

DirectX Media Redistribution Information

The DirectX Media Software Development Kit (SDK) contains a number of different redistributable packages. Most of the packages are designed specifically for redistribution of the Windows® Media Player. The SDK also includes the Microsoft DirectX® Media Runtime redistributable package.

Which Package Should I Use?

The package you should use depends on your application's needs. If your application is focused on streamed media such as ASF and RA formats, then one of the Windows® Media Player packages will work best. If your application is focused on DVD or Capture, then the DirectX Media Runtime is required. For more information about the Windows Media Player redistributable packages, see MPlayer.doc.

Multimedia File Types

The Microsoft DirectX® Media redistributable package (Dxmedia.exe) no longer takes over most multimedia file extensions. The runtime has been changed such that AVI, WAV, and most other file types will not be taken over by the minimal Windows Media Player it includes. If you prefer that the Windows® Media Player take over the extensions for playback, you will also need to install one of the Windows Media Player Packages described in MPlayer.doc.

DirectX Media Runtime Installation Information

Dxmedia.exe supports two command-line switches, which are: **-NQ** and **-id:**. The required **-id:** switch must be followed by a unique identifier for the application. The optional **-NQ** switch enables the user interface. If used, the **-NQ** switch must come before the **-id** switch on the command line, and the letters "N" and "Q" must be capitalized. If the **-NQ** switch is not used, the installation is totally quiet, and no dialog boxes appear.

An example is shown in the following command line.

```
dxmedia.exe -NQ -id:identifier
```

The identifier should uniquely identify your application. The identifier can be the globally unique identifier (GUID) of your registered application or a unique string. You should not use a string such as "game", but instead use a more distinctive string. For example:

```
dxmedia.exe -NQ -id:myrocketgame
```

- or -

```
dxmedia.exe -NQ -id:my_GUID
```

- or -

```
dxmedia.exe -id:my_GUID
```

The *identifier* is required. If you run **Dxmedia.exe** without using any switches, or double-click on the Dxmedia.exe icon, nothing will be installed.

The same syntax is used for all platforms: Microsoft Windows® 9x, Microsoft Windows® NT® x86, and Windows NT Alpha. Note that each processor has its own executable (either an Alpha or an x86 version).

If successful, the installation returns one of the following success codes.

- ERROR_SUCCESS—installation was successful.
- ERROR_SUCCESS_REBOOT_REQUIRED—installation was successful, but changes will not be effective until the system is rebooted.

If unsuccessful, the installation returns an HRESULT describing the error. Possible common errors include the following.

- E_FAIL—failure. A possible reason might be a corrupt file.
- ERROR_MEMBER_NOT_IN_GROUP—the user must be logged in with administrator privileges to install on Windows NT.
- ERROR_OLD_WIN_VERSION—the Windows NT operating system version must be at least version 4.0 service pack 3.

The install package automatically handles different versions during installation. Files are only overwritten if they are older than the files about to be installed.

In addition to installing the core DirectX media run-time, the DirectX media redistributable package installs a minimal version of DirectX foundation version 3.0 on systems that do not meet the minimum DirectX media requirements. The application can install DirectX foundation separately if the full installation is needed after the redistributable package has been installed.

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