

MapMate and Windows

[This is my take on recent issues to do with Windows, based on MapMate's own guidance plus my experience with other MapMate users. Please note that any changes you make to your MapMate setup are at your own risk, and you should always take backup copies before changing anything. VERSION 2 at 1 February 2011, incorporating additional information from MapMate Ltd]

Many users have had problems running MapMate on Windows Vista, and to a lesser extent on Windows 7. Most problems are due to these versions of Windows preferring you not to add or edit data into Program Files. The best solution to these problems is to ensure you are running the latest version of MapMate (currently 2.4.0), and that you have moved your data files to the "Documents – My MapMate" location.

MapMate Ltd have previously advised that, for Windows Vista, MapMate should be "run as administrator", see below for how to set this up. If you have Windows 7, and are running version 2.4.0, and have your data files in "Documents – My MapMate", it is no longer necessary to run as administrator (although it won't do any harm if you do).

Also, if you are on Windows 7 you should run MapMate in "XP SP3 Compatibility Mode", see below.

Running as administrator, and XP compatibility

Especially on Vista, MapMate needs to be run as Administrator. You can set this option by:

- Right-click MapMate in the Start Button Programs list and choose 'Properties'
- Click 'Advanced' (Vista) or 'Compatibility' (Windows 7)
- Tick option to 'Run as Administrator', and on Windows 7 make sure you also tick for "XP Service Pack 3" compatibility
- Click Apply then click OK

Alternatively, if you start MapMate by clicking on a desktop shortcut icon, you can right-click on the icon and set the properties for the shortcut icon.

Installing MapMate as new

- Insert CD
- Choose to 'View files and folders' on auto-start, or if this doesn't show, view the contents of the CD manually, e.g. via My Computer
- Run the installation file – on current CDs this is 'MapMate-Install-240.exe', but on older CDs it is 'setup.exe' (NB that if you are installing from an 'Update' CD the installation file will be in a folder called "Install")
- Accept all defaults and follow instructions
- You may receive 1 or 2 warning messages ("failed to register...") which are safe to **Ignore**
- When install is complete it is important that you set to run as administrator and with XP compatibility as described above
- You can now run MapMate and register with your CUK and Serial Number

After installing, the Configuration wizard runs automatically but if MapMate did not start in Administrator mode (see above) then the configuration will not be saved. You can confirm this by doing a View > Species Checklist to see if your My Taxa list is correctly populated with chosen species groups. If not you must:

- Close and Run MapMate again as Administrator (see above)
- View > My Configuration and choose options again
- Complete the Wizard making sure the option to 'Optimize my checklist' is ticked

If you are making a new installation of MapMate it will install files into two areas on your computer:

- *[Windows XP, and 32-bit versions of Vista or 7] C:\Program Files\MapMate* – all files needed to run the program
- *[64-bit versions of Windows Vista or 7] C:\Program Files (x86)\MapMate* – all files needed to run the program

and:

- *[Windows XP] My Documents\My MapMate* – all files containing your data
- *[Windows Vista or 7] Documents\My MapMate* – all files containing your data

Upgrading from an existing installation

If you are upgrading to 2.4.0 from an older version you should see a message asking if you wish to move your data files automatically into the “Documents – My MapMate” area – say Yes to this. If for any reason you do not get prompted to move your data files automatically, you can do it manually:

- First run up MapMate to confirm from Help > About that version 2.4.0 is running OK.
- Click Replication in the toolbar and likewise confirm this is at Version 2.4.0
- Exit the Replicator and then Exit MapMate
- Look in your 'My Documents' folder and you will now see a 'My MapMate' folder and inside this a 'Data' folder. You need to move **all folders** and their content from Program Files\MapMate to the new My MapMate\Data folder. So My MapMate\Data should contain eight folders:
 \Cache \Maps \Output \Records \Reference \Sites \Taxa \Users
- Your original Program Files\MapMate folder should now have only the following 6 (or 9) files:
 - compress.exe - this is the compressor used by the Replicator
 - default.wav and popbox.wav - 2 sound files used as warning beeps
 - MapMate.chm - the help file
 - MapMate.exe - main program file (this is where any desktop shortcuts should point to)
 - RepMan.exe - Replicator program file
 - You may also have ST5UNST.log, which in older versions was needed for uninstalling, but is no longer used with new installations
 - You may also have MM240.exe and RM240.exe

Important for backing up: Once you have you moved your data to the Documents area then please remember that the My MapMate\Data folder is now the critical one for backup (rather than the Program Files\MapMate folder used by older versions).

Downloading the program files

Most people will upgrade to version 2.4.0 by using MapMate’s “Smart Software Update” or by using an update CD, but you can also manually download the files yourself from the downloads page at <http://www.mapmate.co.uk/downloads.html> - the download you need is called “MapMate-core-240.zip” and is toward the bottom of the downloads page. This is a zip file containing all the program files. Make sure that you have exited from MapMate, and then save them into your \Program Files\MapMate folder, allowing them to over-write the ones already there.

Checking “Compress.exe”

“Compress.exe” is the program file that MapMate uses to compress the sync files that it creates when you share data with other MapMate users via MapMate’s Replicator. If you have used “Smart Software Update” to upgrade your software you will probably find that the compress.exe has not been updated, and this will show itself if you try to create a sync file – the process appears to work but a file is not created. To sort this out you need to download “MapMate-core-240.zip” as described above (under “Downloading the program files”), and extract the new version of compress.exe, saving it into Program Files\MapMate, and allowing it to over-write the version that is already there.

You can check if you have the latest version of compress.exe by right-clicking on it, and choosing “Properties”. If you can see a version number that is 5.0 or higher then you have an up-to-date copy; if the version is lower than 5, or there is no version number shown, you have an old copy and will need to download the new one.

Running multiple copies of MapMate

If, and only if, you have your data files in the Documents area (and not in Program Files), then you have the option of running multiple copies of MapMate on a single Windows PC. Each copy must have its own CUK and serial number, and each copy must be run under a separate Windows profile/log-on identity. Any Windows profile may run the main MapMate software from Program Files, and would expect to find a My MapMate\Data\ folder in the Documents area for that particular profile.