

ColInspector

User Manual

v1.6.0

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0. An Introduction

0.1 ColInspector

ColInspector is designed to behave and feel like the regular Inspector, so using it should be as intuitive and easy as possible. Thus, most if not all of your custom inspectors, extensions and editor plugins should be compatible out-of-the-box.

ColInspector adds additional features and shortcuts over the regular Inspector, so this Manual will introduce and explain all your cool new tools.

0.2 Compatibility and Limitations

ColInspector is **designed to be compatible with all IMGUI and UI Toolkit editors and customizations**, but, it's impossible to guarantee compatibility with plugins that use **injection** to customize the Inspector Window or specific Editors.

These plugins work by finding the Inspector Window, breaking it apart, and inserting extra stuff between its elements (as bars or buttons). While this is not "incompatible" with ColInspector, **this can cause undesired behaviors**, including:

- **Performance:** These plugins usually gather and modify the Inspector every frame. This is already bad, but many keep looking for it even when it's closed, adding overhead.
- **Breaking ColInspector's design:** By injecting extra elements in places we just cannot foresee. This can range from funny visual stuff to making Editors/Components unusable.
- **Errors:** If a plugin doesn't properly null-check or assumes it'll find a regular Inspector Window.

For the best experience, **we strongly recommend disabling injection-based customizations** of the Inspector to avoid potential issues.

If there is a specific feature you miss, let us know at hey@stuff-solutions.com, and we will consider incorporating it directly into ColInspector.

0.3 Workflow Shortcuts

This section provides a list of most **shortcuts** and **features** that ColInspector introduces (*because we get that reading the whole thing may not be your best plan*).

If you want to learn more about any of these tips, **refer to the linked sections of the manual!**

0.3.1 Tabs/GameObjects

- **Middle-click** GameObjects in the Hierarchy to open them as a [New Tab](#).
- You can enable [Switch to Existing Tabs](#) to avoid creating repeated Tabs.
- You can [filter the visible Components](#) of any Tab.
- You can [Override Scene Tools](#) to target Tabs instead of the active Selection.
- You can [drag and drop your Tabs as GameObjects](#) into Inspector fields.
- Hold **Ctrl/Cmd** when reordering Components to [clone](#) them.
- You can [Drag and Clone Components between different Tabs](#).
- You can set **Behaviors on Tab click** to **automatically select** its target and/or **frame** it on the Scene View.
- You can set **Behaviors on Tab Double-click** to **lock them**, **select them** or **frame** them.
- Set a **Behavior when you Hover a Tab** to see information about your targets.
- Components have [additional Context Menu options](#) like **Move to Top**, **Collapse All**, or **Expand All But This**.
- [Right Click individual elements of a multi-selection](#) to open them in New Tabs or remove them from the selection.
- Use the [Local Hierarchy View](#) to check a target's **parents**, **children**, and **siblings**.
- Right-click the **Back** or **Forward History** buttons to [see all steps and jump to them](#).
- Middle-click the **Back** or **Forward History** buttons to [open the previous or next step in a new Tab](#).
- Middle-click the **Debug Button** to enter [Full Debug Mode](#) (*affecting every Tab*).
- Right-click a Tab and choose [Restore Closed Tab](#) to recover your 10 last closed Tabs.
- You can [Customize your Tab Bar](#) to hide **icons**, **buttons**, or the **scrollbar**.

0.3.2 Assets

- By default, **ColInspector ignores Folders** so they don't take over your selection when navigating the Project Window. You can disable this in the [Settings Window](#).
- Click the **Asset Bar** once to [Expand or Collapse the Asset View](#).
- You can [hide Asset Previews](#) to get more Asset View space.
- [Drag the Asset Bar](#) itself to quickly drag and drop the inspected Asset(s) into fields or Components.
- You can directly drag certain Assets (*like AudioClips, Animators, or Sprites*) between Components to [add them as new components](#).
- Drag the [Add Component Bar](#) to resize your **Asset View** and the **Asset Preview** size.
- Right-click the [Asset History Button](#) to switch between your last two inspected Assets or **recover the last closed one**.
- **Click** the Asset path in the [Bottom Bar](#) to ping the Asset, or **right-click** it to **copy its path to your clipboard**.
- Use the **Folder Button** and **Edit Button** in the [Bottom Bar](#) to reveal Assets in your file explorer, or open them with the default external application.
- You can hide or show the [AssetBundle and Asset Tag footer](#).

0.3.3 General Stuff

- You can [Middle-click scroll](#) in ColInspector and use [Smooth scrolling](#)
- Use the **Inspector Buttons** in the [Asset View](#) and the [GameObject View](#) to send your targets to the regular Inspector.
 - *Hold **Alt/Shift** to pop them up in an exclusive window.*
- ColInspector saves your last workspaces in each Scene you work on. You can change how to recover them (*always, ask, or never*) in [Sessions Behavior](#).
- Even with Sessions disabled, you can recover your last active workspace by choosing [Recover Last Saved Session](#) in the **Tab Context Menu**.
- Access a compact version of the [Settings Window](#) by right-clicking a Tab, opening the [Tab Context Menu](#) and choosing **Inspector Settings**.

These shortcuts and tips should help you grasp the essential **features** and **workflows** of ColInspector, making their experience with the tool more efficient.

0.4 Keyboard and Mouse Shortcuts

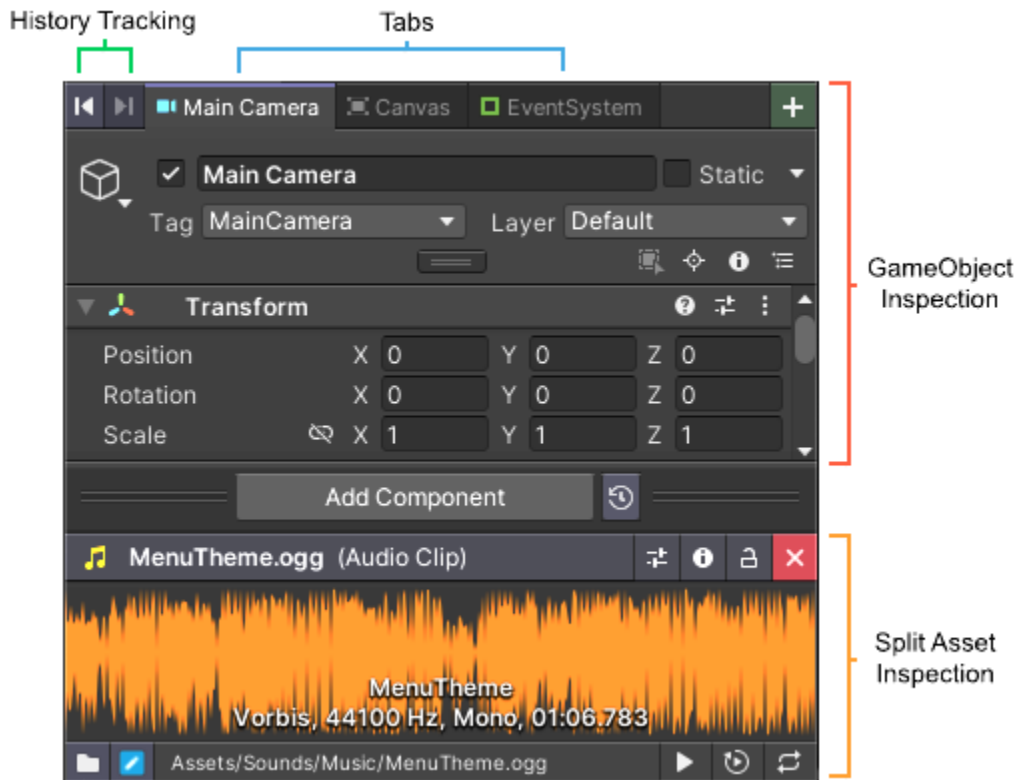
ColInspector also provides **customizable keyboard shortcuts** (*Menu -> Edit / Shortcuts*):

- **Tab History Navigation**
 - Move back in Tab History: **Alt + Left Arrow** or **Mouse 3**
 - Move next in Tab History: **Alt + Right Arrow** or **Mouse 4**
- **Component Management**
 - Filter Components: **Alt + F**
 - Enable/Disable current Component Filter: **Alt + G**
 - Collapse all components: **Alt + W**
 - Expand all components: **Alt + E**
 - Toggle between Collapse/Expand all: **Alt + R**
- **GameObject Control**
 - Toggle enable/disable the GameObject/s of a Tab: **Alt + D**
- **Asset View**
 - Expand/Collapse the Asset View: **Alt + V**
(It will also recover the last inspected Asset if none is inspected)

If you want to suggest new shortcuts, please let us know at hey@stuff-solutions.com.

1. Split Inspection

ColInspector's main feature is the **Split Inspection**, allowing you to inspect **GameObjects and Assets at the same time** in different sections of the window.



Unlike other “custom inspectors”, ColInspector is **100% independent of the Inspector Window**, allowing it to inspect targets independently of your active selection.

ColInspector **has 2 main sections**: The [GameObject View](#) and the [Asset View](#), each independent of the other. Assets will never override your GameObjects and GameObjects will never override your Assets.

Combined with its [Tabs](#) and [History Tracking](#), ColInspector **allows you to work on multiple GameObjects and Assets at the same time**, without needing multiple locked Inspector windows.

One window, unlimited targets.

2. The GameObject View

The GameObject section remains visually close to the regular Inspector, but introduces many **improvements** and **tools**.

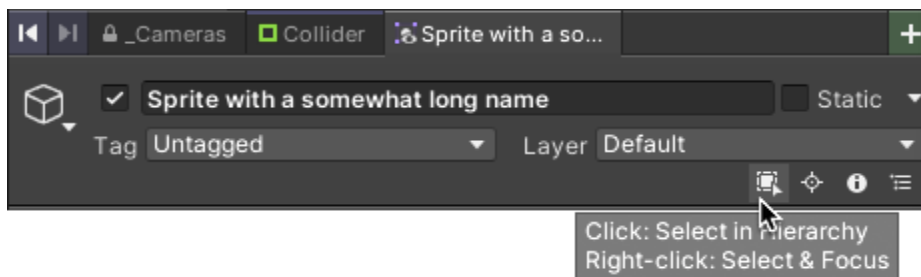
These new features include a [Tabs](#) system, [History Tracking](#), [Advanced Dragging](#), and some new **Buttons** and **Tools** covered in this section.

2.1 New Buttons and Tools

These are features that can be accessed through buttons or are integrated within CoInspector itself. Some buttons may mention [Tabs](#), but they will be fully explained in their own section.

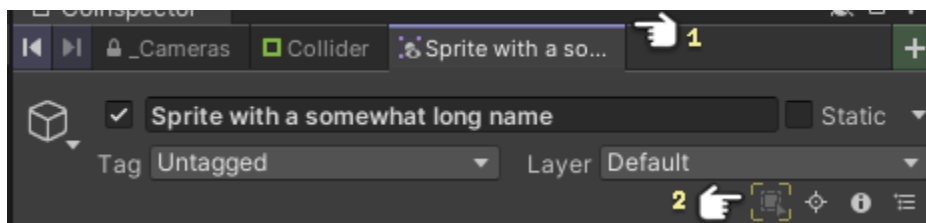
2.1.1 The Select Button

This button instantly selects the target of the active Tab in the Hierarchy. With [multi-target Tabs](#), every target will be selected at once.



To know if the active Tab is already selected, use the following visual cues:

1. **A blue line will appear above the Tab.**
2. **The Select button will show as disabled.**



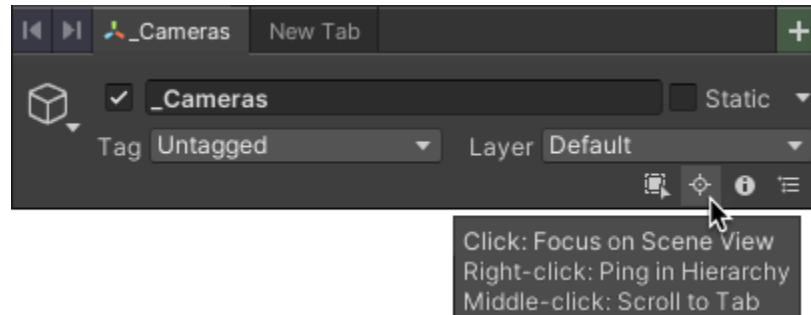
Modes:

- **Regular click:** It will select in the Hierarchy the target or targets of the active Tab.
- **Right click:** To select the targets and **also focus them on Scene View**. If you just want to focus the target, use the [Focus Button](#).

(With both ['Auto-selection'](#) and ['Auto-focus'](#) enabled, you will rarely interact with this button.)

2.1.2 The Focus Button

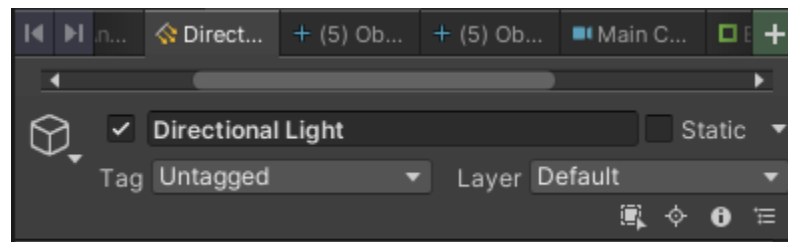
This button is meant to help you center your workspace around your active Tab and targets without needing to double-click the Hierarchy or change your active Selection.



Modes:

- **Regular click:** To **focus the target of your Tab on Scene View**. In other words, it centers your view as if you had double-clicked the GameObject in the Hierarchy.

With [multi-target Tabs](#), the view will be centered on a point between all targets.
- **Right click:** To **ping the target in the Hierarchy**. For multi-target tabs, only the first element will be pinged.
- **Middle click:** To **auto-scroll the Tab Bar to your active Tab**. Useful when you have many Tabs open at the same time.



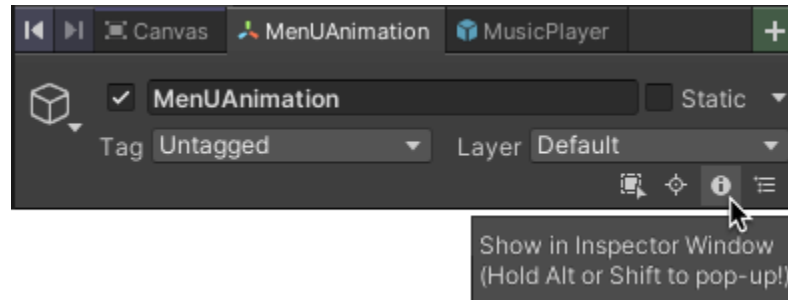
(Example of a Tab after being scrolled back into view)

2.1.3 The Inspector Button

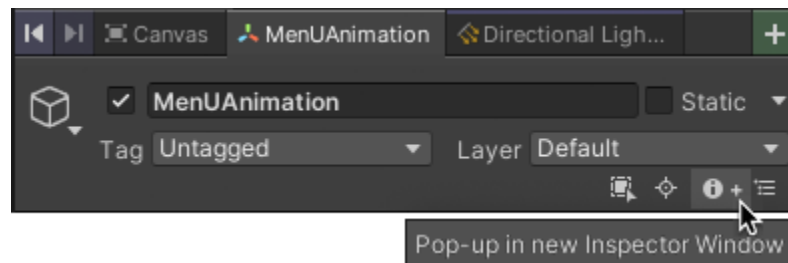
This button is exclusively dedicated to sending the active target(s) of your Tab to the regular Inspector Window.

Modes:

- **Regular click:** It will send the target(s) of the Tab to the regular Inspector Window. If an Inspector Window is already available, it will use it. If not, it will create a new one.



- **Alt/Shift + click:** It will pop up the target(s) of the Tab in an exclusive, locked Inspector Window.



Why is this here?

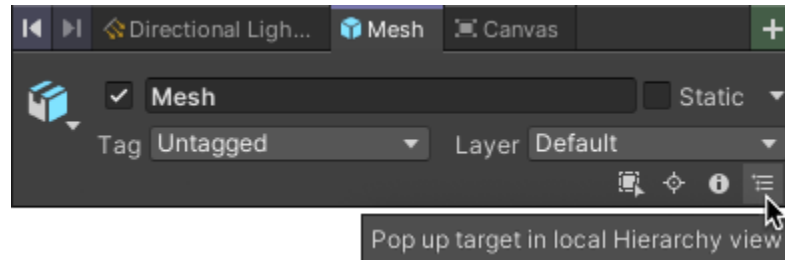
1. Currently, ColInspector **doesn't support multiple windows**, and some users may prefer combining [Tabs](#) with multiple locked Inspectors for certain tasks.
2. ColInspector draws every component as the regular Inspector, but **it's impossible to assume perfect compatibility**. If something fails with a Component or a plugin, this button will help you keep working.
3. **Certain Editor Tools could not trigger outside the Inspector Window. This is not ColInspector's fault**, but a Unity limitation **present in Property Windows**.

We've implemented workarounds to manually trigger these tools and have tested extensively to find all possible cases, but some may have escaped our best efforts.

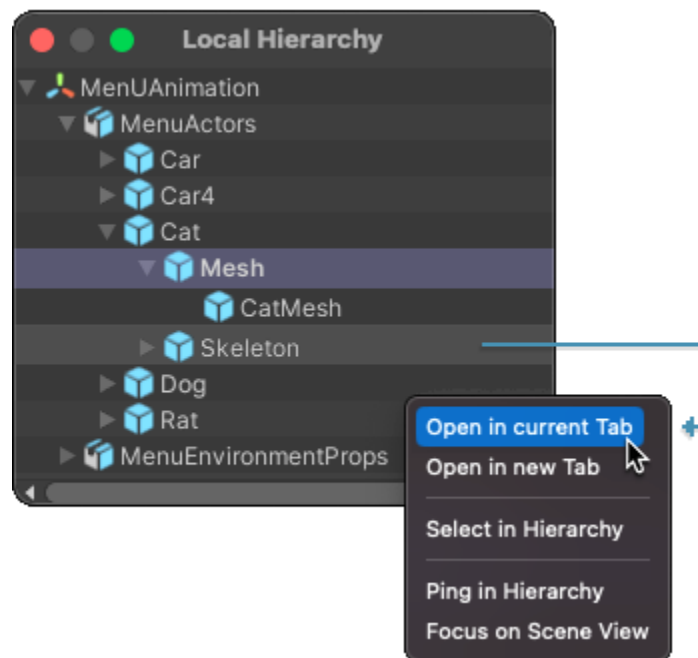
If a component, extension or custom editor fails to show or presents any bug or error, please let us know at hey@stuff-solutions.com.

2.1.4 Local Hierarchy View

This button gives you access to another new feature: the **Local Hierarchy View**. This allows you to **instantly check your target's position in the Hierarchy** without pinging it.



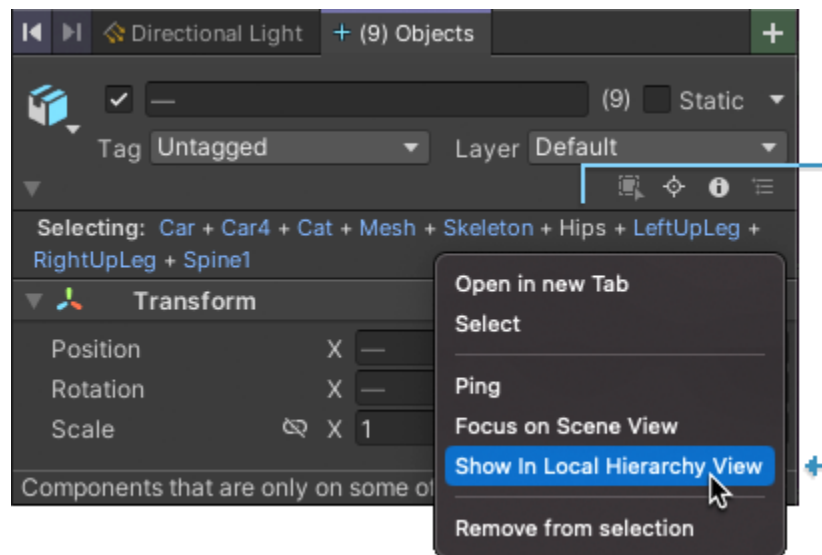
When clicked, ColInspector will pop up the target in a custom, independent Hierarchy Window, where you can easily check and access its parents, children or siblings.



Things you can do here:

- **Instantly check and access the target's parents, children and siblings.**
- **Set a new target for the Tab:** Click any GameObject or choose the option in the Context Menu.
- **Open a GameObject in a new Tab:** Middle-click any GameObject or choose the option in the Context Menu.
- **Select/Ping/Focus a GameObject:** Right-click it to open the Context Menu and choose the desired option.

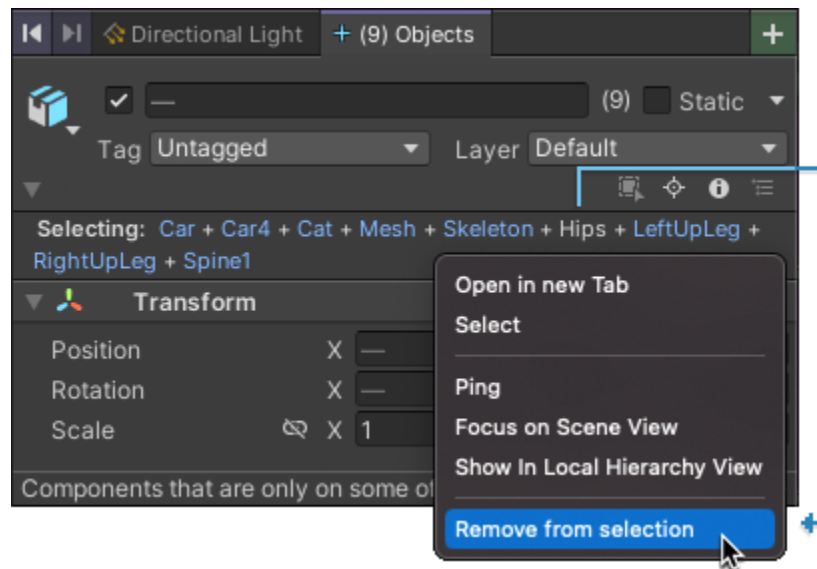
This button is disabled with [multi-target Tabs](#), but thanks to the new [Multi-selection View](#), you can right-click any individual GameObject of your selection to open its **Local Hierarchy View**.



2.1.5 Improved Multi-selection View

When adding ColInspector's multi-target support, we decided to add a little tweak:

A foldable section that lists the content of every multi-selection.



This way, you can be sure of the GameObjects you're working on.

Some extra things you can do here:

- **Inspect individual elements:** Just click it on the list
- **Open elements in a new Tab:** Just middle-click it.
- **Remove elements from the selection:** Just right-click and choose the option
- **Ping and Focus elements:** Just right-click and choose the option.
- **Open elements in [Local Hierarchy View](#):** Just right-click and choose the option

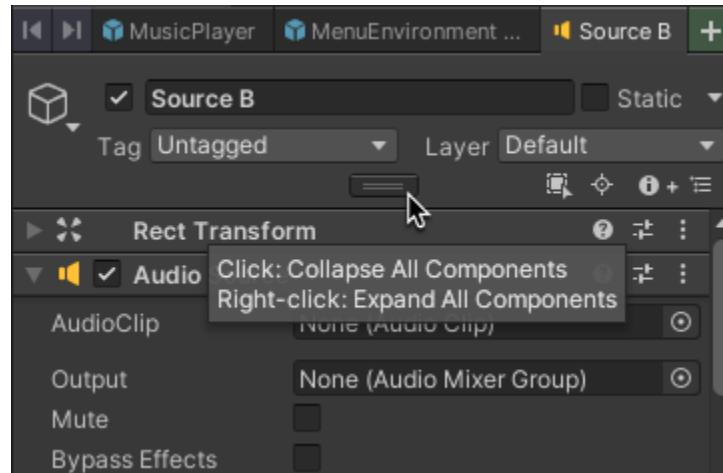
Combined with [Tabs](#) and [History Tracking](#), this should make your experience of dealing with multi-selections way more streamlined and intuitive.

2.1.6 Improved Component Control

ColInspector introduces new ways to quickly expand/collapse your Components and reorder them: These are the **Component Collapse/Expand Button** and some **New Component Context Menu Options**.

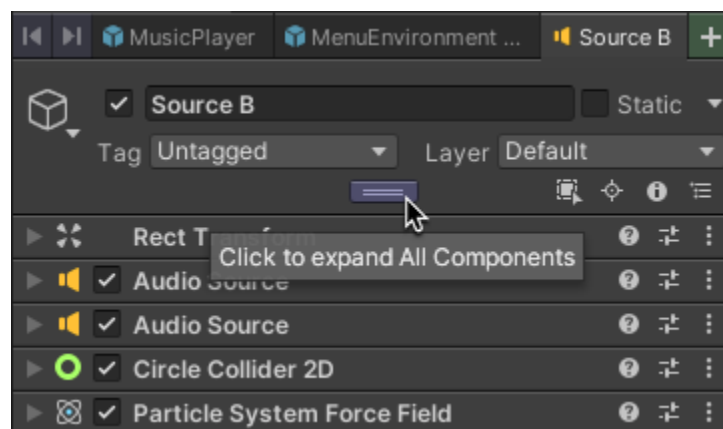
2.1.6.1 The Component Collapse/Expand Button

This button helps you quickly collapse or expand all components in the inspector window.



Modes:

- **Regular click:** To **collapse all components** at once.
 - If all components are already collapsed, the button will turn blue, and clicking it will instead expand the components back.

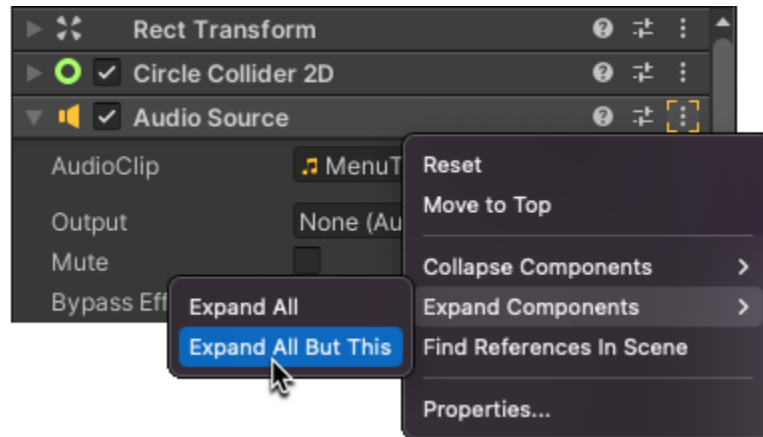


- **Right click:** To **expand all components** at once.

You can show or hide this button through the [Settings Window](#) or in the [Context Menu](#), at 'Inspector Settings/Tab Bar Design/Show Collapse button'.

2.1.6.2 New Component Context Menu Options

ColInspector adds individual options to your Components so you can have even more control over them:



Things you can do here:

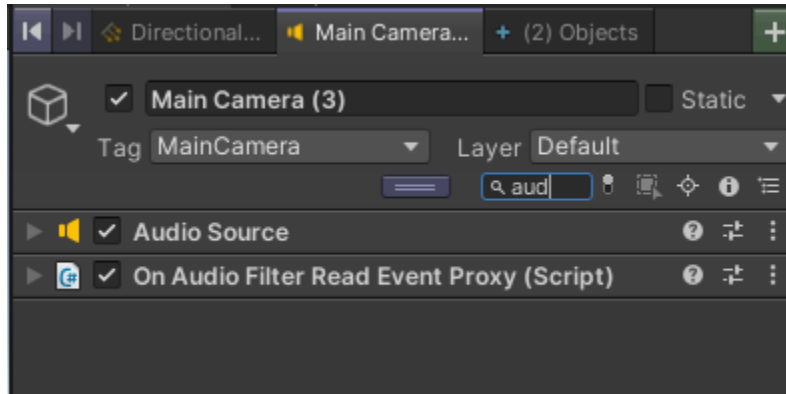
- **Move to Top:** To instantly send a Component to the top of the Component list.
- **Collapse All:** To collapse all Components at once.
- **Collapse All But This:** To collapse all Components, keeping the selected one expanded.
- **Expand All:** To expand all Components at once.
- **Expand All But This:** To expand all Components, keeping the selected one collapsed.

Note: When using "... All But This" options, ColInspector will scroll to the selected Component to help you identify it.

These tools, combined with [Advanced Dragging](#), provide quick and flexible ways to control and rearrange your components within the inspector window.

2.1.7 Component Filter Bar

ColInspector a **Component Filtering** feature in the form of a 'search bar' to only show specific components within a Tab. The filter bar is located next to the **Header buttons** and can be quickly accessed by using the default [Keyboard Shortcut Alt + F](#).



Using the Component Filter:

- Type the desired component name into the filter bar, and only components matching the text will be displayed.
- To disable the filter **without erasing the text**, toggle the filter off using the checkbox next to the bar.

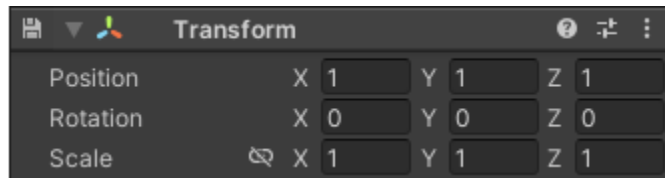
Filter Behavior:

- Each Tab has its own independent filter.
- The Component Filter can be hidden through the [Settings Window](#) under **Header Design**.

2.1.8 Play Mode Save for Transforms

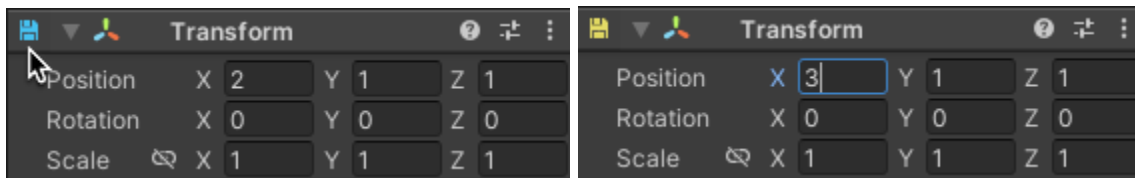
ColInspector allows you to save **Transform** and **RectTransform** values during Play Mode, applying them when returning to Edit Mode.

During Play Mode, a **Save** button will appear on the left side of **Transform/RectTransform**s.



2.1.8.1 Saving Specific Transform values

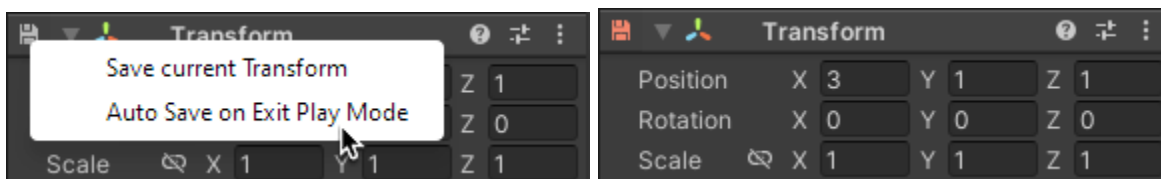
- Click the button to save the current values at any point.
 - The icon turns **blue**, indicating the current values are saved.
 - If modified later, the icon turns **yellow**, indicating the saved values are outdated.
 - If pressed again, the values will get updated.
 - If middle-clicked, the save operation will be canceled.



- If clicked again (*or middle-clicked*), the icon will turn white, cancelling the save.

2.1.8.2 Auto Saving on Exit Play Mode

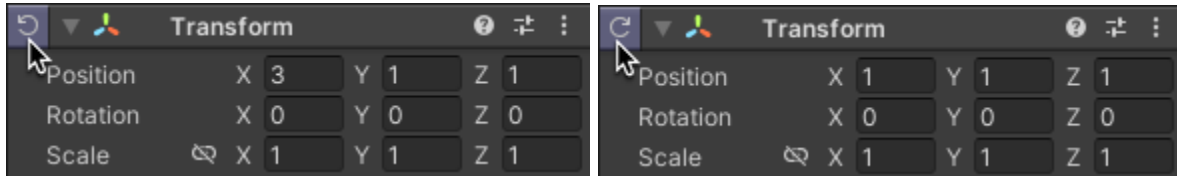
- Right-click the Save icon and select **Auto Save on Exit Play Mode**.
 - The icon turns **red**, indicating Auto Save is active.



- To disable Auto Save, click the icon again or select the option from the context menu.

2.1.8.2 Testing Changes in Edit Mode

- After exiting Play Mode, saved Transforms will show an **Undo** button to revert changes.
- You can now Undo and Redo to compare and avoid any undesired changes.

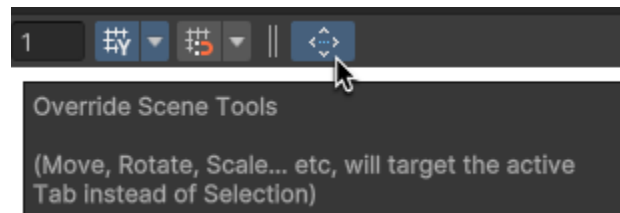


2.1.9 Override Scene Tools

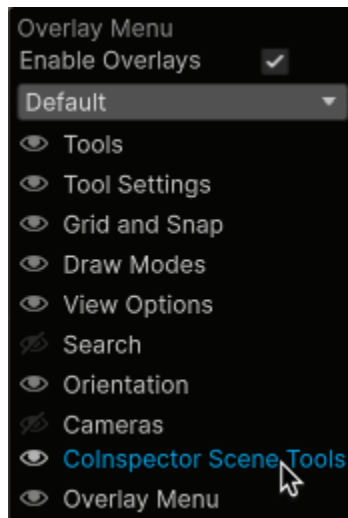
ColInspector offers an **Experimental Feature** to override the default Scene Tools (*Move, Rotate, Scale and Transform*) so they target your active Tab instead of the active Selection.

This feature is only necessary when [Auto-select on Tab switch](#) is disabled.

To enable it, you can turn on the toggle button found in the Scene View:



(You may need to right-click the 'Scene' tab and check the Overlay Menu to make the button visible, depending on your Unity Version).



You can also enable it in the [Settings Window](#), under 'Override Scene Tools?' (the section is only visible when [Auto-select on Tab switch](#) is disabled).

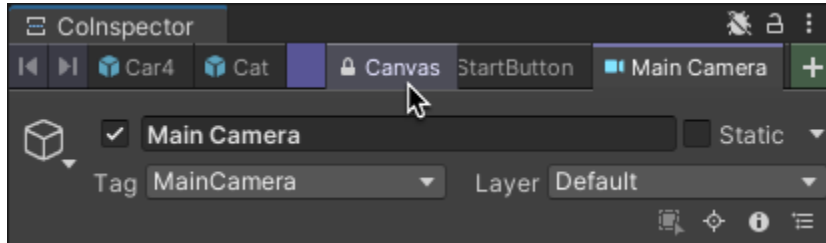
Again, **this is an experimental feature**, so it will not be perfect at times, including:

- The Rect Tool cannot be overridden yet (*it will still target your active Selection*)
- The 'center points' of multiple GameObjects will not always match Unity's default
- Drawing colliders may fail at times
- Selecting multiple nested GameObjects can add overhead to the Editor at times

We're actively improving this feature and fixing these issues, but if they become too annoying to work with... please just disable it!

2.2 Tabs

Tabs are the second main feature of ColInspector. As tabs on a browser, you can create as many as you want, rearrange them, and switch between unlimited targets with a single click.



Each Tab works as an independent Inspector. Unless locked, the active Tab will update as the Selection changes, but **ignoring null selections, empty selections** and, of course, **Assets**.

Some of their main features include:

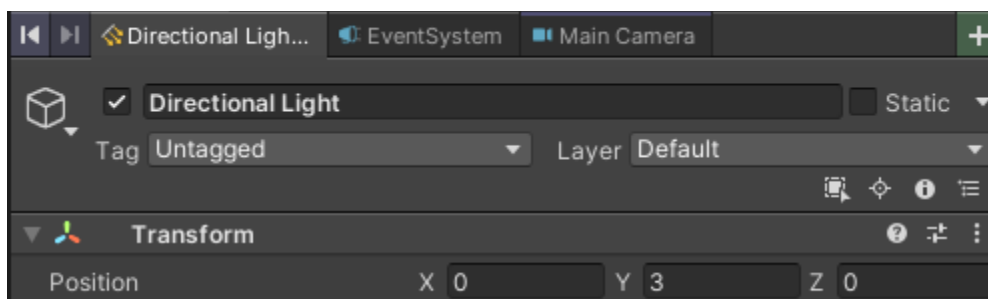
- They **cannot be null**: Empty or invalid selections will be ignored. Only choosing a new target, deleting the current one or closing the Tab will affect your active target.
- They're **100% independent between them**: So you can assign different **lock states**, **debug modes** and combine different **multi selections**.
- **They keep track of your [Inspection History](#)**: So you can freely navigate each Tab's last selections and even recover them if accidentally closed.

2.2.1 Types of Tabs

Depending on the number of GameObjects inspected, a Tab will be a **Regular Tab** or a **multi-target Tab**. Understanding them will help you make the most of your workspace.

2.2.1.1 Regular Tabs

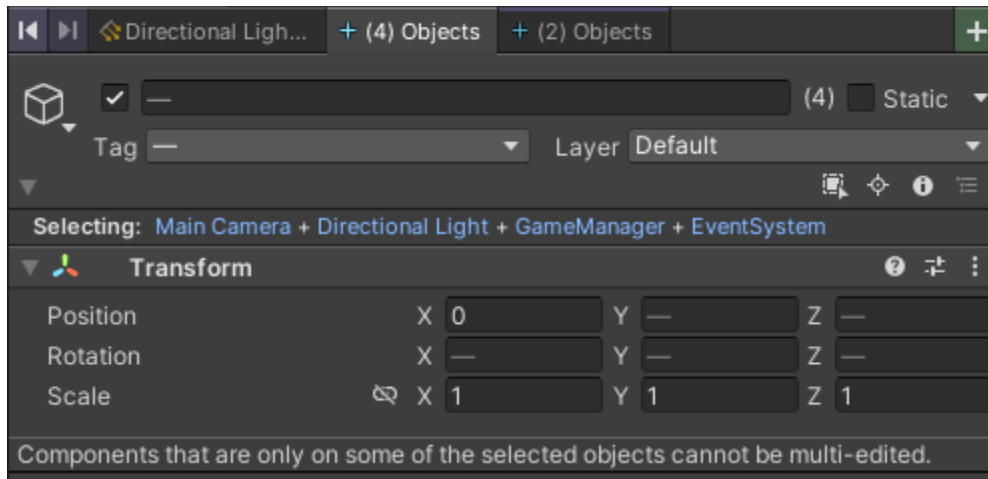
These are the ones that point to a **single GameObject** in the Hierarchy.



Visually, these Tabs will display the name of the target and an icon representing its most relevant component (*or you can disable icons in the [Customization Section](#)*).

2.2.1.2 Multi-target Tabs

When more than a GameObject is selected, the active Tab becomes a **multi-target Tab**. Visually, they will display a blue '+' symbol and the number of objects selected.



Each Tab works as an isolated multi-selection, so you can:

- **Store different selections in different Tabs and switch between them.**
- **Use the [Improved Multi-selection View](#), to check your targets, open them in new Tabs, remove them from the selection... and more.**

Combined with [Individual lock states](#) and [History Tracking](#), it is highly unlikely to lose a multi-selection, even by accident.

Multi-target Tabs work as Regular Tabs do, but they have some considerations to keep in mind:

- **Components can't be reordered via [dragging](#):** But you can still use the Component's Context Menu options to move them down and up.
- **[Local Hierarchy View](#) is not available:** But you can right-click individual elements to individually open them in this mode.
- **Deleting GameObjects will remove them from any Tab targeting them.**

2.2.2 Creating Tabs

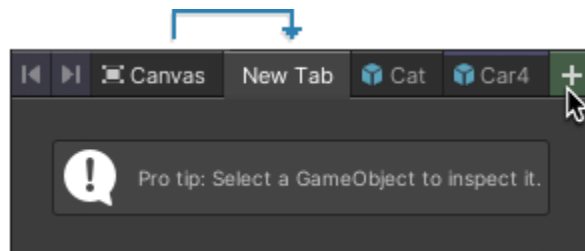
When creating **Tabs**, you can choose between completely **New Tabs** or already **Filled Tabs**.

2.2.2.1 New Tabs

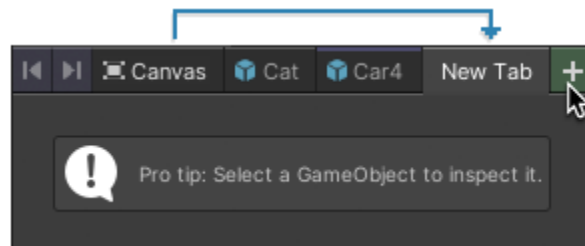
These are Tabs with no target assigned yet. To assign a target, just click on any **GameObject** in the Hierarchy and the Tab will update to register it, as the regular Inspector Window would.

You have the following ways to create them:

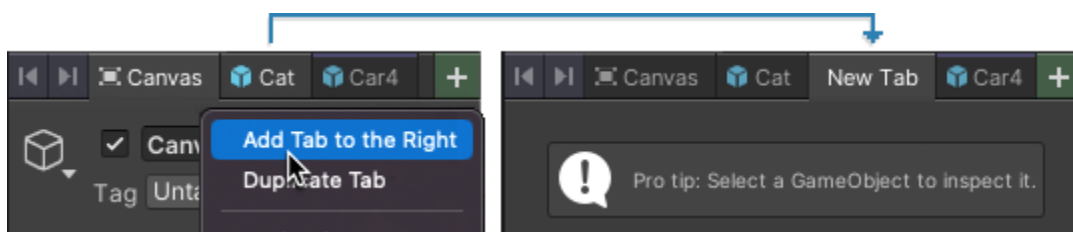
- **Click the Add Button:** To add a New Tab right next to your active Tab.



- **Right/middle-click the Add Button:** To add a New **Tab** to the end of the Bar.



- **Right-click a Tab and select "Add Tab to the Right":** The New Tab will be added right next to it.



Some considerations:

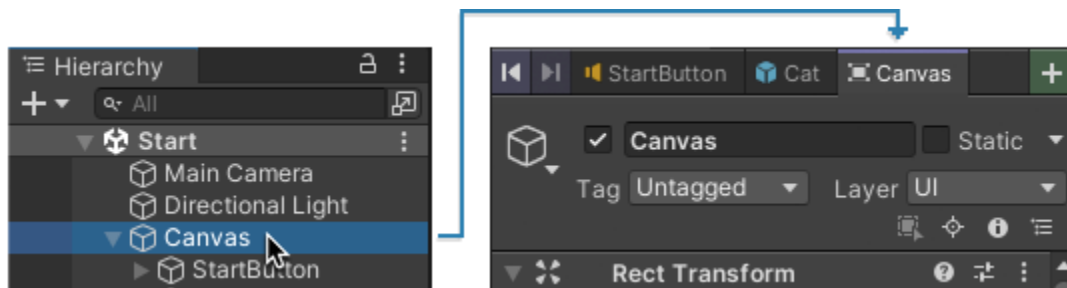
- New Tabs can't be locked or set to Debug Mode.
- Untouched New Tabs (*as in, created but never assigned a target*) are ignored by [History Tracking](#) and [Sessions](#), so they will be automatically erased after **Assembly Reloads, Editor restarts and Play Mode changes**.

2.2.2.2 New Tabs from GameObject(s)

These are Tabs created with target(s) already assigned.

You have 2 options:

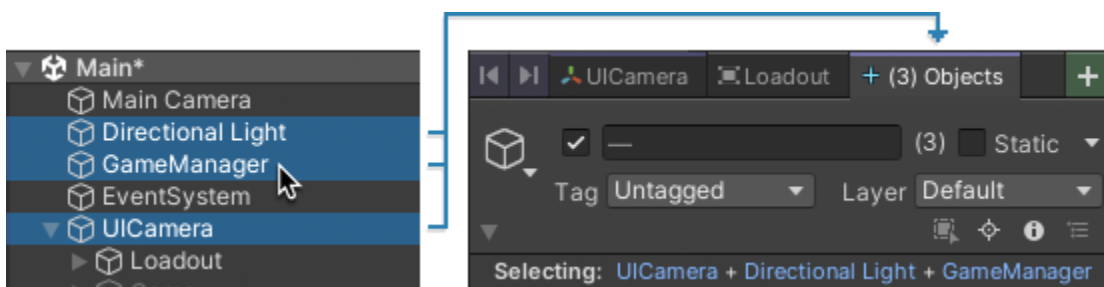
- **Middle-click a GameObject on the Hierarchy:** This will open it as a Tab next to the current one, setting it active.



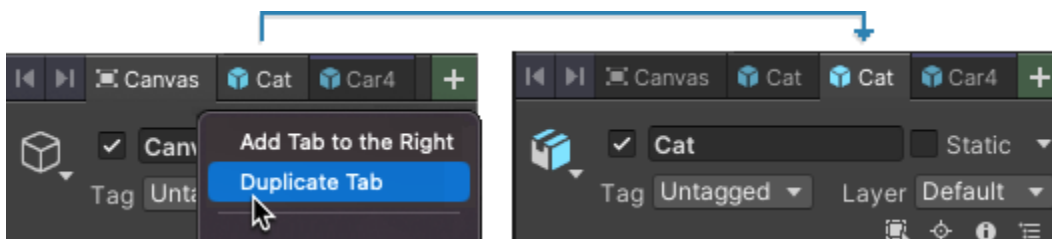
- **Right-click a GameObject and choose 'Open Selection in a New Tab':** This will open it in a new Tab, without setting it active.

To open **multiple GameObjects** as a **multi-target Tab**, the process is as follows:

1. **Have an active multi selection in the Hierarchy.**
2. **Middle-click any GameObject of the selection (or choose the 'Open in a New Tab' option).** The Tab will be created right next to your active Tab.



Finally, you can duplicate any existing Tab by right-clicking it and accessing the **Context Menu**.



2.2.3 Basic Controls

For an easy workflow, ColInspector Tabs are designed to mimic browser tabs.

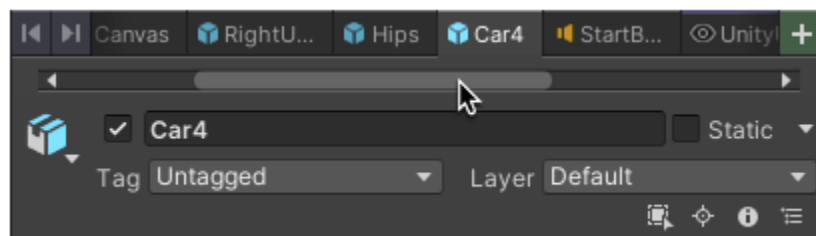
Some things that you can do:

- **Drag them around to rearrange them.**
 - *Dragging Tabs has more uses, like dragging them into Inspector fields as **GameObjects**. This is explained in the [Advanced Dragging](#) section.*
- **Close them with a middle-click.**
- **[Hover them](#) to reveal information about their target(s).**
- **Click them to perform a [Behavior on Tab Click](#)**
 - An automatic action each time you click on a Tab
- **Double-click them to perform a [Behavior on Tab Double-Click](#)**
 - An automatic action triggered each time you double-click a Tab
- **Right-click them to reveal a [Tab Context Menu](#) with way more options.**

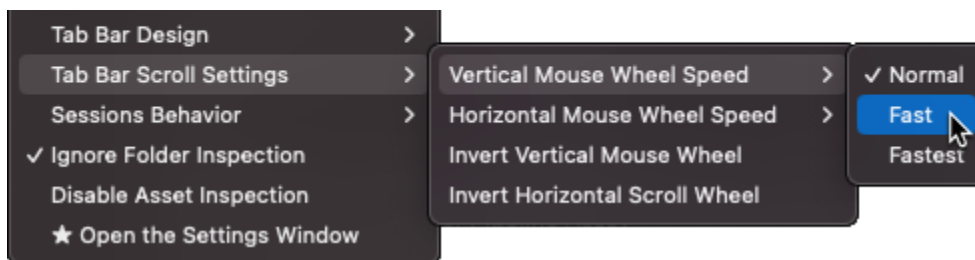
Pretty straightforward!

2.2.3.1 Scrolling the Tab Bar

For navigating the Tab Bar once it starts to get filled, you can either use the **Scrollbar** that will show up, or simply scroll around using any of your **mouse wheels**.



The **Scrollbar visibility**, the **scroll speeds** and **scroll directions** of both mouse wheels can be modified in the [Settings Window](#), and within **Inspector Settings**, in the [Context Menu](#).



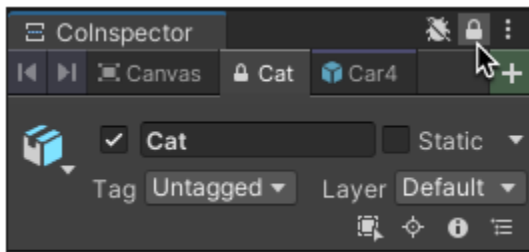
2.2.4 Lock State and Debug Mode

2.2.4.1 Individual Modes

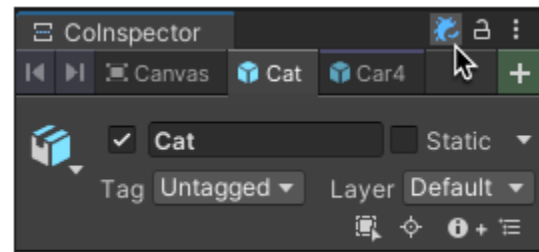
Each Tab has its unique **Lock State** and **Debug Mode**. Locking a Tab will keep its target(s) fixed until you unlock it again, and the Debug Mode will show or hide the debug inspector.

To change them, you have the following options:

- **The upper right buttons:** These will affect the active Tab, and as such, they also serve as visual indicators of the current state of the tab.

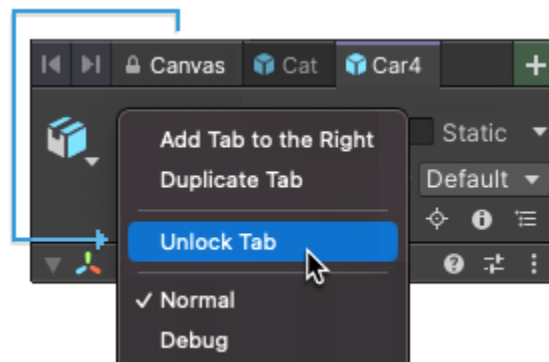


Example of a locked Tab.

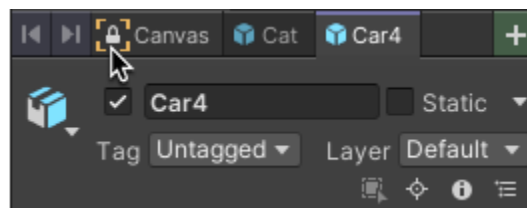


Example of a Tab in Debug Mode

- **The [Context Menu](#):** Right-click a Tab to change modes without switching tabs.



- **The Locked Tab Icon:** The icon that appears when a Tab is locked can be clicked to unlock the Tab. This icon will appear even if you disable icons in [Tab Customizations](#).



- **Setting your [Behavior On Tab Double-Click](#) to Lock/Unlock:** This will make double-clicking Tabs immediately switch between locked and unlocked.

Keep in mind that Debug Modes and Lock States cannot be applied to New Tabs.

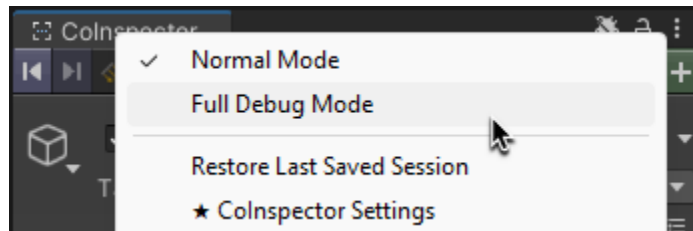
2.2.4.2 Full Debug Mode

Full Debug Mode temporarily enables debug inspectors for **all Tabs**, regardless of their individual Debug Mode settings.

This mode is useful for general debugging across multiple Tabs simultaneously, and entering it **will not affect your individual Tab modes** on exit.

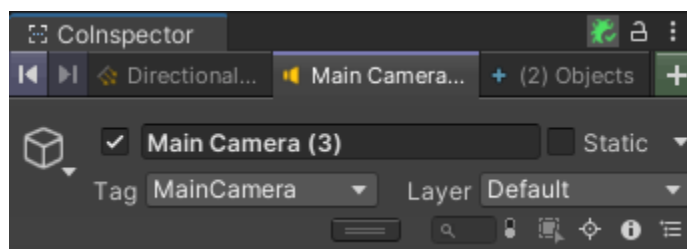
- **Entering Full Debug Mode:**

- Middle-click the Debug button of any Tab.
- Right-click the Debug button and select **Enter Full Debug Mode**.
- Right-click the ColInspector Window Tab and select **Full Debug Mode**.



- **Exiting Full Debug Mode:**

- Click the Debug button of any Tab again.
- Right-click the Debug button and select **Exit Full Debug Mode**.
- Right-click the ColInspector Window Tab and select **Normal Mode**.



When active, the Debug button will be **green** (*instead of blue*).

2.2.5 Behaviors on Tab Click

ColInspector provides some automatic actions when switching Tabs: **Auto-selection** and **Auto-Focus on Scene View**.

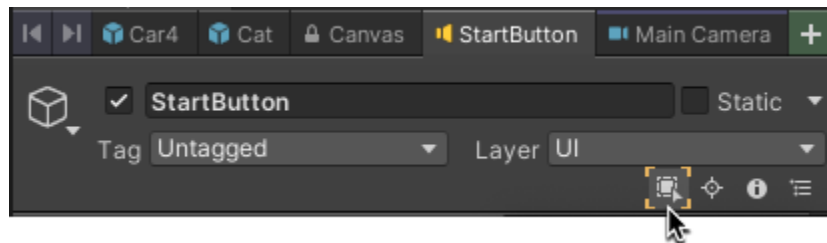
2.2.5.1 Auto-selection (*Disabled by default*)

When enabled, switching Tabs will also select the target(s) of it in the Hierarchy, **just as if you had clicked the [Select Button](#)**.

Setting Auto-selection to on or off has different use cases. We recommend reading about both and combining them based on your tasks and preferred workflow.

Auto-selection Off

- **Switching Tabs won't affect your active Selection**
- **Active Editor Tools will keep working after switching Tabs**
 - So if you're editing an Animation or a Collider, switching to inspect another target won't end the process.
- **Global Scene Tools will still be linked to your active Selection**
 - This includes Move Tool, Rotate Tool, Scale Tool... etc.
 - **Press the [Select Button](#)** if you need them to point to your Tab's target(s).



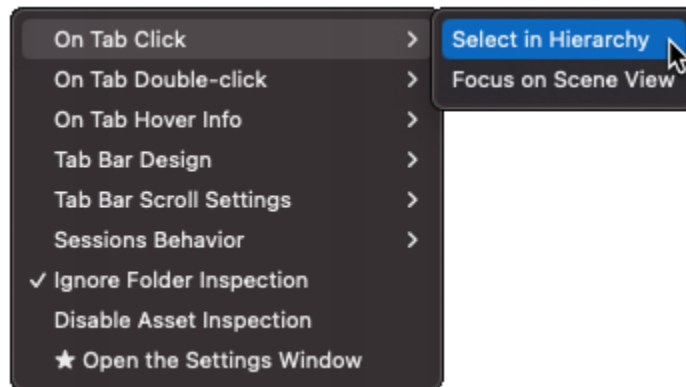
This setting is recommended for tasks that don't require Scene Tools (*Move, Rotate, etc.*) and when you don't want to lose your current selection or active Editor Tool.

Auto-selection On

- **When you switch to a different Tab, its target will be selected in the Hierarchy**
 - In the case of [multi-target Tabs](#), all GameObjects will be selected at once.
- **Global Scene Tools will point to the new Tab's target(s) by default**
 - This includes Move Tool, Rotate Tool, Scale Tool... etc.
- **Active Editor Tools may close when switching Tabs**
 - So if you are editing an Animation or a Collider, the process will end.

This setting is recommended when working with Scene Tools (*Move, Scale, Rotate...*) and when you want to be sure you're targeting the content of your active Tab.

You can turn on and off Auto-selection in the [Settings Window](#) or in the [Context Menu](#), via 'Inspector Settings/On Tab Click/Select in Hierarchy'.

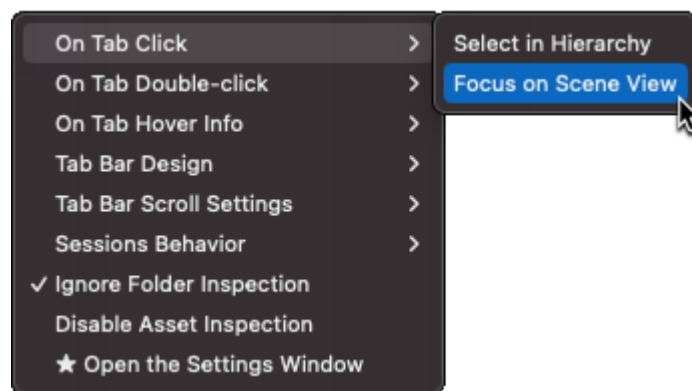


Pro Tip: You can combine **Auto-selection off** with [Behavior on Tab Double-click](#) -> 'Select Tab Target(s)' for a half way approach.

2.2.5.2 Auto-frame on Scene View *(Disabled by default)*

When enabled, **ColInspector will automatically focus the target(s) of your Tabs** when you switch Tabs, just as if you had clicked the [Focus Button](#).

You can change this setting at any moment in the [Settings Window](#), or in the [Context Menu](#) by selecting 'Inspector Settings/On Tab Click/Frame on Scene View'



2.2.6 Behavior on Tab Double-click

ColInspector also lets you perform **actions when double-clicking a Tab**.

You can only have one active behavior, so choose wisely!

- **Lock/Unlock Tabs:** To Lock or Unlock the Tab immediately.
- **Select Tab Target(s):** This will select the targets in the Hierarchy, just like clicking the [Select Button](#). *(A great option to have when Auto-selection is off!)*
 - Enabled by default!
- **Frame Tab Target(s) on Scene View:** Double-clicking a Tab will focus its target as if you had used the [Focus Button](#) *(or had double-clicked the target in the Hierarchy)*.
- **Show in Local Hierarchy View:** Double-clicking a Tab will work as pressing the [Local Hierarchy View](#) button. This is not available in [multi-target Tabs](#).

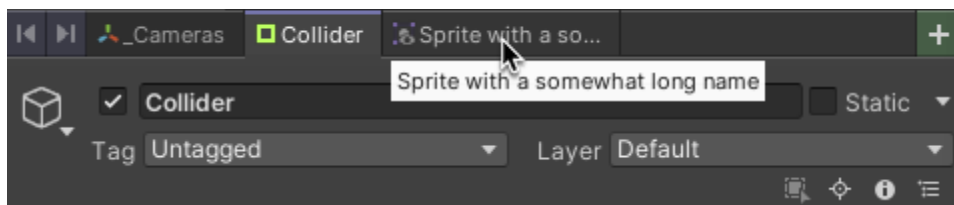
You can customize these behaviors in the [Settings Window](#) or in the [Context Menu](#), under 'Inspector Settings/On Tab Double-click'.

2.2.7 Behavior on Tab Hover

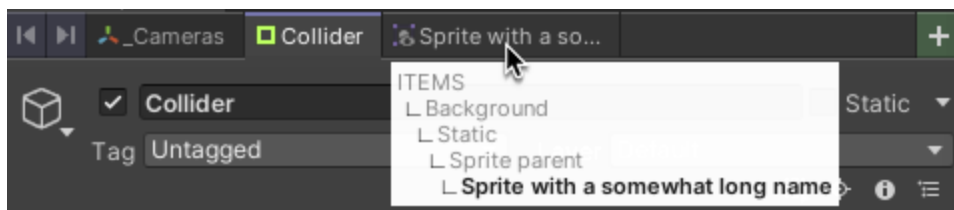
By default, hovering a Tab for a couple of seconds will provide information about its target(s).

You can decide how much information you want to see:

- **Name only:** This option will simply provide the full name of the hovered Tab.



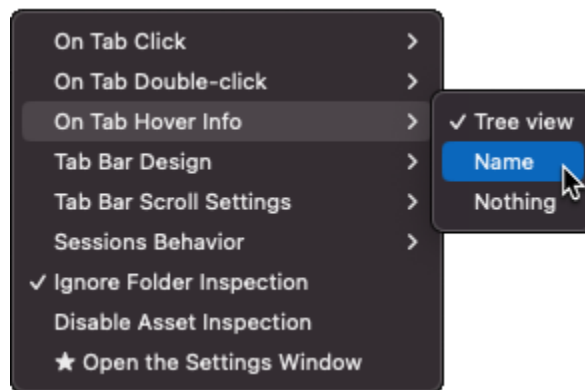
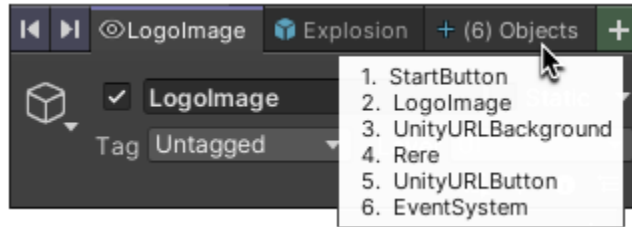
- **Tree view:** This will provide **the relative position of the GameObject** in the Hierarchy.
 - Helpful to tell apart GameObjects with similar names and repeated groups.
 - **You can only see up to 4 parents.**



- **Nothing:** Y-you can probably guess this one.

2.2.7.1 Hovering multi-target Tabs

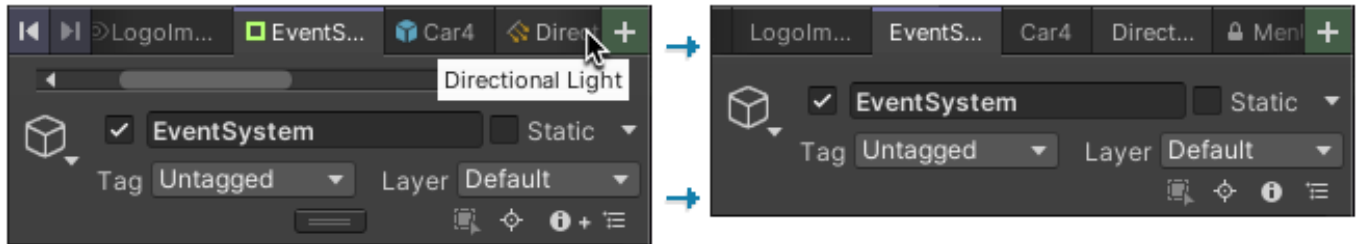
Unless set to 'Nothing', hovering [multi-target Tabs](#) will always show the names of the **GameObjects** included in the selection as a list.



You can change the **Tab Hover Behavior** in the [Settings Window](#) and within 'Inspector Settings/On Tab Hover Info' in the [Context Menu](#).

2.2.8 Tab Bar Customization

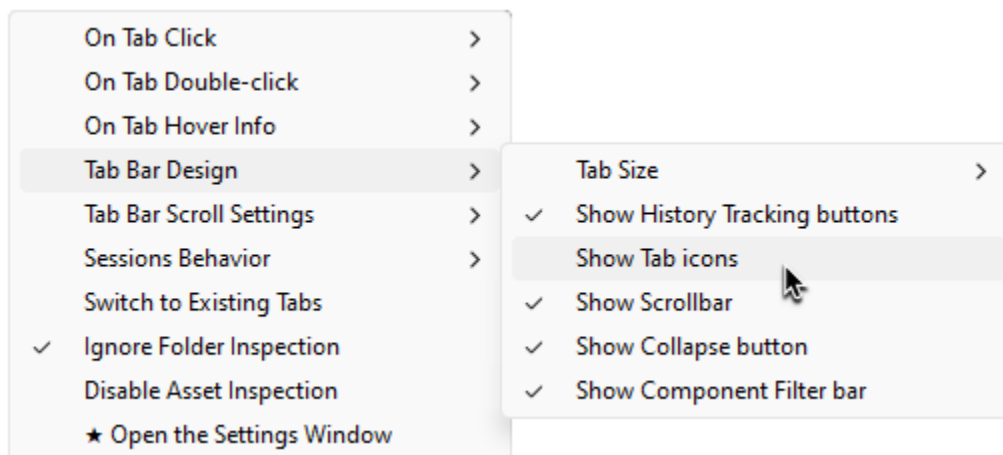
The **Tab Bar** can be slightly customized to remove some visual elements or change the overall design of them.



Some elements that can be changed:

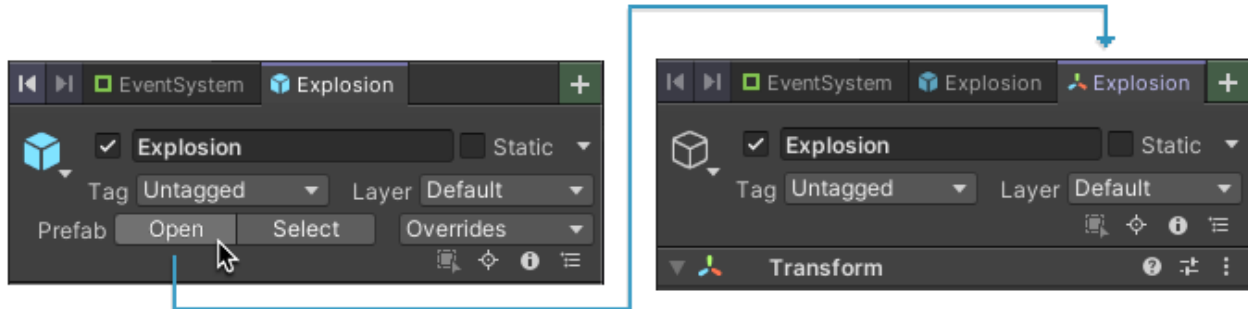
- **Tab size**
- **Tab Icons**
 - The locked bar icon will still show up!
- The [History Tracking](#) buttons
 - [Closed Tab Recovery](#) and [Sessions](#) will keep working.
- The [Collapse/Expand button](#)
- The **Tab Bar Scrollbar**
 - You can still use the mouse wheels to scroll.
- The [On Tab Hover Info Text](#)
 - By setting the option to **'Nothing'**.

All these and more options can be individually modified in the [Tab design](#) section of the [Settings Window](#) and in the [Context Menu](#).



2.2.9 Tabs and Prefab Mode

When you **Open a Prefab Asset** in **Prefab Mode** ColInspector will **automatically create a dedicated Tab** for it, and its name **will turn blue**.

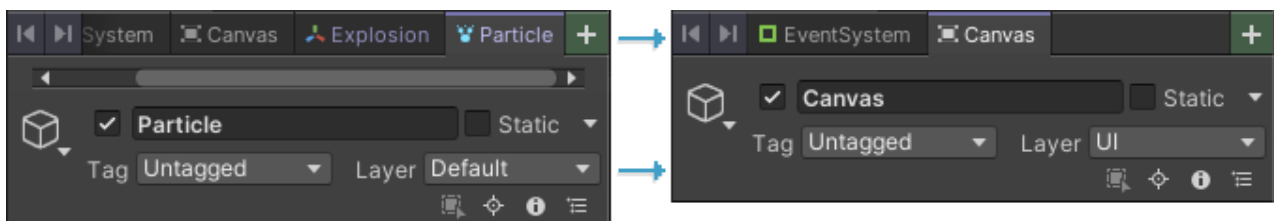


(Opening a Prefab Asset from its Prefab Instance)

*This doesn't mean inspecting Prefab Instances in the scene, but opening a **Prefab Asset in Context or Isolation**. This is done via the Prefab 'Open' Button, by double-clicking a Prefab Asset, or opening a Prefab Asset via the [Asset View](#).

Keep in mind the following things while in Prefab Mode:

- **You can fully inspect the content of the Prefab with all Tab features:** This includes [lock/debug modes](#), [multi-target Tabs](#), [History Tracking](#), and so on.
- **Existing Tabs can be accessed and used:** Tabs targeting the active scene can still be fully inspected, allowing you to check them, modify them, or drag them into the Prefab.
- **Tabs created in Prefab Mode will be closed once you exit it:** As the targets no longer exist once closed. Records of the Prefab found in other Tabs will also be removed.
- **Existing Tabs may be closed too:** If you switch to an already existing Tab and start inspecting the Prefab, it will close when exiting Prefab Mode if no valid target is found between its 10 [History Steps](#).
- **Blue names and the lack of a Prefab icon will help you identify Prefab Tabs**



(Exiting Prefab Mode, ColInspector deletes all Prefab Tabs)

For clarity, we recommend using new, dedicated Tabs when working in Prefab Mode.

2.3 History Tracking

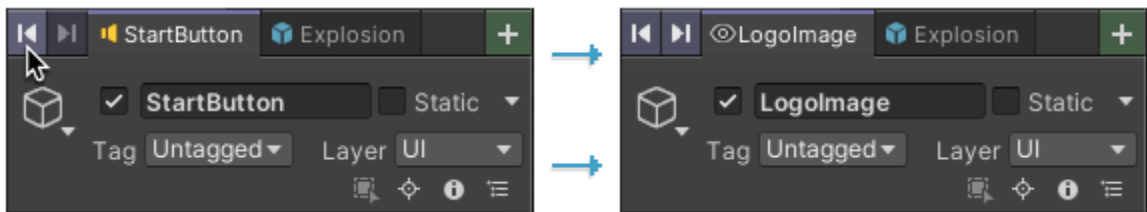
As an internet browser, each **Tab** allows you to navigate its last targets at any point.

A Tab can remember up to the last 10 selections (single or multiple).

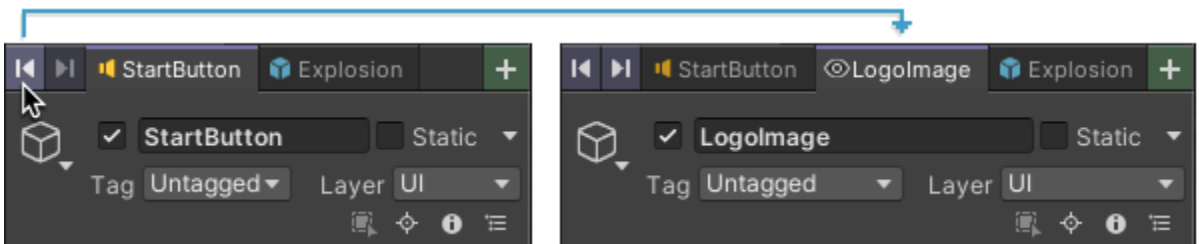
2.3.1 Basic Controls

You have the following options:

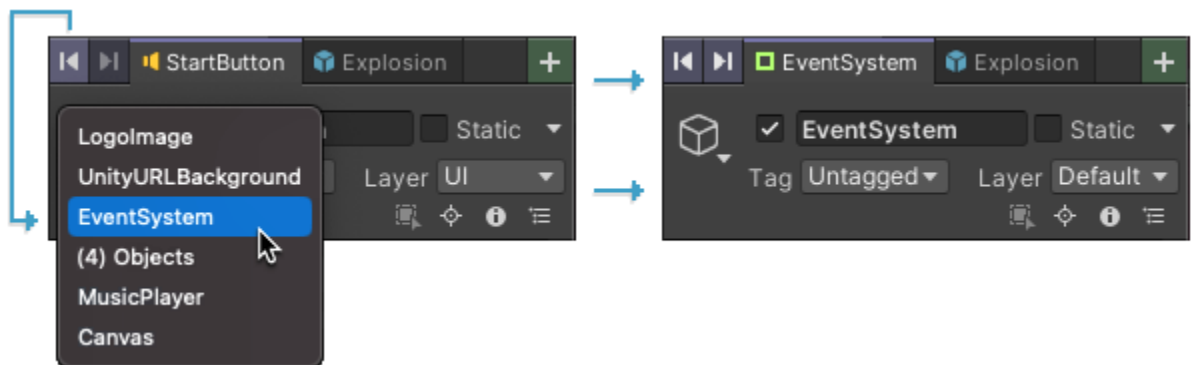
- To move back or forth, use the **Back/Forward** buttons.
(Shortcut: **Alt+Left/Right** or **Mouse 3/Mouse 4**)



- To open the step as a new Tab, **middle-click** the **Back** and **Forward** buttons.
 - The new Tab will inherit the original Tab's history tracking.



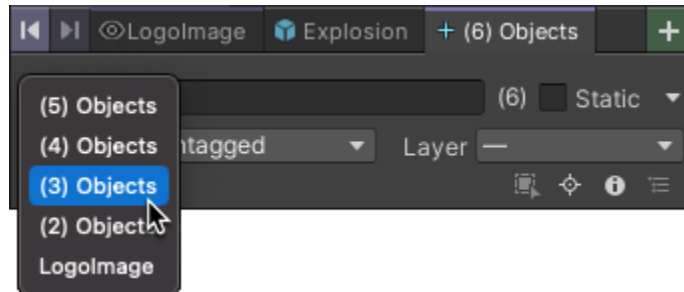
- To jump to a specific history step, **right-click** the **Back** and **Forward** buttons and choose your desired target from the list.



It's currently not possible to open specific steps in new Tabs, as Unity's default Context Menus don't distinguish mouse button clicks. We're working on a custom solution.

2.3.2 Considerations and Limitations

- When working with **multi-selections**, each change is considered a **History Step**. So, when moving back or forward, Colnspector will undo or redo the selection.

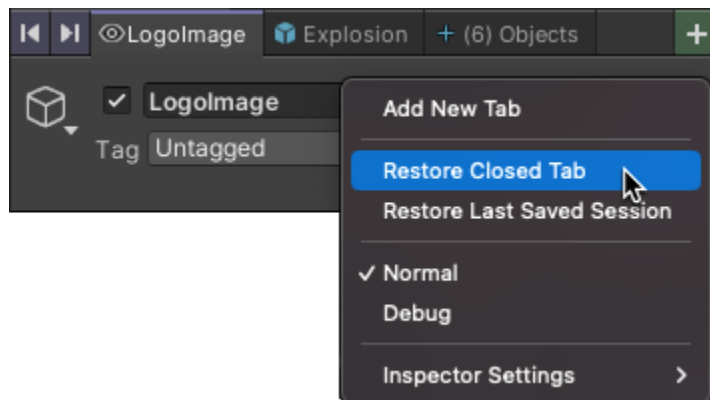


- With [Auto-selection](#) on, going back/forward **will also update your active Selection**.
- **A locked Tab can move back and forward.** This is expected behavior, so Tabs can stay locked while taking advantage of **History Steps**.
- Selecting a new target **after** moving back **will remove existing forward steps**. This is expected behavior based on how web browsers manage history navigation.
- **Inactive GameObjects won't survive History records after restarting the Editor** due to a [Unity limitation](#).
- When exiting [Prefab Mode](#), Colnspector will remove all records of said Prefab from your Tabs or close them if no valid target is found. This is expected behavior to avoid leaving empty [New Tabs](#) all over the place.

2.3.3 Restoring Closed Tabs

Colnspector also includes a handy way to recover **your last 10 closed Tabs**.

Simply **right-click** a **Tab** (or the **Tab Bar**) and pick the option in the [Context Menu](#):



Every recovered Tab will carry over its entire History!

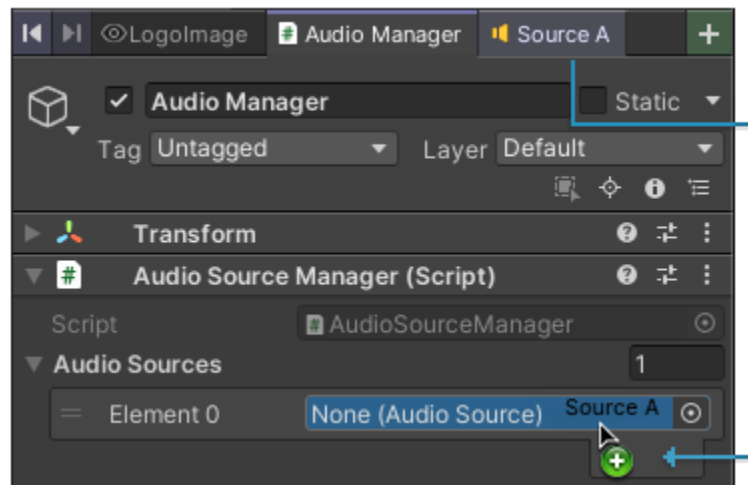
2.4 Advanced Dragging

Inspector expands on dragging for a seamless flow between [Tabs](#), Components and Assets.

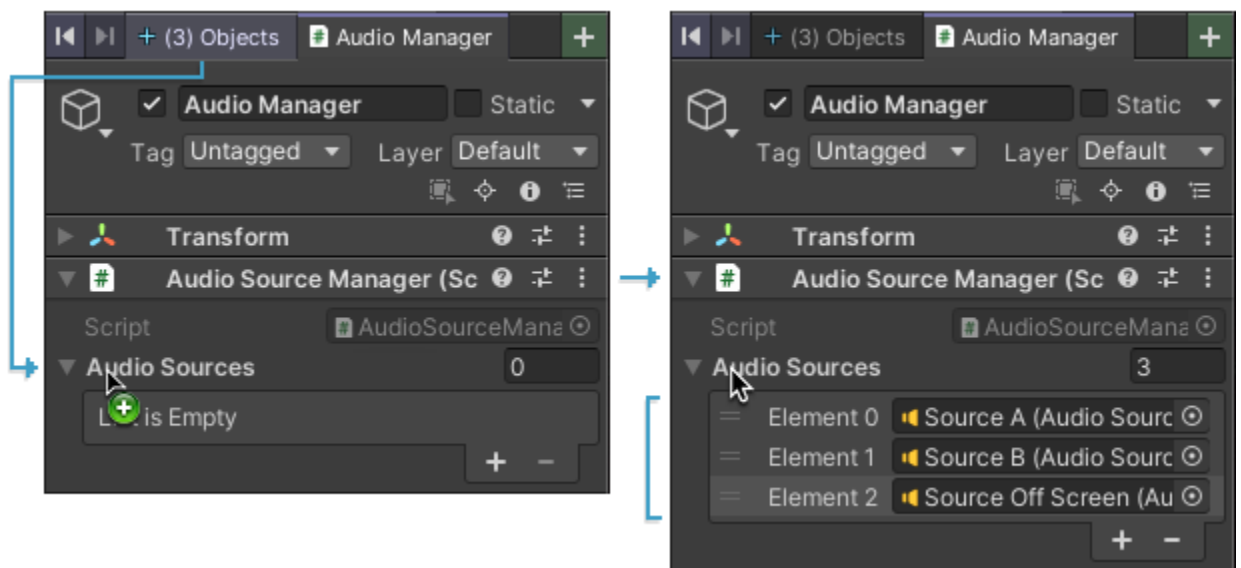
2.4.1 Dragging Tabs onto Fields

Tabs can be dragged for more than just reordering them:

- **Drag a Tab downwards** to start dragging **the GameObject itself**, so you can drop it in any **Component** or **Asset** field without switching Tabs.



- Dragging [multi-target Tabs](#) will include all the targets within it, so you can fill in arrays with a single drop.

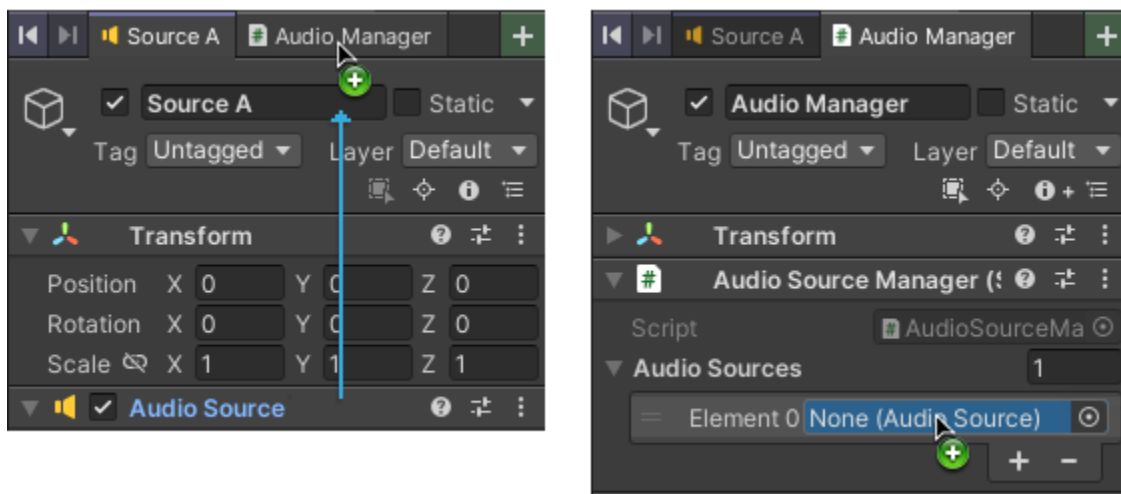


2.4.2 Dragging Components, GameObjects or Assets onto Tabs

Sometimes, you will need to drag a Component, GameObject or an Asset onto a field on a different Tab.

To streamline this process, you can simply:

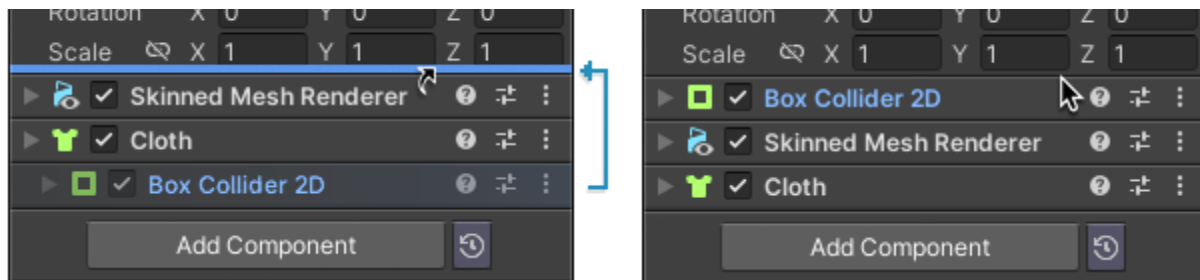
1. **Drag the Component/GameObject/Asset and hover the Tab.**
2. **The Tab will become active after a few seconds.**
 - *You may need to move the cursor while hovering!*
3. **Drop your object(s) or keep switching Tabs until you find the target.**



Note: Dragging Tabs directly onto other Tabs isn't supported yet!

2.4.3 Dragging and Cloning Components

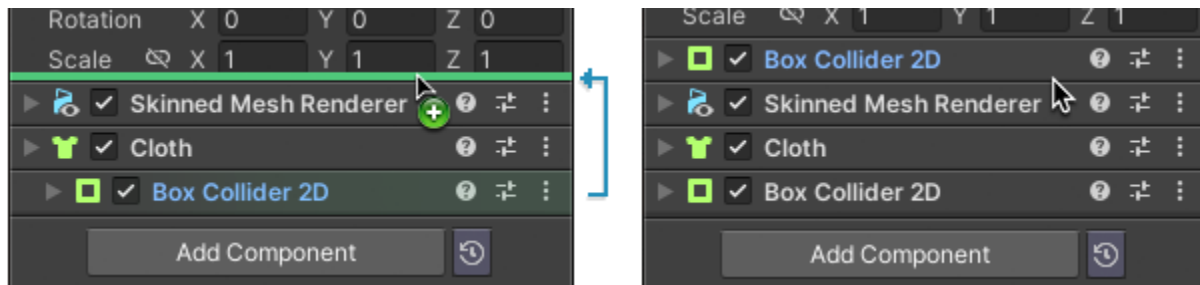
Of course, you can drag Components to reorder them...



...but ColInspector takes it a *bit* further:

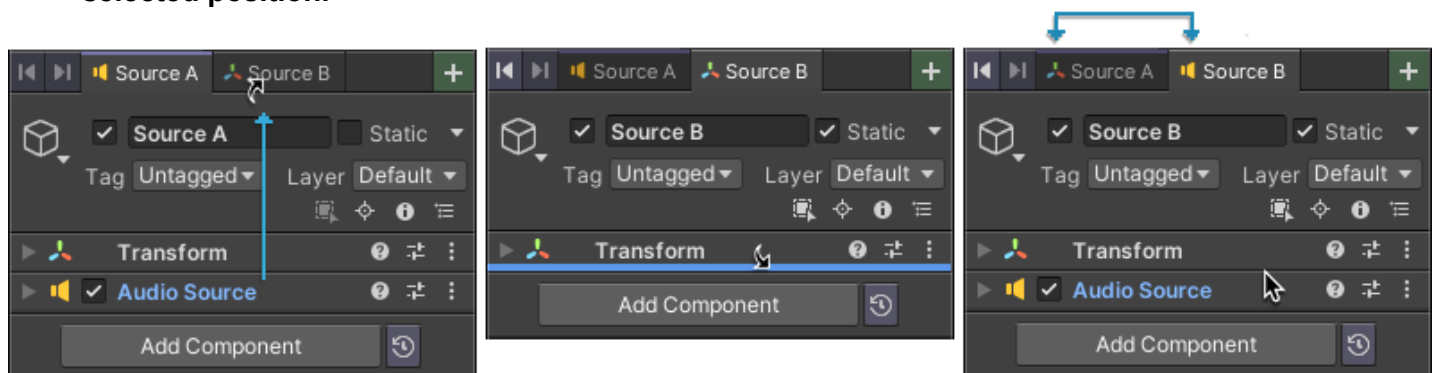
2.4.3.1 Cloning Components

Hold Control (or Command) while reordering a Component, and the blue bar will turn green. Now, you'll create a **copy** at the **selected position** without Copy-Pasting.



2.4.3.2 Moving Components between GameObjects

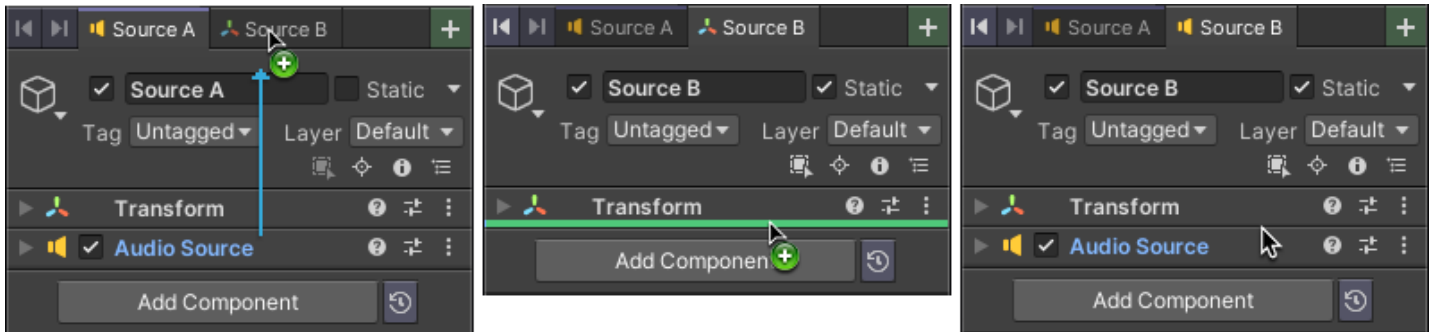
You can also drag a Component onto a different Tab, to move it to that GameObject at the selected position.



This streamlines the process of Copy-Pasting Components between GameObjects.

2.4.3.3 Cloning Components between GameObjects

If you hold **Control** (or *Command*) when [moving Components between GameObjects](#), you will create a copy at the selected position.



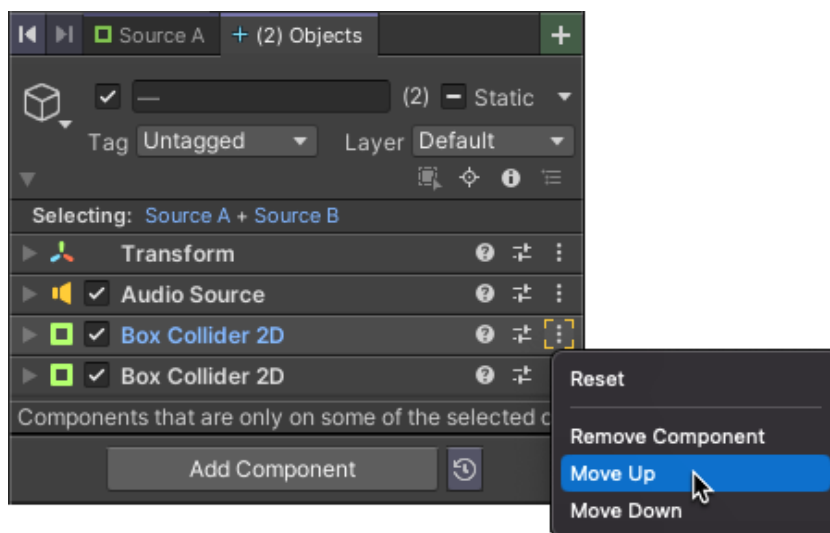
This removes the need of **Copy** and **Paste** and additional steps to reorder the Component.

2.4.3.4 Some considerations!

- To make reordering easier, **collapsed Components will only expand when dragging over their left side.**

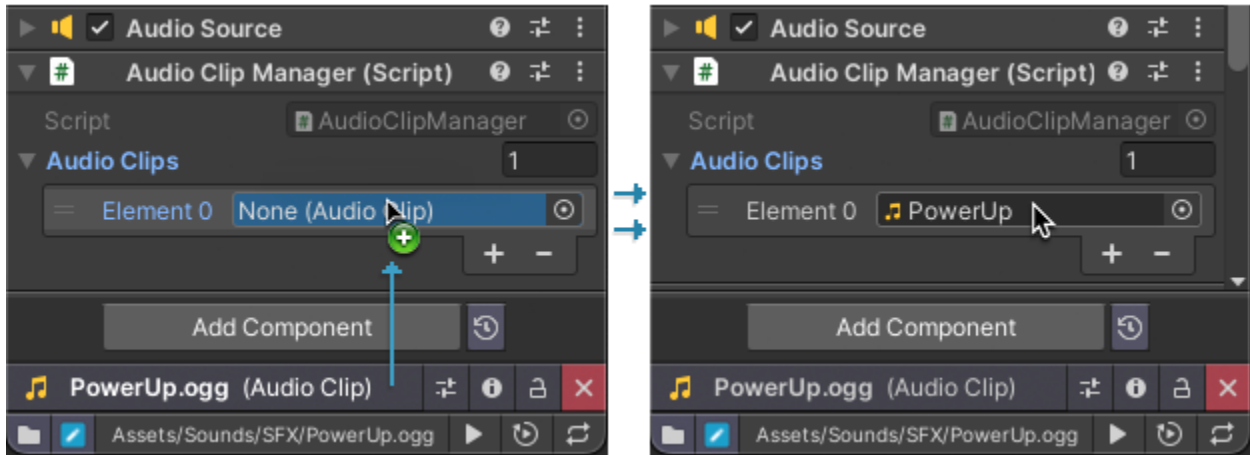


- Some Component Types (*Renderers, Animators...*) can't be present twice in the same GameObject, so you won't be able to clone them either.
- **Dragging and cloning isn't available yet for multi-target Tabs**, but regular context menu options will work normally. (*We're working on it!!*)



2.4.4 Dragging Assets from the Asset Bar

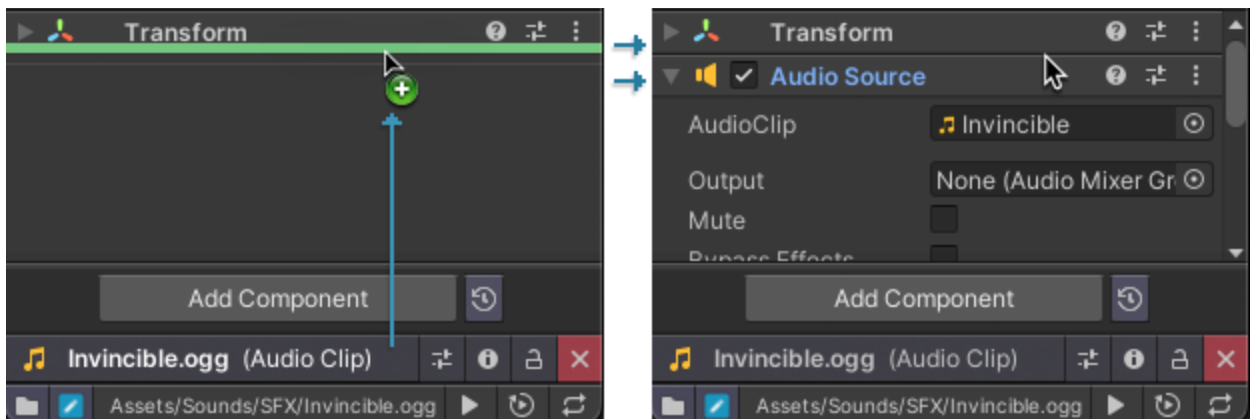
To drag the Asset(s) you're working with, simply drag the [Asset Bar](#) itself. This works with both single Asset selections and multi selections.



2.4.5 Dragging Assets as Components

If dragging **Assets** of specific Types, Coln Inspector will try to add them as Components.

Dragging an **AudioClip** will add an **AudioSource**, an **AnimatorController** will create an **Animator**, a **Sprite** a **SpriteRenderer**... etc.



This is still a proof of concept, so the list of compatible Types is still **underwhelmingly short**:

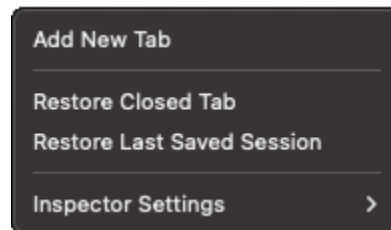
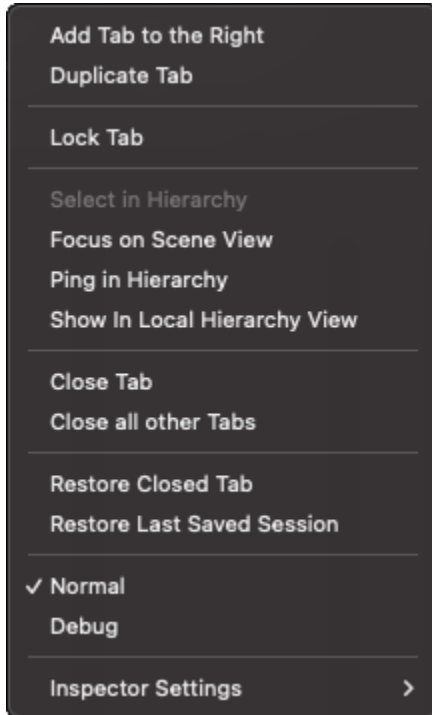
AudioClip → AudioSource AudioMixerGroup → AudioSource VideoClip → VideoPlayer	AnimatorController → Animator AnimationClip → Animation Material → MeshRenderer	Sprite → SpriteRenderer/Image* Texture2D → RawImage Font → Text
--	--	--

(*Depending on the GameObject having a Transform or a RectTransform)

If you'd like to suggest new combinations, just let us know at hey@stuff-solutions.com!

2.5 The Tab Context Menu

Right-click any [Tab](#) (or the **Tab Bar** itself) to see specific actions for the selected Tab and ColInspector settings in general.



If you don't click on a Tab, you'll see an abridged version without Tab-specific actions.

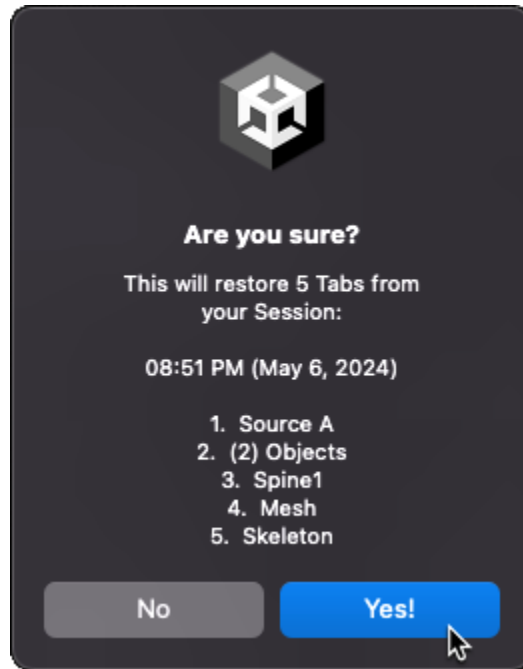
If you click on a Tab, you'll see the full Context Menu

2.5.1 Tab Options

These are the actions that affect the Tab you right-clicked on and your GameObject workspace.

- **Add Tab to the Right / Add New Tab:** It adds a [New Tab](#) next to the selected Tab.
- **Lock/Unlock Tab:** [Locks or unlocks](#) the Tab.
- **Select in Hierarchy:** Selects in Hierarchy the target(s) of the Tab.
 - *This option will be disabled if already selected.*
- **Frame on Scene View:** Focuses the Scene View on the target(s) of the Tab.
- **Ping in Hierarchy:** To Ping the target of the Tab in the Hierarchy.
- **Show In Local Hierarchy View:** It opens the target of the Tab in [Local Hierarchy View](#).
 - *This option gets disabled in multi-target Tabs.*
- **Close Tab, Close Tabs to the Right, Close Tabs to the Left and Close all other Tabs:** Well... you most probably can guess.
- **Restore Closed Tab:** It restores up to 10 closed Tabs. Learn more in the [Restore Closed Tabs](#) section.

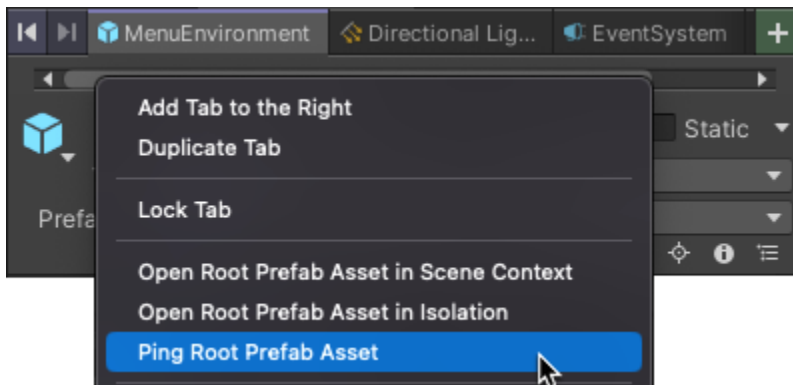
- **Restore Last Saved Session:** ColInspector will load the existing [Session](#) for the active scene.
 - A prompt will give you more information about the date and content of it:



- **Normal / Debug:** To switch the Tab between its [Normal and its Debug](#) modes.

Extra Options for Prefab Instances

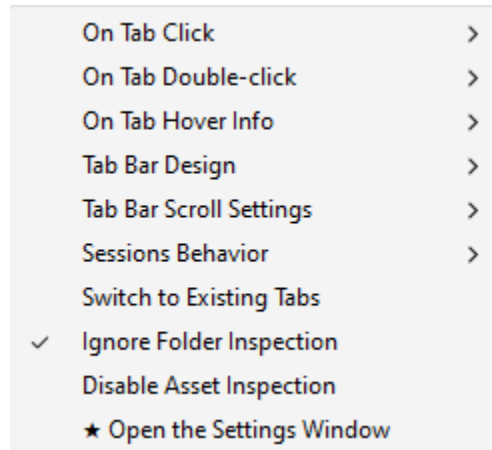
When a Prefab instance is the target of the clicked Tab, ColInspector adds specific options:



- **Open Root Prefab Asset in Scene Context:**
 - To Open the Prefab in Scene Context [Prefab Mode](#)
- **Open Root Prefab Asset in Isolation:**
 - To Open the Prefab in Scene Context [Prefab Mode](#)
- **Ping Root Prefab Asset:**
 - To Ping the actual Prefab Asset in the **Project Window**.

2.5.2 Inspector Settings

This section acts as a **compact version of the [Setting Window](#)**, allowing you to modify settings and behaviors of the **GameObject View**, [Sessions](#) and the [Asset View](#).



Options included here are:

- **On Tab Click:** Sets the [Behavior on Tab Click](#) (when you click on a Tab or switch to it).
 - **Select in Hierarchy:** To [Auto-select](#) your targets on Tab click.
 - **Focus on Scene View:** To [Auto-focus](#) your targets on Tab click.
- **On Tab Double-click:** Sets the [Behavior on Tab Double-click](#).
 - **Lock or Unlock Tab:** Toggles between [lock states](#) on Tab double-click.
 - **Select in Hierarchy:** To [Auto-select](#) your targets on Tab double-click.
 - **Focus target on Scene View:** Focuses target(s) on Tab double-click.
 - **Show in Local Hierarchy Pop-up:** Shows targets in [Local Hierarchy View](#)
- **On Tab Hover Info:** Sets the [text that appears when you hover a Tab](#)
 - **Tree view:** Shows the full name of the target and up to 3 parents.
 - **Name:** Shows just the full name of the target.
 - **Nothing:** Shows... well, nothing.
(Unless 'Nothing', [multi-target Tabs](#) will always show the names of all targets.)
- **Tab Bar Design:** Sets [Tab Bar Customization](#) options (what to show on the Tab Bar).
 - **Show icons:** Show or hide icons on Tabs.
 - **Show History Tracking buttons:** Show or hide the Back and Forward buttons.
 - **Show Collapse button:** Show or hide the [Collapse/Expand](#) button.
 - **Show scrollbar:** Show or hide the Tab Bar scrollbar

- **Tab Bar Scroll Settings:** How scrolling the Tab Bar works with both mouse wheels.
 - **Vertical Mouse Wheel Speed:** The main wheel. **Normal, Fast** and **Fastest**.
 - **Horizontal Mouse Wheel Speed:** The secondary wheel. **Normal, Fast** and **Fastest**.
 - **Invert Vertical Mouse Wheel:** Invert the scrolling direction of the main wheel.
 - **Invert Horizontal Mouse Wheel:** Invert the scrolling of the secondary wheel.
- **[Switch to Existing Tabs](#):** When enabled, clicking already tabbed GameObjects will switch to the existing Tab.

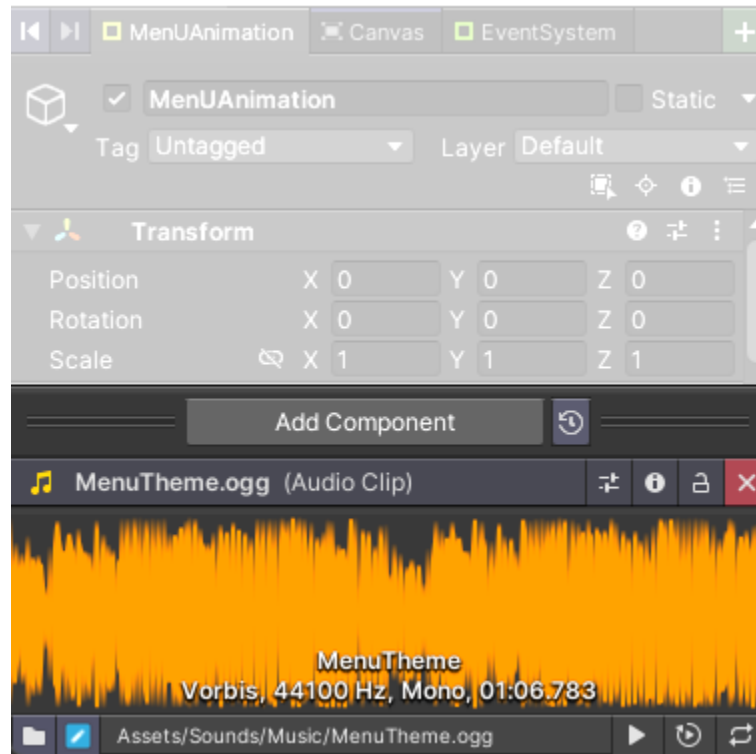
If middle-clicking, it will also switch to the existing Tab instead of creating a new one.

- **Sessions Behavior:** Sets the **[Sessions Settings](#)** (how ColInspector handles previous Sessions after restarting or switching scenes).
 - **Always Ask:** ColInspector will ask to load a previous Session.
 - **Always Restore:** ColInspector will automatically load the previous Session.
 - **Disable Sessions:** ColInspector won't ask to load Sessions.
- **Ignore folder Inspection:** To avoid treating single folders as Assets.
- **Disable Asset Inspection:** To disable ColInspector's **[Asset View](#)**.
- ★ **Open the Settings Window:** To open the actual **[Settings Window](#)**.

3. The Asset View

The other main section of ColInspector is the **Asset View**, a full-on secondary inspector to handle Assets in a less intrusive, yet more flexible way.

As an independent panel, you can freely resize, customize, lock, minimize... or just leave it there. No matter what, it will not interfere with your Scene and Tabs.



The goal is to make dealing with Assets as straightforward as possible, allowing you to work on GameObjects while your inspected Assets remain available.

3.1 Asset Inspection

As the [GameObject View](#) does with GameObjects, the **Asset View only accepts Assets**, ignoring empty selections.

- Your active target Asset(s) remain available until you select new ones, [close the Asset View](#), or delete the Asset(s).
- Unlike GameObjects, **you can only have one active Selection** (*single or multi-target*) active in the Asset View.
- You can **lock the Asset View** to keep your current target fixed.
- You can set the Asset View to **Debug Mode**
- You can fully maximize the Asset View in [Asset-Only Mode](#)

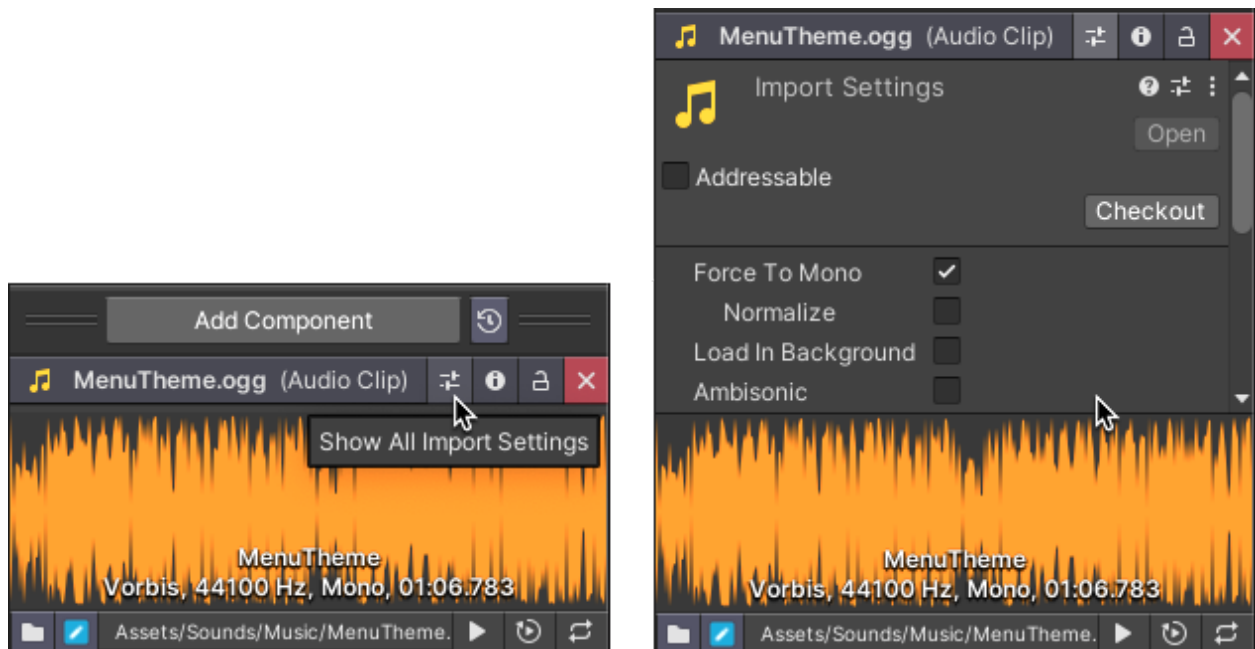
3.2 Inspection Detail on the Asset View

Options to decide how much information you want to see on your Asset View.

3.2.1 Showing and Hiding the Import Settings

By default, Colnspector displays a **compressed version of your Assets**, excluding most **Import Settings**, the **default Header**, and some specific fields, depending on the Asset.

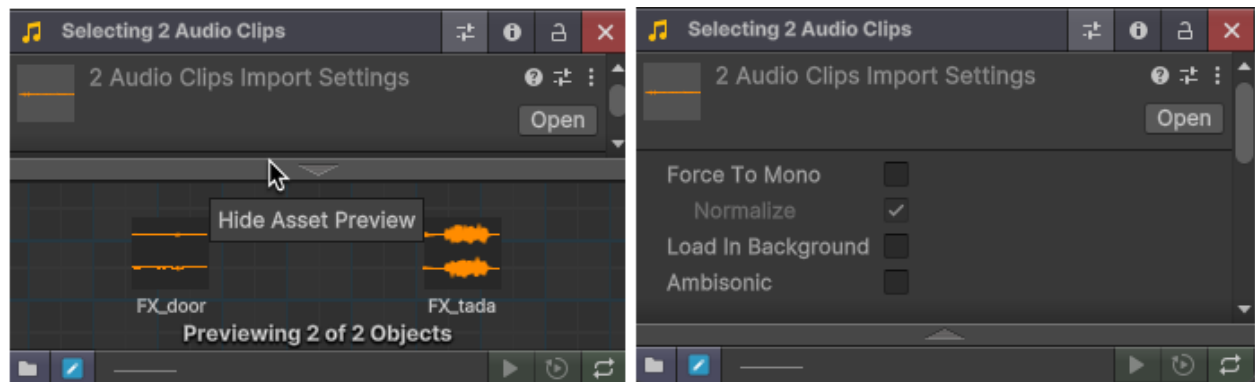
This is meant to make **previewing Assets** a more straightforward, hiding settings we interact with only at specific times.



- Show and hide the Import Settings with the Import Settings button.
- **Your choice will remain active until changed again.**

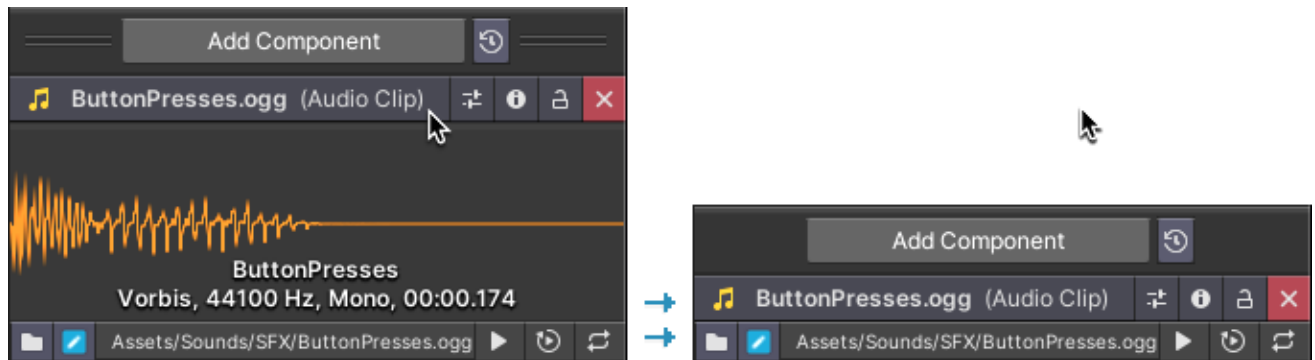
3.2.2 Showing and Hiding Asset Previews

From v1.6.0, Colnspector lets you hide Asset Previews by clicking the bar over them:



3.2.3 Expanding and Collapsing the Asset View

The **Asset View** can be **Collapsed** into a non-intrusive footer, remaining functional.



You can switch between modes by **clicking once the [Asset Bar](#)** or choosing the option in the [Asset View Context Menu](#).

Some notes:

- Your current mode will remain when changing your target Asset

3.2.4 Asset-Only Mode

This mode maximizes the **Asset View** to occupy the entire Window, temporarily hiding the [GameObject View](#) and its **Tabs**.

This is meant to help work with Assets, drawing the **complete Inspector** and behaving as the regular Inspector Window.

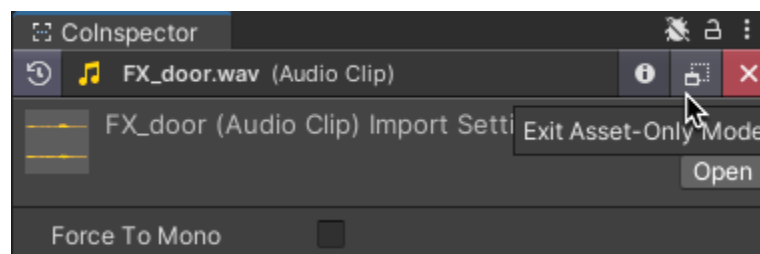
Entering Asset-Only Mode:

- Resize the Asset View all the way up until a blue tint appears, then release the mouse.
- Right-click the Asset Bar and select **Enter Asset-Only Mode**.



Exiting Asset-Only Mode:

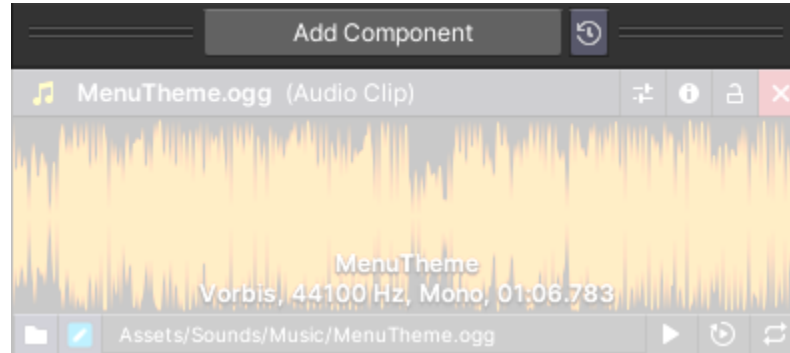
- Click the Asset Bar once or the **Exit Asset-Only Mode** button on the Asset Bar.
- Right-click the Asset Bar and select **Exit Asset-Only Mode**.



While in Asset-only Mode, the [Debug and Lock](#) buttons will **affect Asset inspection**, and the [Asset History Button](#) will be placed at the left of the **Asset Bar**.

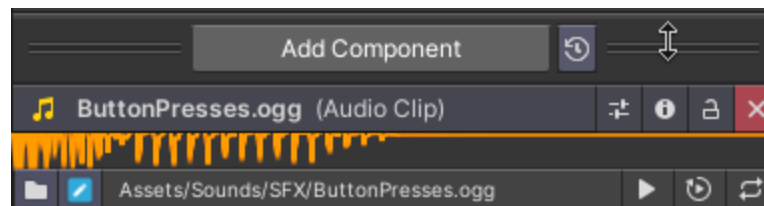
3.3 The Add Component Bar

When an Asset is inspected, the **Add Component Bar** becomes a visual separator between the [GameObject View](#) and the **Asset View**, with some new features.

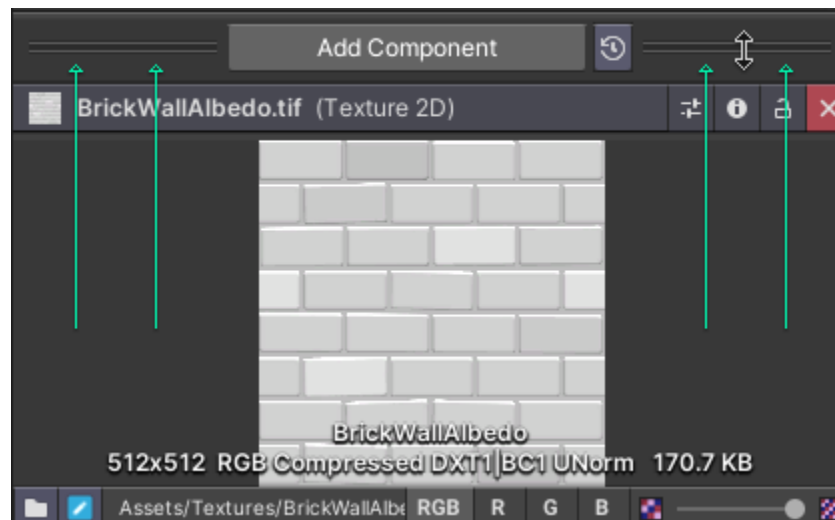


3.3.1 Resizing The Asset View

If the Asset View is [expanded](#), the bar becomes **draggable**, allowing you to resize the Asset View freely.



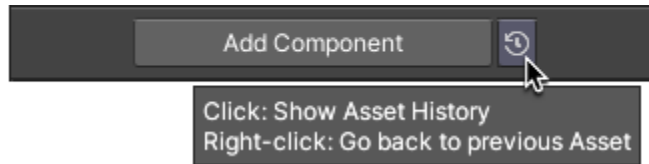
Assets with **Previews** (like *Textures* or *AudioClips*) can be expanded to increase Preview size:



- **When Collapsed, the Asset View cannot be resized.** Expand it first!
- The Asset View will never take more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of ColInspector's height.
- Your custom size **will be reset when targets change**.

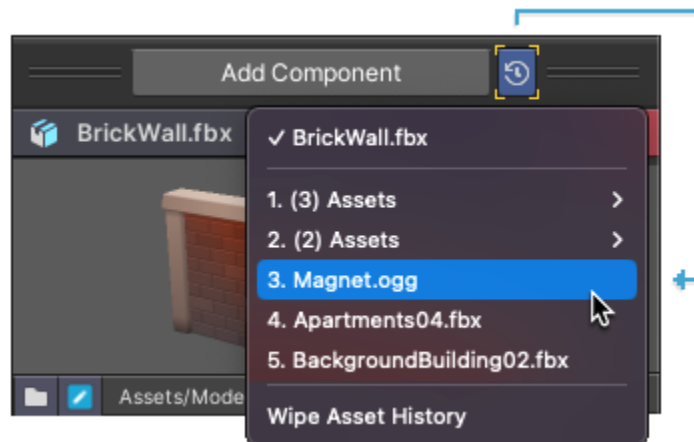
3.3.2 The Asset History Button

The Asset View **keeps track of your recent selections**, allowing you to go back to them **even after the Asset View has been closed**.



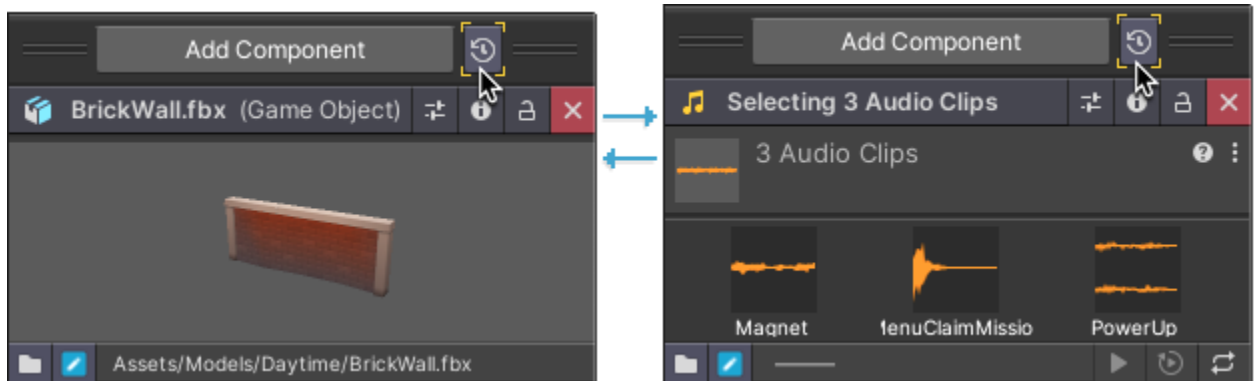
You have 2 options:

- **Regular click:** Shows your last 10 Asset selections.



- Multi-selections can be recovered “in bulk” or just one of their elements.

- **Right-click:** Toggles between the **last 2 Asset selections**, as the “Back” button of a TV.



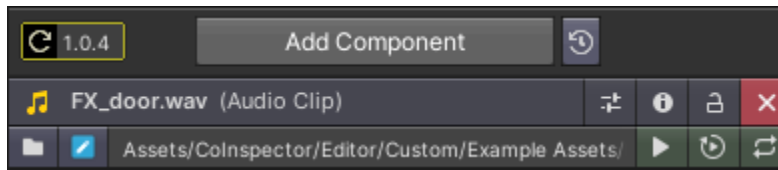
- Useful for quickly switching between 2 Assets you’re working on.
- If no Asset is selected, it will restore the last active one.

Some notes:

- Your Asset History is **independent** of your [Sessions](#). **They will not be overwritten by loading Sessions or changing Scenes.**
- If the Asset View is locked, you can still go back to previous Assets while the Asset View remains locked. **This is the intended behavior.**
- If no Asset has been selected yet, **the button will be disabled.**

3.3.2 The Update Indicator

A visual indicator will appear next to the **Add Component** button when a new version of ColInspector is available.

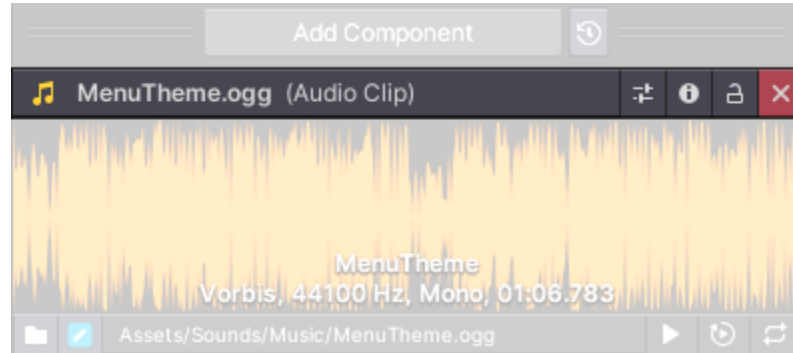


If you click it, it will open the Package Manager to show the ColInspector product page. Here you'll be able to download and import the latest version.

To avoid bugs and have all the latest features, **always update to the latest version!**

3.4 The Asset Bar

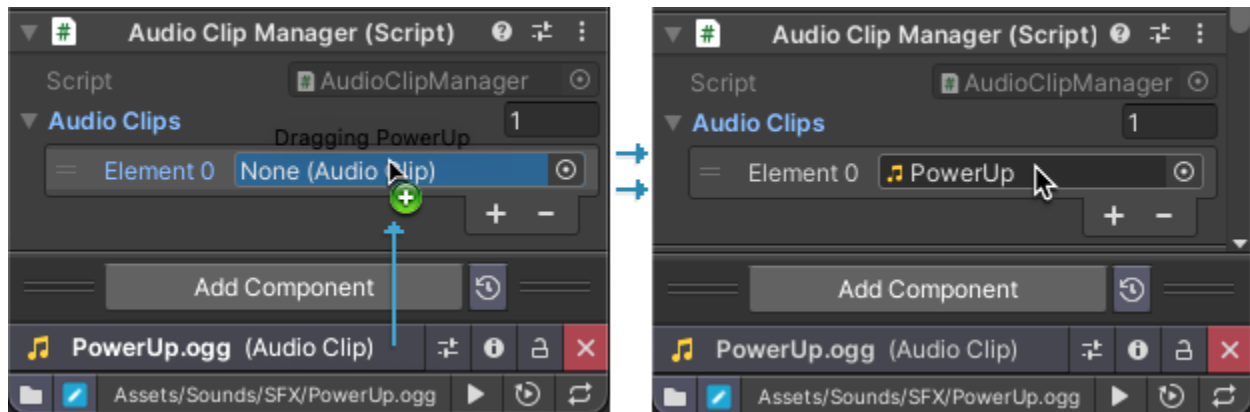
The **Asset Bar** is the blue bar on top of the Asset View. It **provides information** about your targets and lets you access some **features** and **shortcuts**.



This bar will always be visible if an Asset is being inspected, **Collapsed** or not.

3.4.1 Basic Features

- **Asset Information:** The icon, name, extension and type of the inspected Asset will be shown on the left side of the bar.
 - With multi-selections, it will provide the number of selected objects.
- **Expand and Collapse the Asset View:** Click the bar to toggle between modes.
- **Drag and Drop:** Dragging the Asset Bar itself will drag all the inspected Asset(s) so you can use them on **Tabs**, **Components fields** or wherever you want.



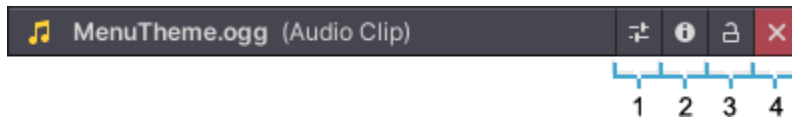
- *More on this in the [Advanced Dragging](#) section.*
- **Open the [Asset View Context Menu](#):** Right-clicking the Asset Bar to access features and settings.

3.4.2 Dedicated Buttons

To change the Asset View look and make small adjustments.

3.4.2.1 Default Buttons

The buttons that are always present in the bar, no matter the selected Asset.

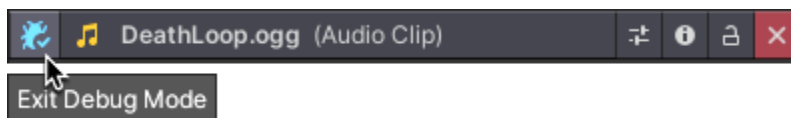


1. **Show/Hide [Import Settings](#)**: To reveal the complete **import settings** of your Asset(s) instead of showing a **compact version**.
2. **Open in Inspector**: In case of compatibility issues or visual bugs, use it to send the inspected Asset(s) to the regular Inspector window.
 - a. *Holding Shift/Alt while will open the Asset in a new, locked Inspector window.*
3. **Lock/Unlock Asset View**: Locks the Asset View so that the current Asset(s) remain inspected no matter where you click.
4. **Close the Asset View**: Stops inspecting and closes the Asset View window.
 - a. *You can also do this by middle-clicking the Asset Bar!*

3.4.2.2 Context-specific Buttons:

These are the buttons that will only appear in certain circumstances.

- **Exit Debug Mode**: Visible only when **Debug Mode** is active.
 - *Debug Mode can be enabled via the Asset View [Context Menu!](#)*



- **Open Prefab**: To open a selected [Prefab Asset](#) in exclusive [Prefab Mode](#).



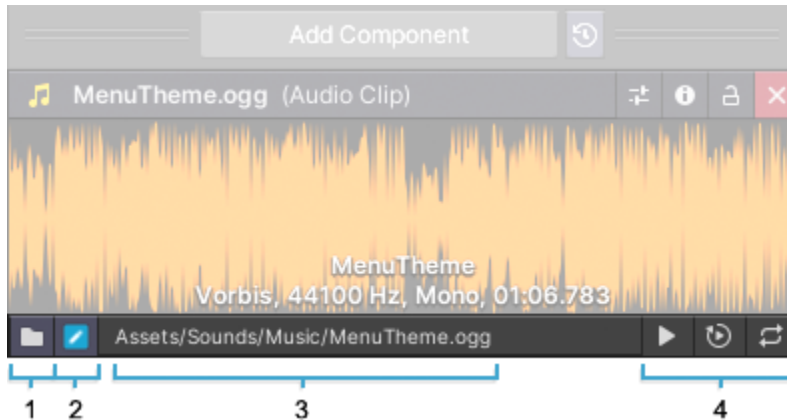
- **The Save Button**: To save and write to the disk the changes made to a dirty Asset.



3.5 The Bottom Bar

The last part of **Asset View**.

This additional bar is also **visible whenever an Asset is selected**, and provides convenient **shortcuts** for accessing and editing your active Assets.



Elements:

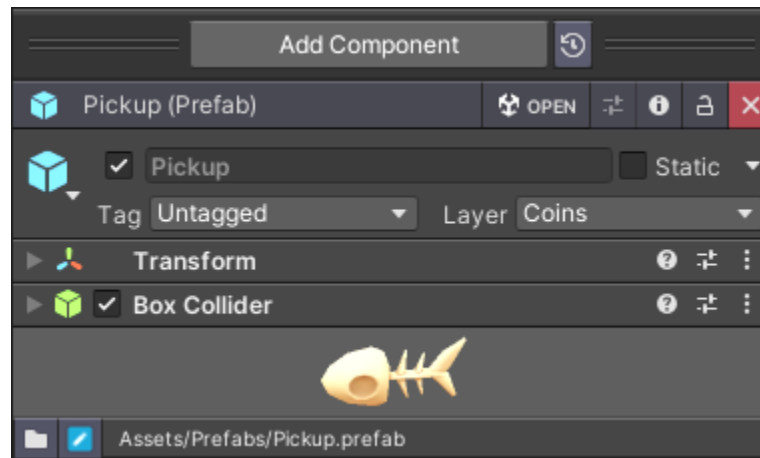
1. **Folder Button:** Opens the selected Assets in your system's file explorer.
2. **Edit Button:** Opens the selected Assets with the default external application (*like Photoshop for textures*).
3. **Asset Path:** Displays the path of the selected asset, but also:
 - a. **Click the path:** To **Ping the Asset in the Project window**
 - b. **Right-click the path:** To instantly copy the path of the Asset to your clipboard.
4. **Preview Controls:** If the inspected Assets have available previews (*like AudioClips*), the bar will display all its **relevant controls**, such as **Play, Stop, Loop**, etc.

Note: Options like **Pinging** or **Copying Asset Path** won't work with multiple Assets selected!

This set of tools and buttons allow you to directly access and interact with your selected Assets at any time without needing to resort to the **Project Window**.

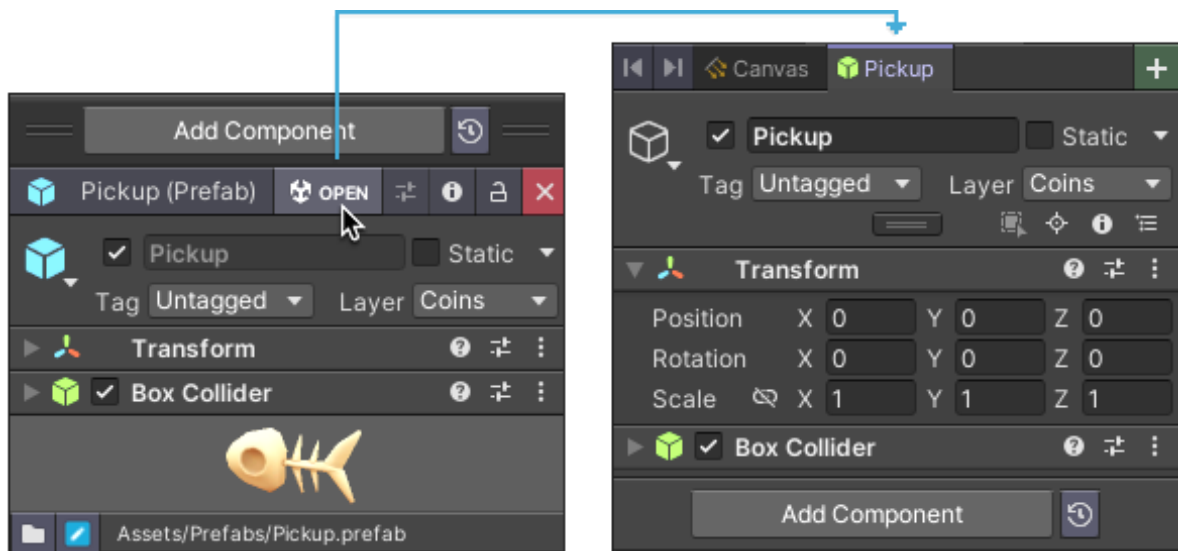
3.6 Prefab Assets and Asset View

When clicking on a Prefab Asset, it will show up in the **Asset View** itself instead of in the **GameObject View**.



This is meant to be a **fast way of checking and editing Prefab Assets**, so **keep in mind the following**:

- By default, **Components will show collapsed** for a more compact view. You can change this in the [Customization and Settings](#) section.
- [Advanced Dragging](#) is not available to move and clone Components, **but you can use traditional context menu options to reorder and copy Components**.
- The **Expand and Collapse** additional [Context Menu options](#) are not available in this mode either.

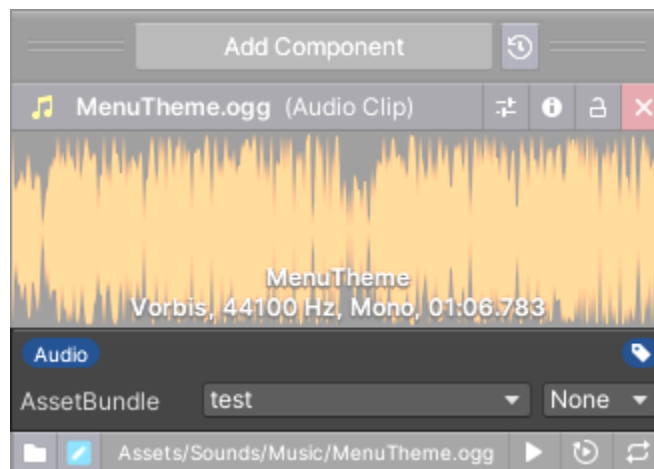


If you need a more precise Prefab inspection, **just use the "OPEN" button at the Asset Bar** to open the Prefab Asset in a dedicated [Prefab Mode Tab](#) with all options available!

3.7 Customization and Inspection Settings

The Asset View offers various customization options to optimize your workflow:

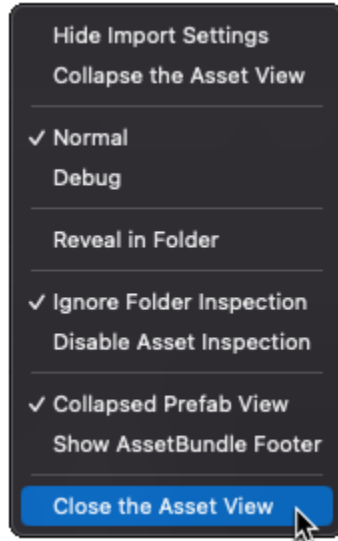
- **Ignore Single Folders (*enabled by default*)**: When enabled, ColInspector will not consider single folders to be Assets.
 - Allows for an easier Asset navigation, as opening folders will not remove your active selection.
 - Multiple folders and/or folders mixed with other Assets **will be considered inspectable Assets**.
- **Disable Asset Inspection**: When enabled, ColInspector **will** outright **ignore Assets** and only the [GameObject View](#) will be active.
 - If you disable Asset Inspection, **you can turn it back on** from the [Tab Context Menu](#) and the [Settings Window](#).
- **Collapsed Prefab View (*enabled by default*)**: When enabled, Prefab Assets will show all their Components collapsed for a more compact view.
- **Show Asset Bundle Footer (*enabled by default*)**: When enabled, Assets will show an additional footer, allowing you to set an **Asset Bundle** and an **Asset Tag** for your selected Assets.



All these Settings can be changed in the [Settings Window](#) and by opening the [Asset View Context Menu](#).

3.8 The Asset View Context Menu

As with the [Tabs Context Menu](#), right-clicking the [Asset Bar](#) will show up the Asset View's own Context Menu. Here, you can trigger basic actions and change settings of the Asset View.

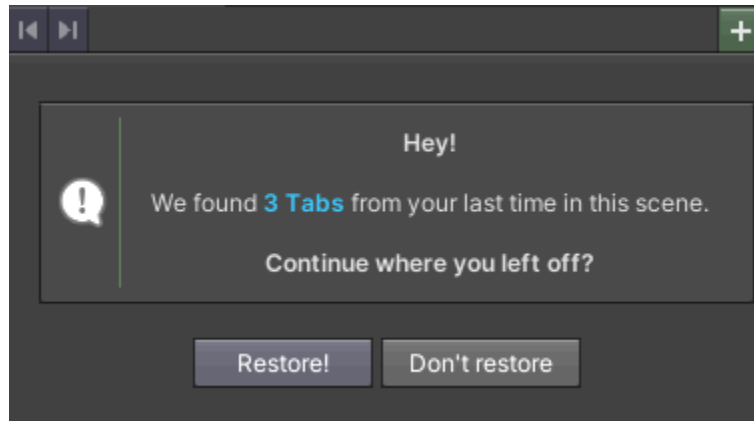


The available options are:

- **Hide/Show Import Settings:** To show inspected Assets in compact mode or with their full import settings.
- **Show in Asset-Only Mode:** To open the inspected Assets in [Asset-Only Mode](#).
- **Collapse/Expand the Asset View:** To [Collapse](#) or not the Asset View into a small bar.
- **Normal/Debug Mode:** To enter or exit **Debug Mode** in Asset View.
- **Reveal in Folder:** To reveal inspected Assets in the Explorer/Finder.
- **Ignore Folder Inspection:** To make ColInspector [ignore single folders](#).
- **Enable/Disable Asset Inspection:** To disable the Asset View entirely.
 - *You can re-enable it later at the [GameObject Context Menu](#) or the [Settings Window](#).*
- **Collapsed Prefab View:** To always show Prefab Assets in [collapsed mode](#).
- **Show/Hide AssetBundle Footer:** To show or hide the [AssetBundle and Asset Label](#) sections.
- **Close Asset View:** To stop inspecting the current Asset(s) and close Asset View.

4. Sessions

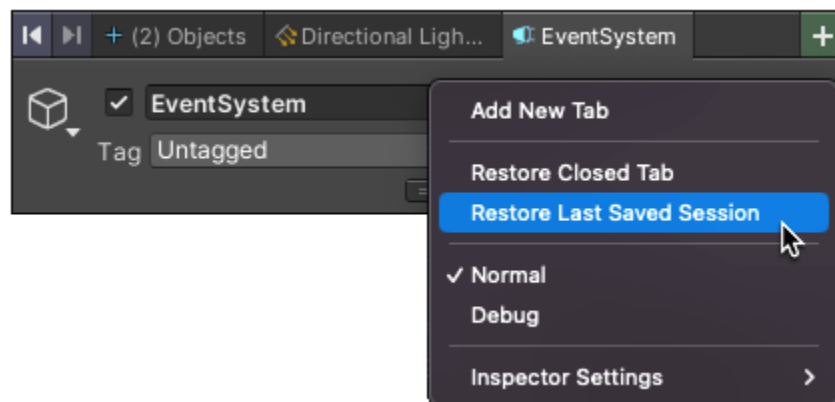
When you open ColInspector after a restart or a crash, you'll be asked to restore your previous workspace. This will also happen after switching to a scene you've previously worked on.



This is the result of **Sessions**, a built-in auto-save feature that keeps track of your workspace in every scene and allows you to keep it consistent between editor restarts and scene changes, including your [Tabs](#), [Assets](#), [History Tracking](#), and even your [closed Tabs](#)!

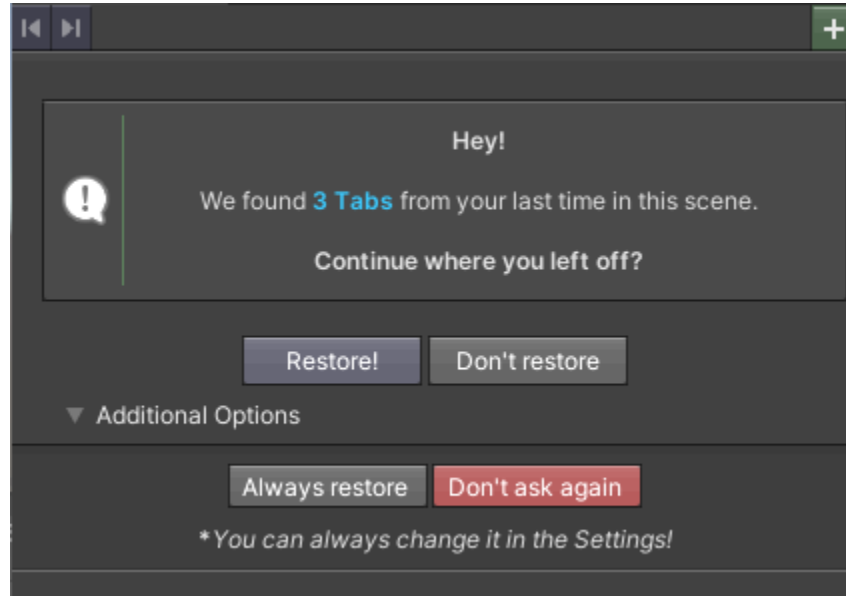
4.1 How Sessions Work

- ColInspector **periodically saves your data** to prevent significant loss after crashes.
- When you close ColInspector, or switch scenes, a **Session linked to said scene is created**.
- When relaunching ColInspector (*or switching scenes*), ColInspector will look for a valid Session, and **will try to restore all your Tabs, Assets, and settings**.
- Additionally, you can use the [Restore Last Saved Session Context Menu](#) option to manually load the last created Session at any point!



4.2 Sessions Behavior

By default, after loading a Session or changing scenes, ColInspector will show you the **Recovery Screen**, listing the number of **Tabs** and your **choices to proceed**:

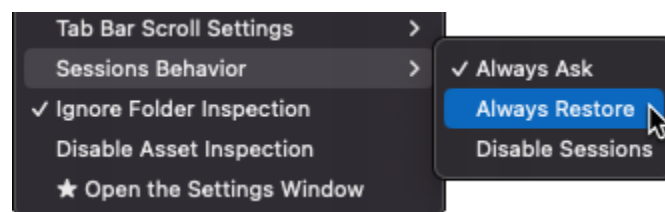


(Tip: You can see more info about the recovered Tabs by hovering the message!)

This will set your **Sessions Behavior**, or the way you prefer the system to handle the process:

- **Restore!:**
 - ColInspector will restore this Session and keep offering to restore Sessions.
- **Don't restore:**
 - ColInspector won't restore this Session, but will keep offering to restore Sessions.
- **Always restore:**
 - ColInspector will restore this Session **and all future ones without asking**.
 - This also affects changing scenes.
- **Don't ask again:**
 - ColInspector **will never ask** to restore **Sessions**, and you'll always start with a clean workspace.
 - ColInspector keeps track of your workspace for internal stability, so you can still restore your **Last Saved Session** at any point!

You can change your **Session Behavior** via the [Context Menu](#) and the [Settings Window](#).



4.3 Limitation with Inactive GameObjects

Due to a limitation in the way Unity tracks inactive GameObjects, ColInspector **won't be able to restore Inactive GameObjects after the Editor has been closed.**

This means that, once the Editor has been closed, inactive GameObjects previously included in your Tabs, multi-target Tabs, or history will be omitted when restoring a Session.

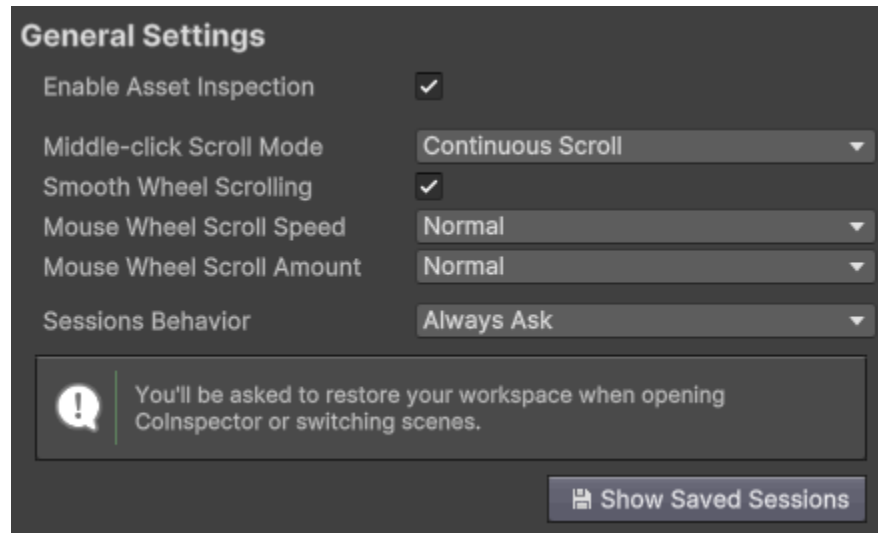
We're actively working on finding a universal solution to this limitation.

5. The Settings Window

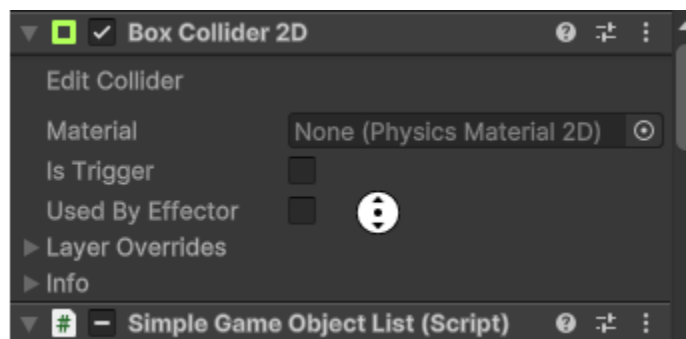
ColInspector provides a comprehensive **Settings Window**, which can be found in the **Window/ColInspector** section of your Unity menu.

5.1 General Settings

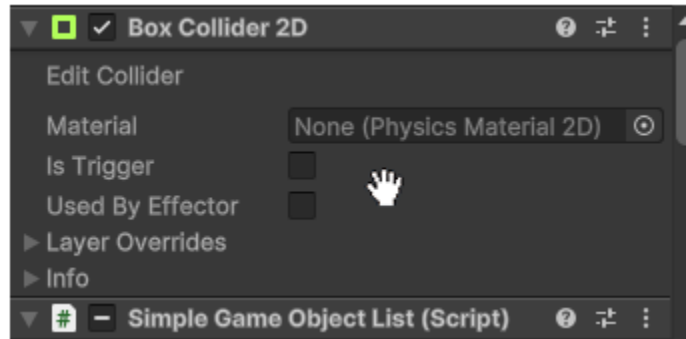
These are the settings that control the broad behavior of ColInspector and [Sessions](#).



- **Enable Asset Inspection:** This option enables or disables the [Asset View](#). If disabled, ColInspector will outright ignore any asset clicked on or selected.
- **Middle Click Scroll Mode:** ColInspector includes 2 middle-click scroll modes:
 - **Continuous:** Like a browser, holding middle-click allows you to scroll endlessly in a direction until you release it.



- **Pan.** Like on the Scene View or software like Blender, holding middle-click allows you to “drag and pan”.



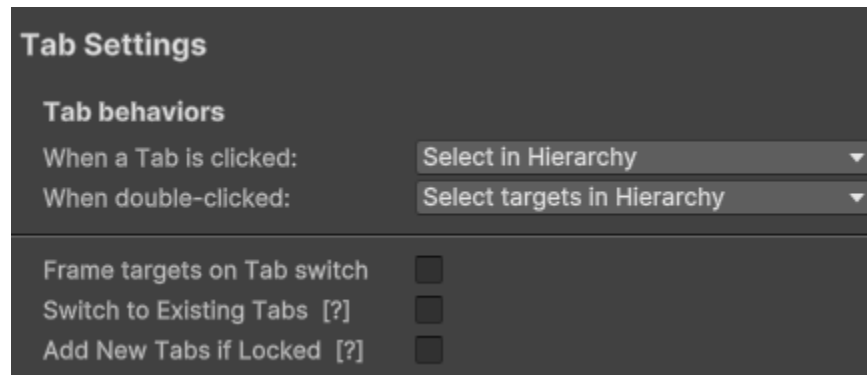
If you hit the edge of the window, the cursor will teleport to the opposite side so you can keep panning endlessly.

- **Smooth Wheel Scrolling:** To activate smooth scrolling on ColInspector.
 - This only works with ColInspector windows!
- **Scroll wheel Speed:** How fast smooth scrolling works. Options are:
 - **Normal, Fast and Fastest**
- **Scroll wheel Amount:** How much the wheel scrolls the window. Options are:
 - **Normal, High and Highest**
- **Sessions Behavior:** How ColInspector handles [Sessions](#). Options are:
 - **Always Ask (Default):** ColInspector will ask if you want to restore your previous Session after the Editor starts, or if you change scenes.
 - **Always Restore:** ColInspector will always restore your previous Session.
 - **Disable Sessions:** ColInspector will never ask to restore Sessions and will start with a clean workspace.
- **Show/Hide Saved Sessions:** Manage your existing **Sessions**. Here you can:
 - Check the date and the Scene of any existing Session
 - Show the names of all Tabs stored in each Session
 - Delete a Session

(-) Hide Saved Sessions		
▶ Start (5 Tabs)	4/25/2024 11:48:19 AM	✕
▶ Shop (21 Tabs)	4/25/2024 11:45:25 AM	✕
▶ Main (3 Tabs)	4/22/2024 11:40:00 AM	✕

5.2 Tab Settings

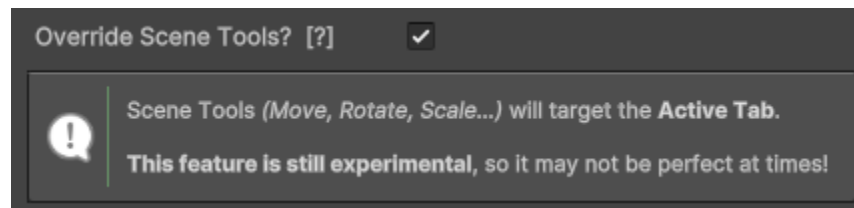
Settings that affect [Tabs](#), their behaviors and their appearance.



5.2.1 Tab behaviors

Settings that affect automatic actions and workflow options for clicking on Tabs.

- **When a Tab is clicked:** The [Auto-selection](#) behavior when clicking Tabs:
 - **Select in Hierarchy:** To select its target(s) in the Hierarchy window.
 - **Do nothing:** To perform no additional action.
- If 'Select in Hierarchy' is disabled, you'll see an extra setting: [Override Scene Tools](#).



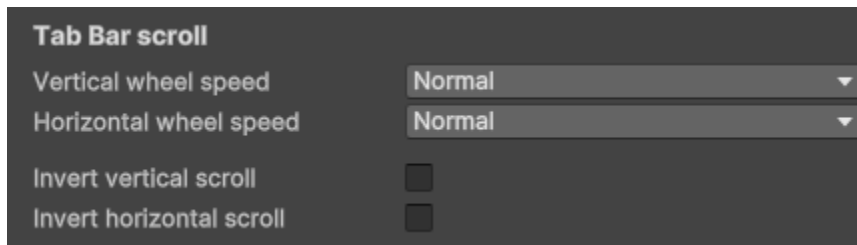
This allows your Scene Tools (*Move, Rotate, Scale...*) to target your active Tab instead of the active Selection.

- **When a Tab is double-clicked:** The [Behavior on Tab Double-click](#). You can choose:
 - **Lock or Unlock Tab:** Double-clicking a Tab will lock or unlock it.
 - **Select targets in Hierarchy:** To select its target(s) in the Hierarchy window.
 - **Focus targets on Scene View:** To focus the Scene View on its target(s).
 - **Show in Local Hierarchy Pop-up:** To pop up the [Local Hierarchy](#) of its target.
- **Frame targets on Tab switch:** The [Auto-focus](#) feature. If enabled, Tab target(s) will be automatically framed on Scene View when clicking on them.

- **Switch to Existing Tabs:** If enabled, clicking a GameObject already tabbed will switch to the existing Tab instead of assigning it to the current Tab.
 - If middle-clicking, it will switch to the existing Tab instead of creating a new one.
- **Add New Tabs if Locked:** If the active Tab is locked, clicking on a new target will create a new Tab for it automatically.

5.2.2 Tab Bar scroll

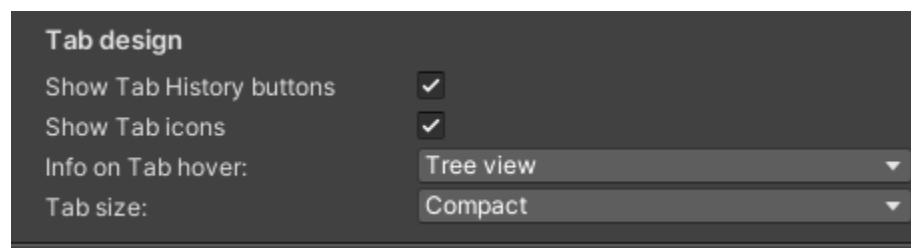
Settings that control how you scroll [Tabs](#) with your mouse wheels.



- **Vertical wheel speed:** The scroll speed when using the main wheel. Choose between:
 - **Normal, Fast** and **Fastest**
- **Horizontal wheel speed:** The scroll speed when using the secondary mouse wheel:
 - **Normal, Fast** and **Fastest**
- **Invert vertical scroll:** Inverts the scroll direction of the main mouse wheel.
- **Invert horizontal scroll:** Inverts the scroll direction of the secondary mouse wheel.

5.2.3 Tab design

Customizes the [Appearance](#) of your **Tab Bar**.

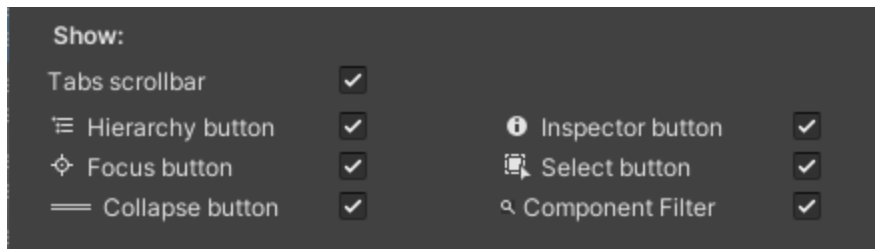


- **Show Tab History buttons:** Shows or hides the [History navigation buttons](#).
- **Show Tab icons:** Enables or disables icons on Tabs (*excluding when locked*).
- **Info on Tab hover:** Sets the [Behavior On Tab Hover](#). You can choose between:
 - **Name:** Will show the full name of the target GameObject.
 - **Tree view:** Will show up to 3 parents of the target GameObject.
 - **Nothing:** Will show nothing.

- **Tab size.** How big the Tabs are displayed. Choose between:
 - **Compact**
 - **Normal**

5.2.4 Header design

This section allows you to show or hide tools and features placed in the Component Header.

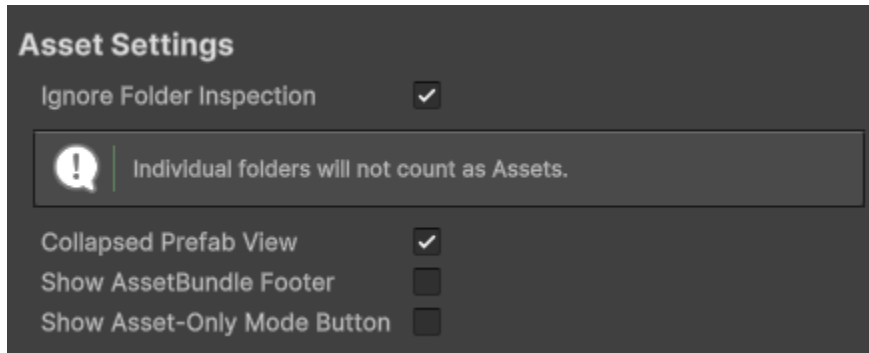


The following elements can be shown or hidden:

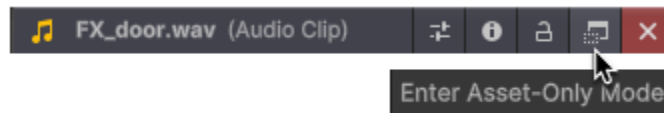
- **Tabs scrollbar**
- **Hierarchy button**
- **Inspector button**
- **Focus button**
- **Select button**
- **Collapse button**
- **Component Filter**

5.3 Asset Settings

Settings that affect the [Asset View](#). Only available when **Asset Inspection** is enabled.



- **Ignore Folder Inspection:** If enabled, individual folders will not be considered Assets and will be ignored by the Asset View.
- **Collapsed Prefab View:** When enabled, prefabs in the Asset View will have all their Components collapsed by default. This also affects prefab-derived objects, like models.
- **Show AssetBundle Footer:** To show the AssetBundle and Asset Label footers.
- **Show Asset-Only Mode Button:** A dedicated button for entering [Asset-Only Mode](#).



5.4 Reset to Default

Clicking this button will reset all the settings in this window to its default values, but **keeping all your existing Sessions intact**.

These settings should allow you to tailor Colnspector to your needs and preferences. Feel free to explore and adjust them until you find a workflow you're comfortable with.

We like to offer as many options as possible, so if you miss any setting or would like to have more control over some specific feature, please let us know at hey@stuff-solution.com.

6. Plans and Future Features

6.1 Some stuff we want to add *soonish*:

- Drag GameObjects to create new Tabs
- Advanced Dragging and Cloning for Multi-selections and Prefabs
- More control over the Local Hierarchy View (*rename, delete, multi-select...*)
- Inactive GameObject compatibility in saved sessions
- More Assets compatible with Dragging as Components
- A fix for that annoying bug you found

6.2 Some stuff who knows when we'll be able to add:

- Tab system for the Asset View.
- Multiple Window support
- Drag Tabs to create new Windows