

How To Add Games To Vista Game Explorer

What is Game Explorer?

Windows Vista Game Explorer is a custom folder for the Windows Vista shell that provides a rich presence for games. It is accessed on the **Start** by clicking **Games**.

Game Explorer provides:

- Display of game title, description, version, release date, publisher, and developer information
- Display of general or region-specific game box art
- Display of minimum and recommended system performance ratings
- Display of game content ratings and descriptors
- Restriction of game play based on parental control settings
- Customizable context menus when a game is right-clicked
- Unique settings for multiple installations on the same system

Let's Begin

We will be using a utility called **Vista Game Explorer Manager**

Download [GEBuilder 1.0 Beta 2](#)

Extract the zip file to C:\ "No need to make a folder, there will be a folder made from the zip file"

Once extracted, open the folder called **GameExplorerManager**.

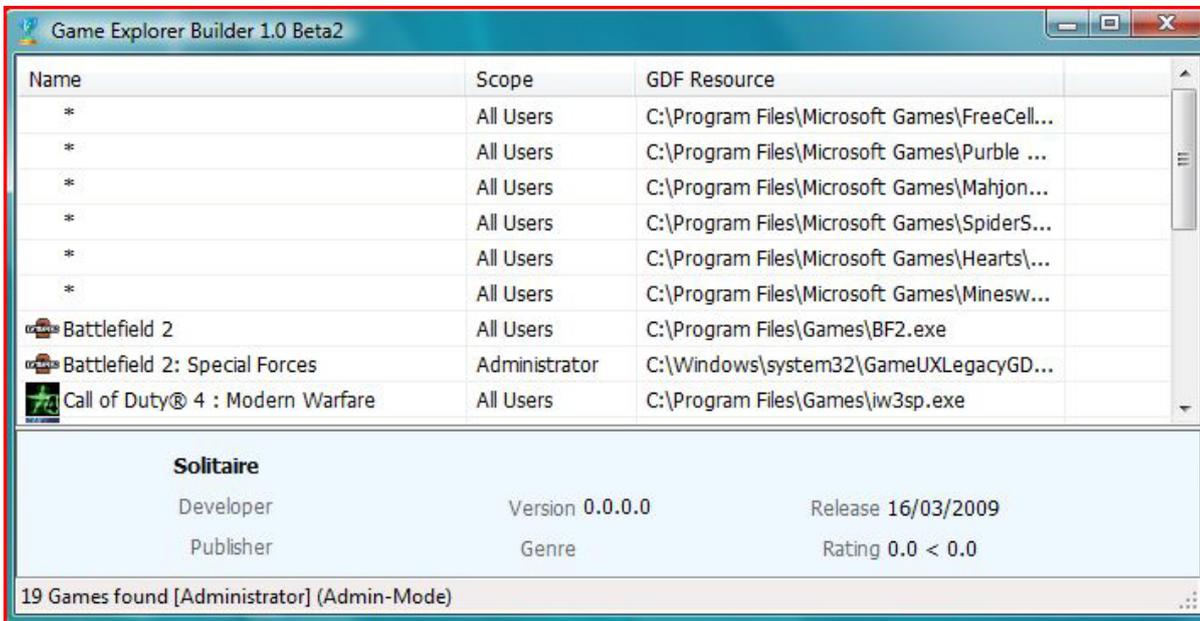
Right click on the exe file called **GameExplorerManager.exe** then select **Send To > Desktop (create shortcut)**

Rename the short cut to read **Game Explorer Manager**.

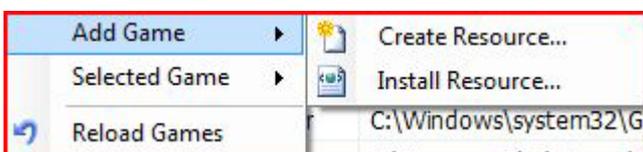
You will need games installed before you can add them.

Double click the shortcut.

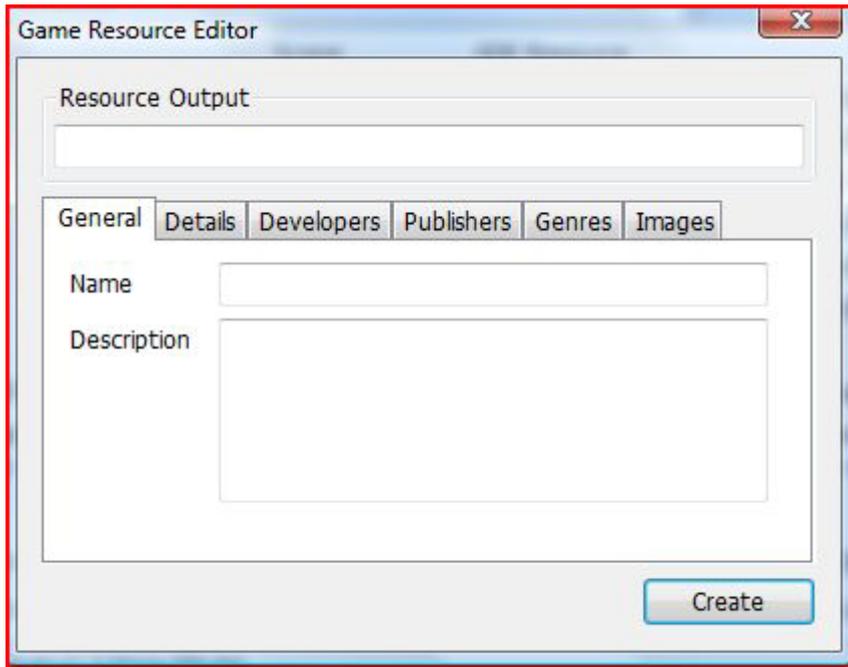
You should see this window



Now right click and select **Add Game > Create Resource**



This window should appear.



Resource Output

Click in the text area in Resource Output, Browse to the location to save the resource file.

I save inside the game path. E.g. *C:\Program Files\Activision\Call of Duty 4 – Modern Warfare*

I use **GDFResource.dll** but name the Resource file as the game name. E.g. *CoD4Resource.dll*

Once you have chosen the path and file name, click **Save**.

To make it easier to insert the required info, I use this web site [All Game](#)

Just search for the game.

General Tab

Name: It will be your game name E.g. *Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare*

Description: I normally use the game name, it's up to you.

Details Tab

Version: Type in the game version E.g. *1.7.0.0 (for CoD4 1.7)*

Release: This will be the release date of the game.

Rating: This will be the **minimum** and **required** Rating. E.g. *Min. 3.0 Req. 5.0 (This will vary from game to game)*

Developers Tab

Insert a Developer and the URL, if you know it. *The All Games web page will have them.*

Publishers Tab

Insert a Publisher and the URL, if you know it. *The All Games web page will have them.*

Genre Tab

Insert a Genre or two (E.g. *Shooter* or *First Person Shooter*)

Images Tab

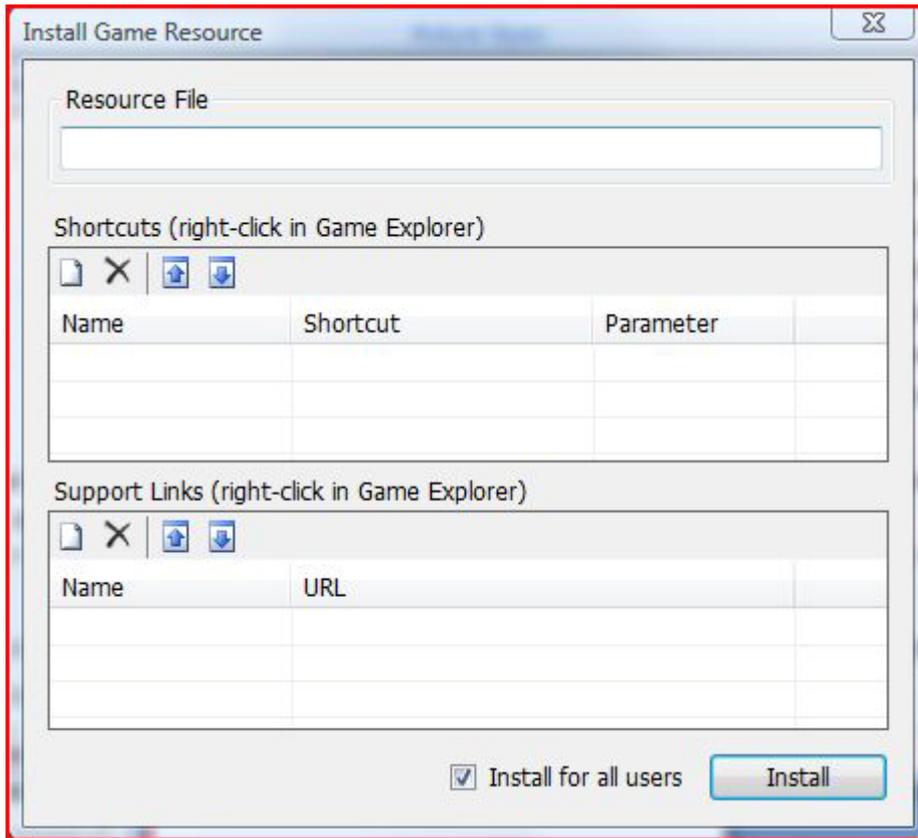
Icon: Browse to the icon for the game ***IT MUST BE AN .ICO***

Boxart: Save the boxart from All Games.com and right click the jpg and open with paint (or an imaging program that you are familiar with) and save the file as a .PNG and exit paint.

Now browse to the new .PNG file

Click Create

This screen will popup.



Shortcuts: Click the white page icon and name it Play then locate to the .exe.

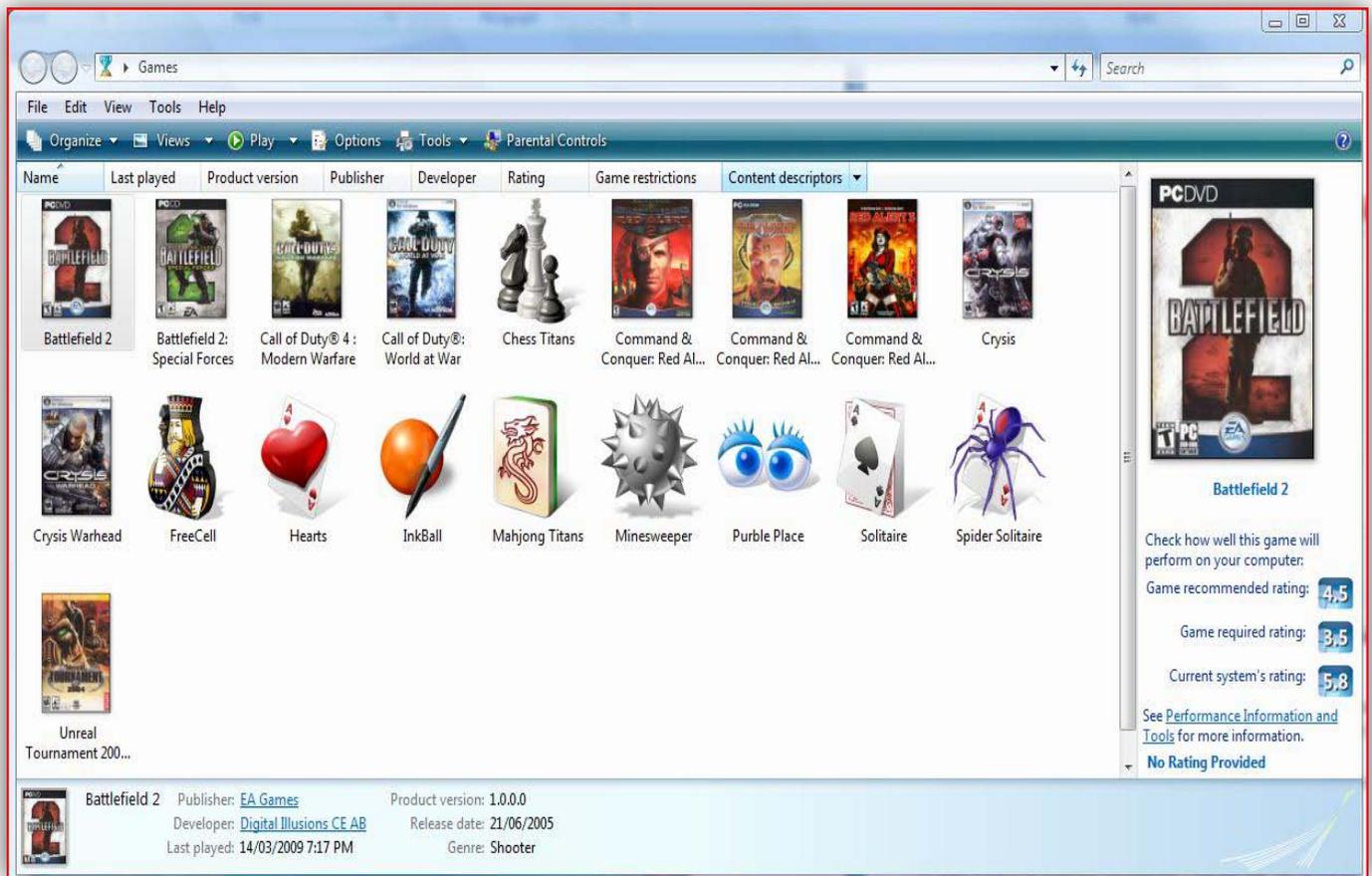
Support: If you know the locations for the Support add the name and path in there.

If you leave the check box **ticked**, all users will see these games in their Games Explorer (if there are other users on the Computer)

If you **un-tick** the check box it will be saved in your user name.

Click **Install**

This is the end result



This Tutorial was created by Colt
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