

Getting Started

Installation Steps

The following steps are necessary to install Train Store.

1. Run the setup program 'TrainStore Setup.exe'.
2. Start the Train Store program.
3. (For new installations only) Set the parameters :-
 - MSTS Location
 - Train Store Storage Folder

Installation of the Software

Train Store is provided with a ClickTeam © installer. The installer program is a single executable file. There are no other files required to install Train Store.

Run the installation program 'TrainStore Setup.exe'.

The running of the Train Store Setup program does not make any changes to your system, other than installing the Train Store software and the manual in its own folder. (No changes are made to your MSTS configuration, Registry settings or files. No files are added to Windows or Windows System folders).

Installing in an Existing Train Store Installation

The software can be installed without uninstalling any previous version of Train Store, provided that you install the Train Store software to the same folder as used for the previous installation. If you do not want to install this version of Train Store to the same folder as the previous version, before installation of this version, you must Unstore Everything! and then uninstall the previous version of Train Store completely (and any Train Store Language Packs you may have installed), and then proceed as a new Train Store installation.

If you install this version of Train Store over a previous version in the same folder, all of your settings will be saved, and Train Store will automatically update its parameter files to the latest version compatible with this version of the software. Once the software is installed you can start Train Store as normal. No parameter setting is necessary.

If you did not install this version of Train Store over a previous version in the same folder, and you choose the same Train Store Storage folder location, Train Store will pick up and use all of your previous 'Explore Mode Consist', 'Maintenance Mode Consist', and Lot Number information.

Note: Once you have installed this version of Train Store, do not re-install the original version, as the Train Store files are not compatible and you will lose information in your Train Store installation.

Setting Parameters

When you run Train Store for the first time there are two parameters that *must* be set. These are :-

1. The location, or Path, to the MSTS folders.
2. The folder, or Path to be used as the Train Store 'In Store' folder.

Train Store offers you a default value for both when you first run it. You can use these suggested defaults, or choose different folders. Your choice can be modified at any time later if you wish.

MSTS Folders Path

When you run Train Store for the first time

- it will first check that your Windows account has the necessary permissions to store the Train Store parameters in the Windows Registry. In the very unlikely situation that this test fails, then an Error dialogue will be displayed and then Train Store will close. It is not possible to proceed unless your account has the relevant permissions in the Registry. If you need more information about this, see the section later in the manual headed 'Registry Permissions'.
- Train Store will then check that MSTS has already been installed on your system, and then if this check is successful, you will immediately asked if you want Train Store to automatically select the MSTS Folders Path.

You should generally accept the Yes default, unless your system has multiple MSTS installations or multiple sets of the MSTS folders which you are changing between. (If you do have multiple MSTS installations or multiple sets of the MSTS folders, then please do be sure to read the information in the Train Store manual concerning setting a 'Fixed' MSTS folder before continuing).

Train Store 'In Store' Folder

Once the MSTS Folder has been selected (either automatically by Train Store, or by your own selection) Train Store will display a window for you to choose the folder that you want Train Store to use to keep its 'In Store' files. Again Train Store will suggest a default option.

The folder chosen can be a new folder to be created by Train Store, or it can be an existing folder.

- Choose the folder, either by navigating to it, using the folder list, or else type in the name of the folder that you want in the edit box above it. If it is an existing folder it must be empty, or else it must be a previously used Train Store Storage folder. Also, the folder must be on the same drive as the MSTS file folders. (It cannot be on any other drive, because it is not possible to move files without copying).
- After choosing the folder, click on the OK button to complete the process. Train Store will register the folder as the Train Store Storage folder (creating it if necessary) and open the main Train Store window.

NOTE: Once the folder has been created, or assigned to Train Store, you should not add or make any changes to files or folders within the 'In Store' folder. If you do so, Train Store may not be able to run properly.

Once you have entered or accepted the suggested settings Train Store will examine your MSTS installation and create the files it needs to be able to operate normally. Please be patient, this process can take several minutes, and only runs the first time you run Train Store. No files are created within the MSTS folders and no settings changed or files changed within MSTS.

When the process is complete, the Main Train Store window will be opened.

That is the end of the installation process for Train Store.

First Steps

When you start Train Store for the first time the **Easy Train Store** page will be displayed. This is a simplified interface for users who do not need or want to use the more advanced features of Train Store.

If you want to use the Classic Train Store interface, click on the **Classic Train Store** tab at the top of the window and the Train Store Main Window will be opened.

Note: If, in your MSTS installation, you use more than one version of the TSECTION.DAT file, see the section **TSECTION.DAT File Swapping** in the Train Store manual. Train Store can now handle this automatically if you wish.

First Steps (Easy Train Store)

On the left hand side of the page there are details of the Routes available in your MSTS installation. On the right hand side of the page there are details of the Activities which are available for the Route which is selected in the Routes list.

Running an Activity

Select the Route on which you want to run an Activity by clicking on it with the mouse. The information in the Activities panel will change to show the Activities which are available for the Route you have selected.

Choose the Activity you want to run by clicking on it with the mouse. The Activity information concerning the Locomotive, Consist, Path and Activity Description will change to show the information for the Activity you have selected.

Click on the Run button. Train Store will survey your MSTS installation and store all of the files which are not needed to run the Activity you selected, and then start MSTS.

Exploring a Route

Click on the **Explore Route** tab at the top of the Activities information panel. The panel on the right hand side will change to an Explore panel showing details of the locomotives which are available to drive on the Route, the Consists, and the Paths.

Choose a locomotive from the list by clicking on it with the mouse. You can change the locomotives list to restrict it to the locomotives used in your 'Explore Mode Consists' only by choosing an option from the drop-down list at the top of the panel. There are four options :-

- All locomotives available in the MSTS installation (the default)
- locomotives used in the 'Explore Mode Consists' for the Route + Global Settings
- locomotives used in the 'Explore Mode Consists' for the Route only
- locomotives used in the Activities contained in the Route

When you choose a locomotive, the Consists list will automatically change to show the Consists which are available to drive with that locomotive.

Choose the Consist that you want to use with that locomotive from the Consist list, by clicking on it with the mouse. The description information at the bottom of the panel will change to show details of the chosen Consist.

Choose the place where you want to start your exploration, by selecting a place from the **Starting at** drop-down list. The **Heading towards** list will then change to show the ending points for the Paths which are available from the exploration start point that you have selected.

Choose the ending point for your exploration, by selecting a location from the **Heading towards** drop-down list.

Click on the **Explore** button. Train Store will survey your MSTS installation and store all of the files which are not needed to run the exploration you selected, and then start MSTS.

Changing the Explore Mode Consists for a Route

If you want to change the Consists in your Explore Mode lists, click on the **Edit List** button which is underneath the Locomotives list. This will open the **Edit ‘Explore Mode Consists’ List** for the Route selected, if you have restricted the locomotives list to those used in the ‘Explore Mode Consists’ for a Route only. It will open the **Edit ‘Explore Mode Consists’ List** for Global Settings if you have restricted the locomotives list to those used in the ‘Explore Mode Consists’ for a Route + Global Settings.

To add a Consist to the list :-

- Highlight the required Consist or Consists from the Consists Available List.
- Click on the Add to List button, or drag the required Consist(s) into the Current List pane. You can choose the Consist from the list as displayed, or you can filter the list down to a smaller number of items by completing one or more of the selections in the Consist Filter box at the bottom of the window. For full details, see the later section dealing with ‘Explore Mode Consists’ and ‘Maintenance Mode Consists’ and Stock.

To remove a Consist from the list :-

- Highlight the required Consist or Consists from the **Current List**.
- Click on the **Remove from List** button, press the **[Delete]** key, or drag the required Consist(s) into the Consists Available pane.





Click on the **OK** button to update the list.

Editing or Maintaining your MSTS Installation (Easy Train Store)


Please remember Train Store operates by storing all files which are not needed for the Activity, or Exploration that you have chosen, so that they are not available to the MSTS installation. So before you examine the installation files or make any changes to your installation, you *must* ensure that the files are in the correct place.





If you do not want to use the comprehensive maintenance features of Classic Train Store, simply choose **Unstore Everything!** from the Tools menu. This will unstore all of the files and return everything to your MSTS installation. You are then free to examine files, and make any changes to the files.

First Steps (Classic Train Store)

In the Routes Activities & Consists pane in the Train Store Main window, you can see the Routes for the MSTS installation laid out in a map or tree form. As you click on each item, any relevant information will be displayed in the Information pane. You can double-click on any Route and expand it to show details of the Route, its Activities and any 'Explore Mode Consists' or 'Explore Mode Paths' assigned to that Route. (If you have just started there will be no 'Explore Mode Consists' or 'Explore Mode Paths' defined for any Route). Each Route and Activity is marked with an icon which shows you visually whether the item is 'In Use' , or 'In Store' . There is a different icon for 'Explore Mode Consists'  and 'Explore Mode Paths'  which are described below. You can also expand any group of items by clicking on the + sign on the left of the group of items.

In the Controls section in the right of the Main window, you will see the 'Tab' with the captions Simulation and Maintenance. This controls the mode which Train Store operates in. It is set to **Simulation**. Simulation mode is the mode used in Train Store to select the Routes and Activities you want to run in MSTS, and then commit the changes to the MSTS files so that you can run the MSTS simulations using the selections you have made.

The first time that you use Train Store everything will be 'In Use' . The easiest way to get started is to Store everything and then Unstore the item you want to use.

- Click on the 'Routes' entry in the tree view at the top of the Routes pane.
- In the Controls section on the right-hand side, click on the **Store Selected Route(s)** button. All of the Routes icons will be changed from  to  denoting that the Routes are 'In Store'. If you double click on any Route to expand it, you will see that the Activities have also been stored.
- Now choose the Route, or Activity that you wish to run in MSTS. (The best performance in MSTS is obtained with the minimum number of items 'In Use', but there is nothing to stop you choosing more than one Activity or Route if you so wish).
- Once you have clicked on the item you want to put 'In Use', click on the **Unstore Selected Activity(ies) or Unstore Selected Route(s) button** in the Controls section on the right-hand side. The icon for the selected item will change from  to . If you changed an Activity from 'In Store' to 'In Use' notice that the corresponding icon for the Route also changes (it is not possible to Unstore an Activity, unless the Route itself is also Unstored).

Committing the Selections to MSTS

The selections you have made so far have been made in memory and they have not yet been committed to the MSTS files. (You can make any number of changes to the 'In Use'/'In Store' status of any of the items in the Routes pane, correct mistakes in selection etc.)

When you are satisfied with your selection,

- Click on the **GO!** button in **Activate Selections** in the controls section on the right-hand side. Train Store will now commit the changes to the MSTS files. In the Status line at the bottom of the Train Store window you can see the progress as Train Store moves the relevant files or folders. The first time that you run Train Store, almost everything will need to be moved, so this first move will take a little time (possibly

several minutes). When the process is complete, the hour glass mouse cursor will be replaced by the normal mouse cursor, and the Status line will be clear, you are free to use MSTs. If you selected the Confirm Completion option then a confirmation dialogue box will also be displayed, requiring you to click OK to continue.

Notice that the indication in the Train Store window title will have changed from [Everything Unstored] [Synchronised] to [Synchronised], and that there is now a warning banner **The current settings are not suitable for editing the MSTs configuration.** This banner is to provide a continuous reminder that the only files which are now available to MSTs are those files needed for the Activity and Route that you chose to Unstore. To edit the MSTs configuration, to add or edit Consists, Activities or Routes, you need all of the files for the Route(s) that you want to work on available to MSTs. You can do this using the Train Store Maintenance Mode. See the later section, describing the Maintenance Mode, for details.

- Now close Train Store and start MSTs. Notice that when you start MSTs, only the Route(s) and Activity(ies) you selected to be Unstored are available on the MSTs menu. For MSTs to run effectively you must have at least one Route 'In Use', and at least one Activity 'In Use' somewhere within the MSTs installation. Train Store will warn you if your selections do not pass these tests. Notice also, that the list of locomotives available for driving is also drastically reduced (there may only be one or two, if you decided to Unstore only one Activity). This is correct, and it is confirmation that Train Store is working and has removed everything except the files which are essential to run the simulation.

If you go back into Train Store and make a different selection of Route(s) and Activity(ies), when you restart MSTs you will see that the range of Routes, Activities and Locomotives is now changed to suit the new selection you have made. By this means you can see that it is possible to run any Activity, on any Route, or to run in Explore Mode on any Route (using the Locomotives that are selected for the Activity(ies) that you have Unstored.

The final facility which you can use in Simulation Mode ('Explore Mode Consists', and 'Explore Mode Paths') allows you to select any driveable Consists which are available in the whole MSTs configuration to be driven in Explore Mode, even if they are not required for any Activity that you Unstored.

Setting Explore Mode Consists and Paths

'Explore Mode Consists' and 'Explore Mode Paths' is a way of defining to Train Store which Consists and Paths you want to be made available to the MSTs configuration, even if they are not required to run any Activity within the Routes that you have selected to be Unstored.

You need an 'Explore Mode Consist' if you want to explore a Route driving a locomotive which is not included in any of the Activities you are unstoring.

You need an 'Explore Mode Path' if you want to explore a Route, starting from a point which is not included in any of the Activities which you are unstoring.

Please remember, once you are using Train Store, all Consists and Paths that are not required for the Activities you are unstoring will be stored. They will therefore not be available to MSTs, unless you add any that you do want to use to an Explore Mode list.

NOTE: The following instructions refer to Consists, but exactly the same procedures are used for Paths ('Explore Mode Path' replacing 'Explore Mode Consist'). The only difference is that there are, no Global Settings 'Explore Mode Paths', because Paths, by definition, are Route specific.

To make a Consist available in the MSTS simulation, simply add the Consist to the 'Explore Mode Consist' List for the Route where you want to use it. You can add the Consist to more than one Route, if required, or you can add it to the Global Settings. If you add it to the Global Settings, then it becomes available for use in all Routes.

To add or remove a Consist in an 'Explore Mode Consist' List,

- Click on the Route where you want to use it, or remove it from.
- Expand the Route, by clicking on the + next to the Route, or double click on the Route name. The 'Explore Mode Consists' heading will become visible in the Route's list.
- Click on the 'Explore Mode Consists' heading,
- Then click on the 'Explore Mode Consists' Edit button. The button will either display the caption 'Edit Global Settings, or 'Edit Selected Route' depending on whether you selected Global Settings, or a specific Route. When you click on the button the 'Edit Explore Mode Consists' window will be opened.
- To add a Consist to the list :-
 - Highlight the required Consist or Consists from the Consists Available List.
 - Click on the Add to List button, or drag the required Consist(s) into the Current List pane. You can choose the Consist from the list as displayed, or you can filter the list down to a smaller number of items by completing one or more of the selections in the Consist Filter box at the bottom of the window. For full details, see the later section dealing with 'Explore Mode Consists' and 'Maintenance Mode Consists' and Stock.
- To remove a Consist from the list :-
 - Highlight the required Consist or Consists from the **Current List**.
 - Click on the **Remove from List** button, press the [Delete] key or drag the required Consist(s) into the Consists Available pane.

Click on the **OK** button to update the list.

If you click on the + sign which has now appeared to the left of the 'Explore Mode Consists' heading, the list will be expanded, and you will see the item(s) that you added.

All that remains to be done is to

- Unstore the Route, or at least one of the Activities within the desired Route,
- Click the 'Include Explore Mode Consists' and/or the 'Explore Mode Paths' checkbox to mark it,
- and then click on the **Go!** Button to commit the changes to the MSTS files.
- Close Train Store.
- Start MSTS.

You will now find the Consists and/or Paths you added will appear in the MSTS menus.

Those are the basics of running Train Store in Simulation mode.

Editing or Maintaining your MSTS Installation (Classic Train Store)

Please remember Train Store operates by storing all files which are not needed for the Activity, or Exploration that you have chosen, so that they are not available to the MSTS installation. So before you examine the installation files or make any changes to your installation, you *must* ensure that the files are in the correct place.

If you do not want to use the comprehensive features of Classic Train Store, simply choose **Unstore Everything!** from the Tools menu. This will unstore all of the files and return everything to your MSTS installation. You are then free to examine files, and make any changes to the files.

Alternatively you can use the Maintenance Mode in Classic Train Store. Maintenance Mode in Classic Train Store operates similarly to Simulation Mode, but it ensures that all of the files that you need to edit or maintain a Route or Activity are available. By using the features in Maintenance Mode you can ensure that MSTS is not slowed down by the large amounts of unneeded items which are loaded if the whole of the MSTS installation is available. At the same time it makes selection of items from the Consist and Stock Items lists in the Activity Editor much easier as only the items you need are present.

There is not space here to discuss the full details of Maintenance Mode. See the Train Store Manual to find out about Maintenance Mode, which you must use to select the necessary full sets of files before editing Routes, Activities and Consists, and find out about the additional facilities and features and ways of using Train Store.