GoogleVR & GearVR Camera Setup V1.2

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Introduction

Thanks for the purchase and support! We are a community of VR devs, working together to create games, experiences, development tools, and tutorials in an effort to empower emerging VR developers worldwide. Join us here:
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For any questions or support, please email:
nurfacegames@gmail.com

1. What is GoogleVR & GearVR Camera Setup?

Developing for Mobile VR is great but porting between Google VR (previously Cardboard) and Gear VR can be frustrating! This asset allows you to easily switch the build target between Google VR and Gear VR, with a single click. Import the package and add the “VRMain” prefab, now simply click the “VR Build Settings” option on the toolbar and select your build target!

2. How to use

Prerequisites

GoogleVR 0.85

- This asset relies on the Google VR SDK 0.85 to work as we are developing for both Google VR and Gear VR. Unity is compatible out of the box with Gear VR using a camera and the *“Virtual Reality Supported”* option in the build settings.

Unity 5.3.4f1

- Starting with 5.3.4p2, there is a bug in Unity which affects GoogleVR: https://developers.google.com/vr/unity/release-notes#known_issues
- There is also a bug with the GearVR build in Unity 5.3.6 and 5.4.

Currently, the highest support Unity version is 5.3.4, available here:
https://unity3d.com/get-unity/download/archive

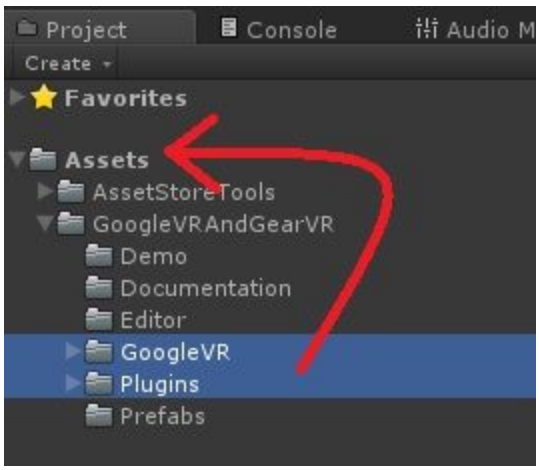
Starting With A New Project

Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=te3wxmM2XeM

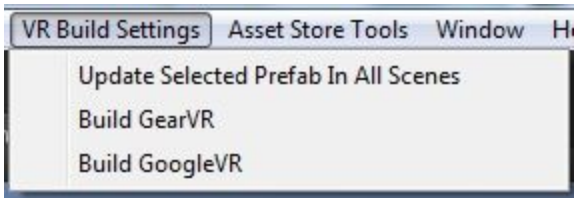
Step 1: Import the Asset
If you are starting with a new project, begin by importing the asset. This contains the scripts, a Demo, and GoogleVR SDK 0.85.

Step 2: Move the GoogleVR SDK to the root of Assets

- Once you have imported the asset, move the ***GoogleVR*** and ***Plugins*** folders into the root "Assets" folder. These 2 folder are the GoogleVR SDK and it's important for the ***Plugins*** folder to be in the root "Assets" folder for when GearVR attempts to locate the device signature file.



Step 3: Select *Build GearVR* or *Build GoogleVR*
Now you are ready to use- no code needed. View the demo scene or just drag the Prefab **"VRMain"** into your project as the camera. To change between Cardboard and Gear VR, simply click on "VR Build Settings > Build GearVR" or "VR Build Settings > Build GoogleVR":



Tips:

- If you are building for GearVR, make sure to include your device signature file in /Plugins/Android/assets
- If you are building for GoogleVR, remember to set orientation Landscape Left in the build settings.
- If you are using Google's Spatial Audio, remember to set the spatializer in Edit > Project Settings > Audio.

Starting with Existing Google Cardboard Project

To use this asset with an existing Cardboard project, it needs to be updated to the GoogleVR SDK. GoogleVR 0.85 is included in this asset so it's not necessary to download it separately.

Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-Aiqhzamhc

Upgrade Instructions from Google:
https://developers.google.com/vr/unity/release-notes#upgrade_instructions

Because the *Cardboard* and *Plugins* folders must be deleted, we need to "Break Prefab Instance" for any prefab that is contained in the *Assets/Cardboard/Prefabs/* folder, such as *CardboardMain*.

Step 1: Locate Cardboard Prefabs
Search all of your Scenes and locate any Prefab that is saved in the *Cardboard/Prefabs/* folder- CardboardMain, etc.

Step 2: Break Prefab Instances
Select the prefab GameObject in the Hierarchy window, click on the toolbar *"GameObject > Break Prefab Instance".* Repeat the process for every scene in the project. Now that all the prefabs such as *CardboardMain* are no longer Prefab Instances, we can delete the *Cardboard* and *Plugins* folders.

Step 3: Determine if other assets are using the Plugins/ folder
Because updating Cardboard requires deleting the *Plugins/* folder, and it's possible that other assets in your project are using the *Plugins/* folder, you should determine the impact of deleting this folder. If other assets are using *Plugins/* then you could re-import those assets after deleting the folder to restore the deleted files.

Step 4: Close Unity
The Cardboard SDK files are most likely in use by Unity.exe. Close Unity completely before deleting any folders. For example, if you set Cardboard Audio Spatializer under *Edit > Project Settings Audio > Spatialzier Plugin,* then the audio DLL will be in use and cannot be deleted.

Step 5: Delete Cardboard and Plugins Folders
Delete the **/Cardboard/** and **/Plugins/** folders in your root Asset folder of your project. This removes the Cardboard SDK. See Google's link above for details.

Step 6: Import the GoogleVR & GearVR Camera Setup Asset
Now GoogleVR 0.85 is ready to be imported, which is contained in this asset. Import the asset and proceed with Starting With A New Project.

Building A Multi-Scene Setup

If your project has multiple scenes, with a “VRMain/CardboardMain” prefab in each scene, you will need to take additional steps to update those prefabs before building your project.

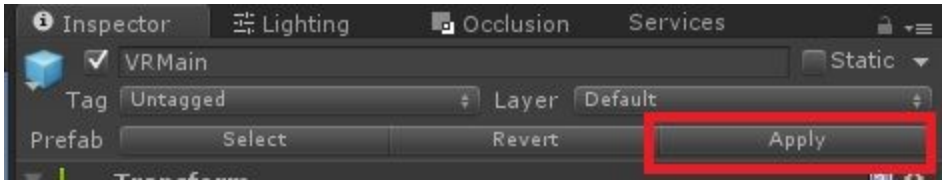
Tip:

- Consider moving the VRMain prefab into it’s OWN scene, Scene 0 in the build order, and then loading content & levels additively. In this manner the VR Head will always be loaded, even in between levels, so values such as head rotation will not be lost between levels. Tutorial coming soon. Function reference: SceneManager.LoadScene

Switching between GearVR and GoogleVR requires changing values on the VRMain Prefab, specifically the GVRViewer and GVRHead scripts. When you use *“VR Build Settings > Build GearVR”*, it changes values on the VRMain gameobject but the prefab is not updated. If you are using VRMain in multiple scenes, you will need to update VRMain in each scene. I’ve included a tool to help with this.

Step 1: Select *Build GearVR* or *Build GoogleVR*
To change between Cardboard and Gear VR, simply click on “VR Build Settings > Build GearVR” or “VR Build Settings > Build GoogleVR”

Step 2: Update Prefab Instance
Select the *VRMain/CardboardMain/Player* GameObject in the scene and click “Apply” in the Inspector after the word *Prefab:*



When you update a prefab instance, it updates all instances in the currently opened scene. In other scenes the prefab will not update, until you open the scene and select the Gameobject and click "Revert" to revert the prefab to it's newly updated state.

Step 3: Update Selected Prefab In All Scenes
I've added an option under *VR Build Settings* called *"Update Selected Prefab In All Scenes"*. This button will take the GameObject which is currently selected, and then open every single scene and look for that gameobject. If it finds a match, it will "Revert" the prefab instance. This will update each “VRMain” prefab in all scenes:
- Select “VRMain” and click *‘VR Build Settings > Update Selected Prefab In All Scenes’*

Now all the scenes have updated the VRMain prefab, and all scenes will either be configured for either GearVR or GoogleVR. You are ready to build.

3. Demo

The new Demo contains 3 scenes, a main menu, level 1 and level 2. This shows the functionality of a multi scene setup, some UI buttons, and an AutoWalk script. To ensure the demo works properly, all 3 scenes need to be added to the build settings. Build order settings should be MainMenu = 0; Level01 = 1; Level02 = 2.

4. How It Works

This asset works from a single editor script, *VRBuildSettings.cs*. Gear VR works by using a single Unity camera and then setting the “Virtual Reality Supported” build option. Google VR SDK works by rendering with multiple cameras. However, GvrViewer Class has a “Virtual Reality Enabled” mode which disables the multiple cameras and renders with only a single fullscreen camera. This is what we need for Gear VR, except GvrHead script needs to stop tracking rotation because when we selection “Virtual Reality Supported” from the build settings, rotation is tracked automatically. Take a look at the script in */GoogleVRandGearVR/Editor/* for more information, each line of code is well commented.

5. Further Info

For a video tutorials related to this asset, please click here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=te3wxmM2XeM
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-Aiqhzamhc

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