021

1 Introduction

The installation kit for the SVG Family-Tree Generator (SVG-FTG), plus its documentation and samples, will be found in the shared Dropbox folder at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ohiikcl9yii6jgu/AACutrmnvbFPzwpd4Sla6ZzYa?dl=0

You will need to download all the files in that folder. This normally involves the following steps:

- Create an SVG directory on your Windows computer, e.g. in your Documents directory or on your desktop.
- Select the 'Download->Direct Download' option from the top-right of the window. This will download an SVG.zip compressed file containing the contents of the Dropbox folder.
- Open the SVG.zip file and extract or copy its contents into your SVG directory.

The installation kit consists of three main files: setup.exe, SVG.CAB, and SETUP.LST. plus a number of batch scripts to make things easier. These will be described in more detail below.

In summary, right-click on Install.bat and select 'Run as Administrator'. This will perform a full installation — or upgrade — and deal with Start-menu shortcuts as appropriate.

It is not recommended to simply execute Setup.exe as this will not perform an update of any prior version, and the all-important shortcuts will not be modified.

2 Contents of Distribution Kit

Once the files have been extracted from your downloaded zip file, you should have the following files in your local directory:

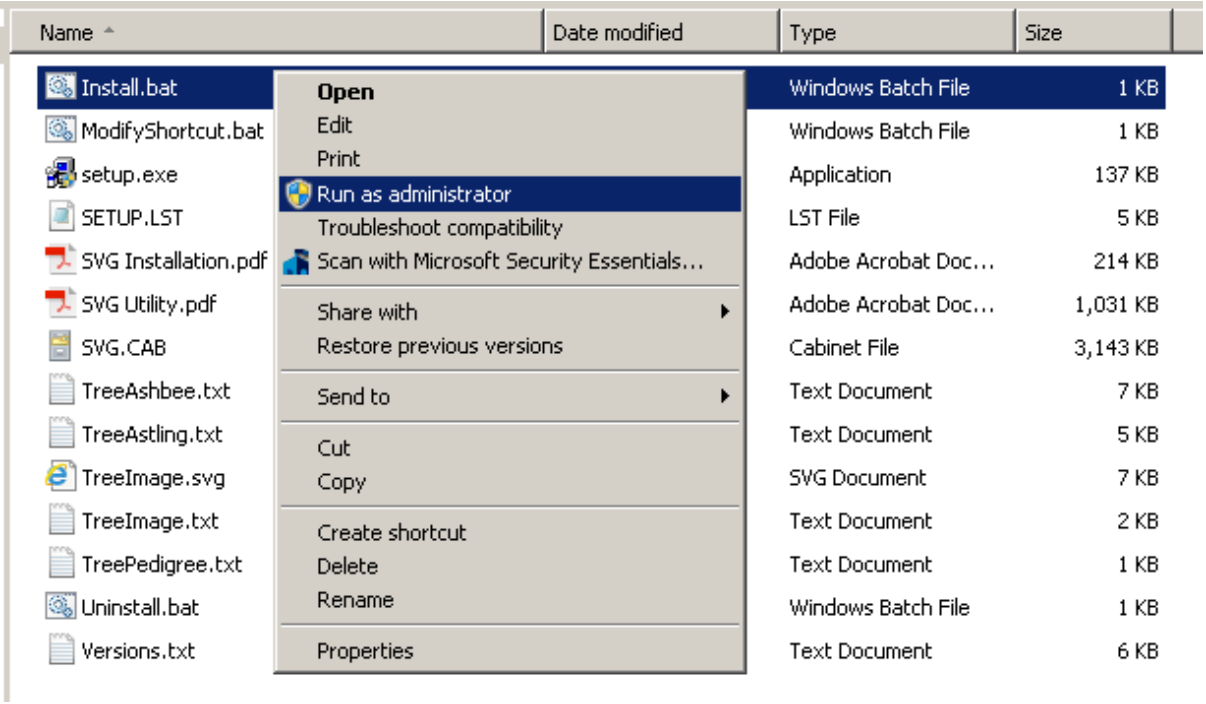
setup.exe SETUP.LST	Installation files

SVG.CAB	
Install.bat	Main installation script. This is the only one that requires manual invocation
ModifyShortcut.bat	Invoked by Install.bat in order to modify the shortcut generated by a default installation
Uninstall.bat	Invoked by Install.bat in order to remove any prior version
Diagnostics.bat	Gathers diagnostic information in the event of installation issues.
Versions.txt	Enumeration of versions and features in this and previous versions
SVG Installation.pdf SVG User Guide.pdf SVG Program Notes.pdf	Documentation
TreeAshbee.txt TreeAstling.txt TreeImage.html TreeImage.svg TreeImage.txt TreeImage.ged TreeViewpoints.txt	Sample Files
Male.png Female.png Question.png	Local copies of stock images for person-boxes.

3 Performing the Installation

The main installation script is called **Install.bat**, and should take care of everything, but it must be executed with administrator privileges. Do not execute setup.exe on its own as it will not uninstall any previous version first!

On older systems, such as XP, this means that you must be logged in to an admin account, but on newer systems you must explicitly right-click the script and indicate that you need elevated privilege.



Your system may ask “Do you want to allow the following program to make changes to this computer?”, in which case you must answer ‘Yes’.

The script will first remove any older version of SVG-FTG by calling on **Uninstall.bat**.

It will then start the new installation by executing the **setup.exe** program. This will display a progress message “Copying files, please stand by” before “Welcome to the SVG installation program”. When it instructs you to “Begin the installation by clicking the button below”, make sure you select the large button directly underneath the message. Accept the default setting for ‘Program Group’.

If the installation warns you that your system has more recent copies of files such as msvcrt.dll, scrrun.dll, urlmon.dll, etc., then elect to keep your existing ones.

Finally, Install.bat will execute **ModifyShortcut.bat** in order to update the default shortcut created by the installation (more details in next section if required).

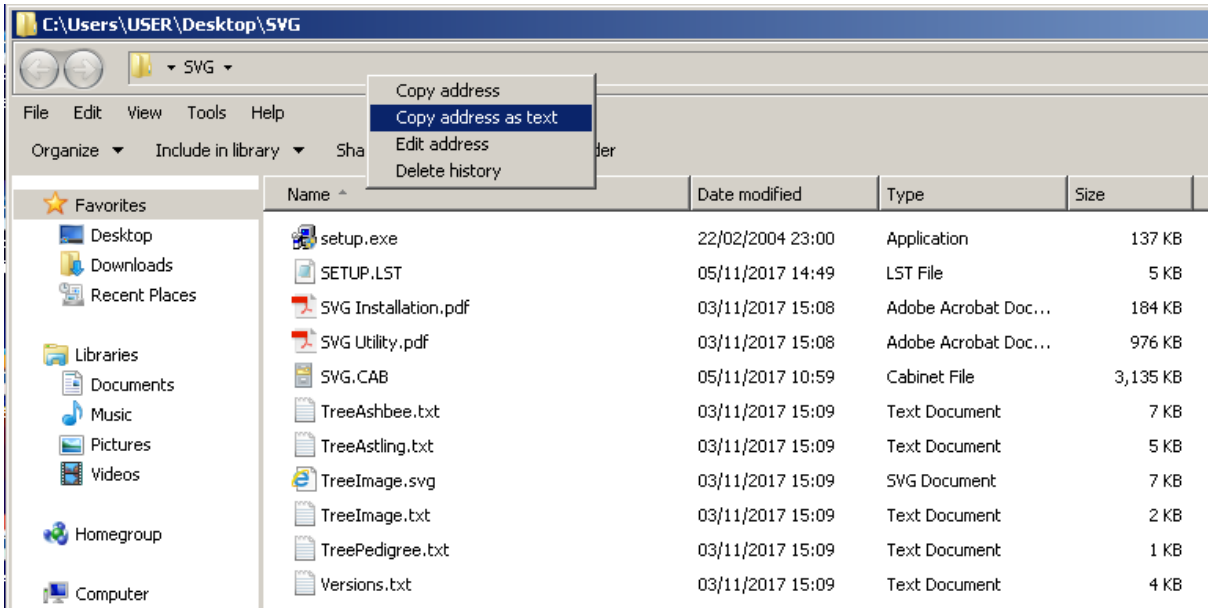
All done! You can then select that shortcut to launch SVG-FTG.

NB: Some users have reported a problem with install.bat crashing PlayOnMac — a WINE-based compatibility layer for macOS — when asking it to execute this file. However, if invoked manually in a CMD window then installation (or upgrade) works correctly.

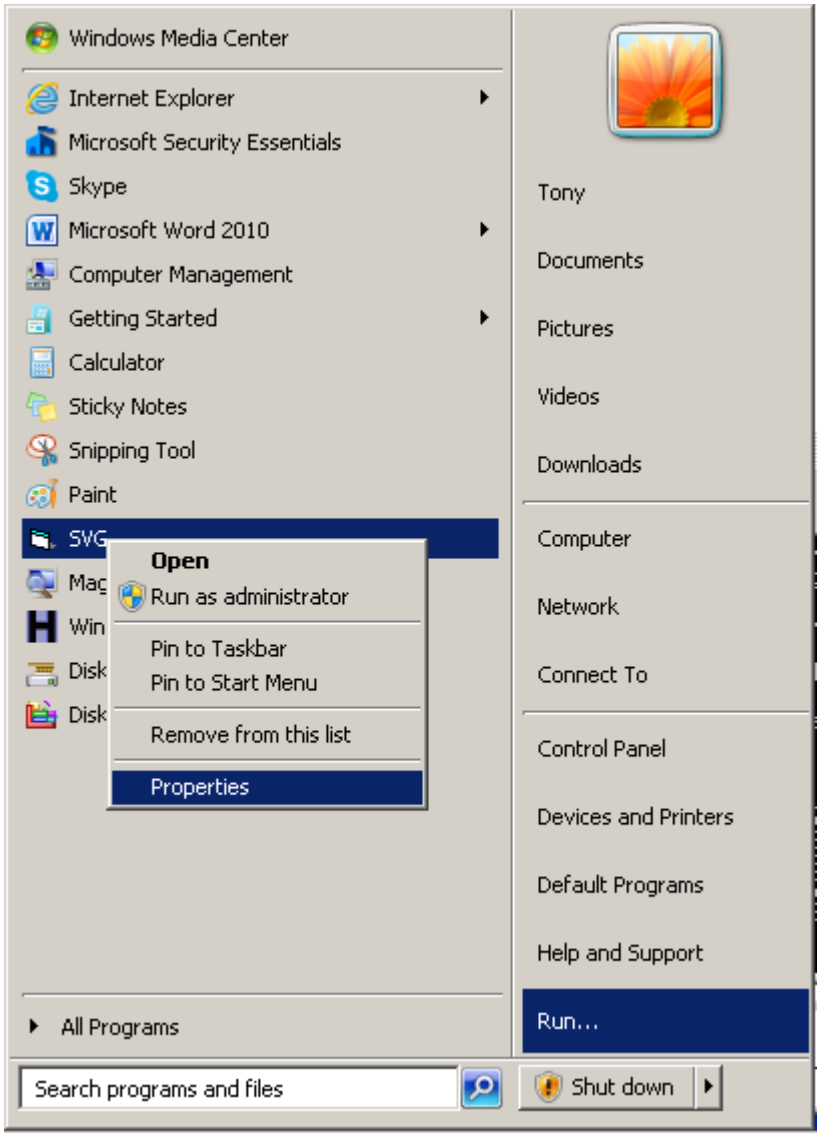
4 Executing SVG-FTG

By default, an installation will set your Start Menu to run SVG-FTG in a system directory — usually ‘Program Files’ — because it may have been installing on behalf of one or more unknown users. This means that SVG-FTG would try and write its output files to that system directory, which would be technically illegal.

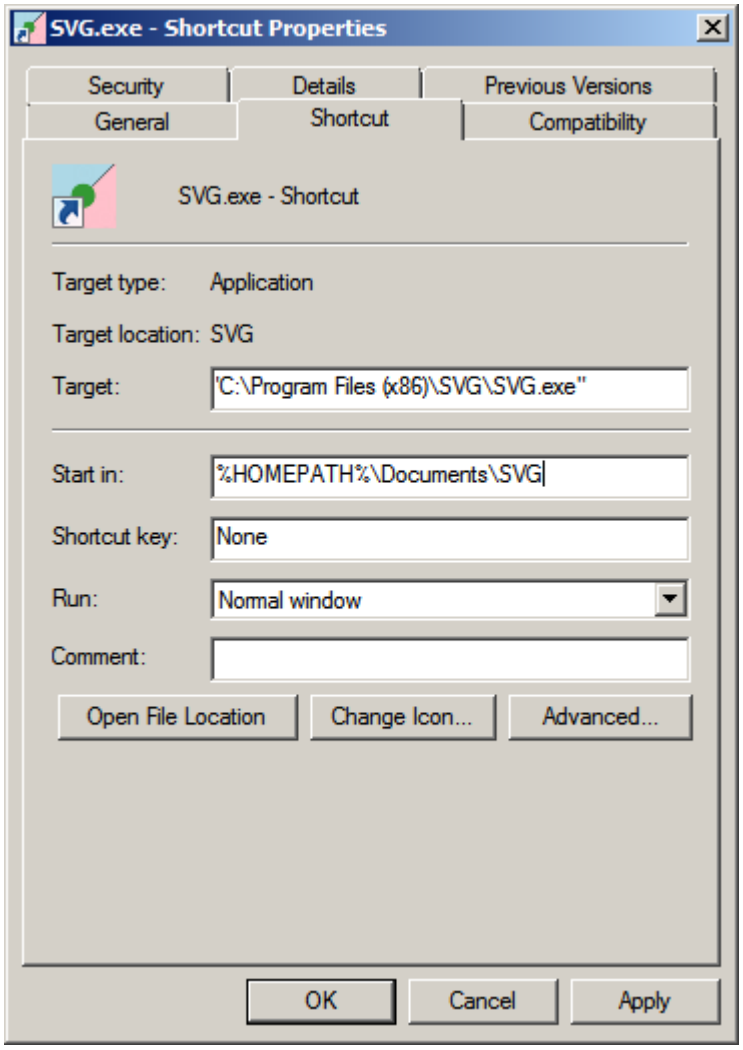
The last part of the installation tried to modify the default shortcuts so that SVG-FTG is directed to work in a local directory of your account, such as the one you created above. If you have to do this manually, say because the installation didn't do it or because you have added a further shortcut to your desktop, then copy the full path of that local directory by right-clicking on the address field of the Windows Explorer window, and selecting the appropriate option.



Select the Properties of the relevant shortcut, and paste the saved directory path into the “Start in” field of its Shortcut tab.



This then means that although SVG.exe has been installed into a system directory — as is normal — it will execute using your local directory as its default for any new files it creates. When correctly updated like this, an instance of SVG-FTG invoked from such a shortcut will see the sample files that you downloaded from Dropbox; if they're not visible then it has not been configured properly. NB: SVG-FTG does not require administrator privilege to run; if you find that you have to grant this then it has not been configured correctly.



This example above is based on Windows 7 but the principle is similar on all systems.

SVG-FTG also has a number of command-line options that may be specified in a shortcut to change what it does on start-up. See "User Guide: Command-line and Shortcuts" for details.

There is another way of executing SVG-FTG that you may find convenient. If you right-click on one of the *.txt tree definition files, and then request that it be opened with SVG.exe (you'll have to navigate to something like" C:\Program Files (x86)\SVG\SVG.exe" in order to specify this the first time) then Windows will remember your selection and will automatically show "SVG Family-Tree Generator" in future right-click menus for *.txt files. Make sure that you don't make it the default program to open *.txt files, though, since that would normally be the Notepad editor. See "User Guide: Command-line and Shortcuts" for more details.

5 Diagnostics

If any of the scripts appear to be failing then it may be necessary to capture the output for me. If you ensure that the first line is changed to "@echo on" and a final line of "pause" appended then it will display the output without closing the window prematurely.

Next, you can try running the Diagnostics.bat script and capturing its output, as follows:

```
Diagnostics.bat > Diag.log 2>&1
```

If ModifyShortcut.bat is not doing its job (see above) then things are a little more complicated. This is because it dynamically generates a second file, called CreateShortcut.vbs, and passes that to csript.exe to execute before then removing the it.

You will need to remove the 'del' command that deletes the temporary file, and capture any output from cscript.exe using I/O redirection. In short, change these two lines:

```
%SystemRoot%\system32\cscript.exe CreateShortcut.vbs  //B //NoLogo

del CreateShortcut.vbs
```

to this one line:

```
%SystemRoot%\system32\cscript.exe CreateShortcut.vbs //NoLogo > Diag.log
2>&1
```

If you need to generate any diagnostic output yourself then insert WScript.Echo lines into the generated file. For instance:

```
WScript.Echo "Output line"
```

6 Sample Files

The samples are provided to let you play with the various options in SVG-FTG, and to see the effect when the outputs are viewed in your web browser. The *.txt tree definition files may be loaded up and manipulated in the Tree Designer, their layout changes, applications added, and final HTML (or SVG) generated and viewed in your default browser.

- *TreeAstling*: demonstrates the use of tooltips ("hover text").
- *TreeAshbee*: demonstrates the 'Information Panels' application. The associated biographical notes contain rich text and images. It also contains data that would support the 'Compendia' application if added.
- *TreeImage*: demonstrates a simple addition of thumbnail images, the use of tooltips, and the 'Timeline Reports' application.
- *TreeViewpoints*: uses the same tree as defined in TreeImage, but broken down into three viewpoints. Each of these may be manipulated in the Tree Designer, but if you generate HTML output files for this sample then it will demonstrate the 'Linked Trees' application. See "User Guide:Viewpoints".

NB: TreeImage.txt and TreeAshbee.txt both reference a number of person images stored at https://parallaxviewpoint.com/Images/. When their outputs are viewed in a browser (including the pre-generated TreeImage.svg and TreeImage.html) then these images will be displayed, but if you also want to see them in the Tree Designer then you need to get SVG-FTG to download them for you. This is explained further in "User Guide:Tree Designer" in the description of the menu option 'File->Localise Images'.

TreeImage.ged is a GEDCOM equivalent of the TreeImage.txt tree definition file that can be used to test the GEDCOM import feature.

7 Windows Versions

When SVG-FTG starts up, it displays the current Windows version for any diagnostic support. However, these numbers may be confusing as the outward branding of Windows differs from the internal version numbering. For instance, Windows XP is technically Windows 5.0, Vista is 6.0, and Windows 7 is 6.1.