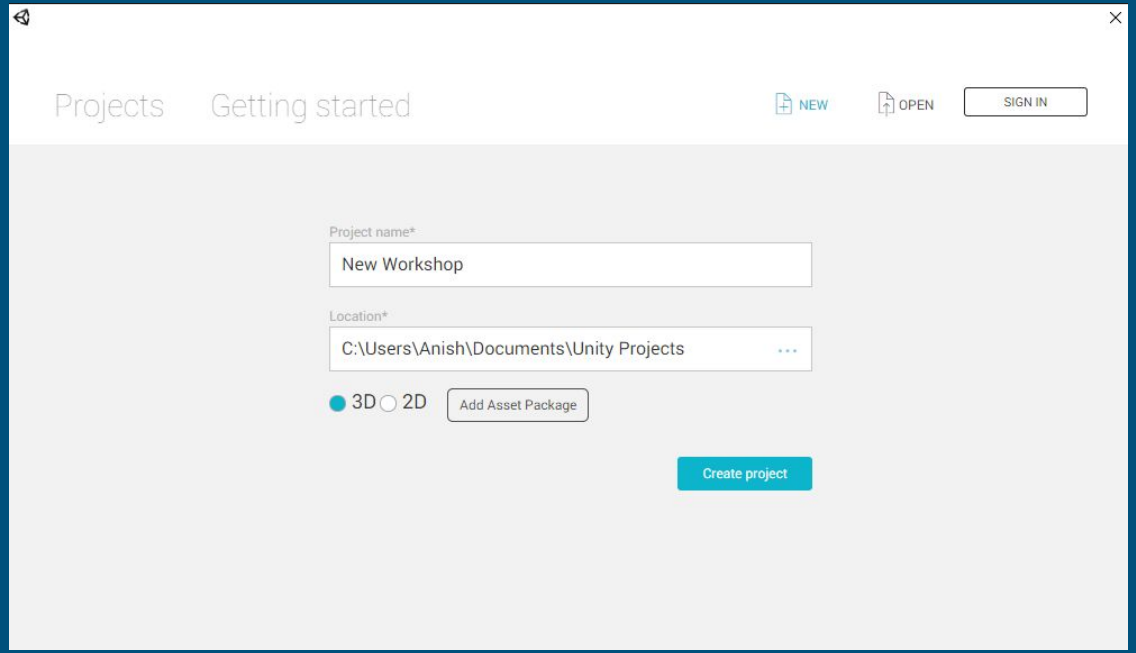
The Unity Interface

Presented by Virtual Reality Club at UCSD

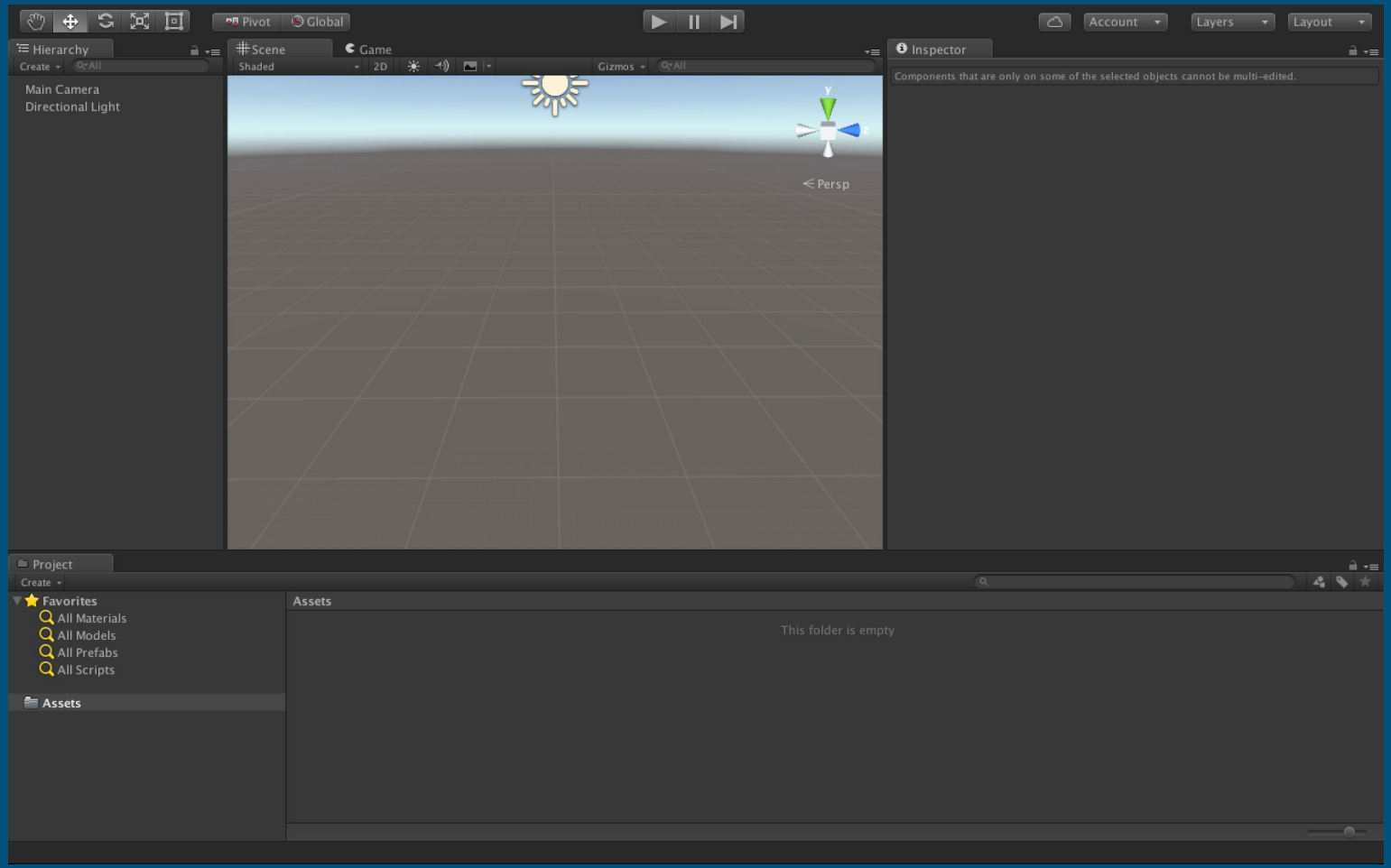
Unity: Introduction

- You will need Unity: *https://unity3d.com/*
- Let's do this!
  - 1. Open Unity and create a new project
  - 2. Save your scene (File -> Save Scene)
    - Your "Project" is your entire game.
    - Your "Scene" is a single level inside of the project
    - You can make a new scene by going to File -> New Scene
- Then, to make Virtual Reality work:
  - Edit -> Project Settings -> Player -> Other Settings -> VR Supported
- **Project**: The entire game.
- **Scene**: A level of the game.

Unity: Interface



New Project Interface.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Main Camera
Directional Light
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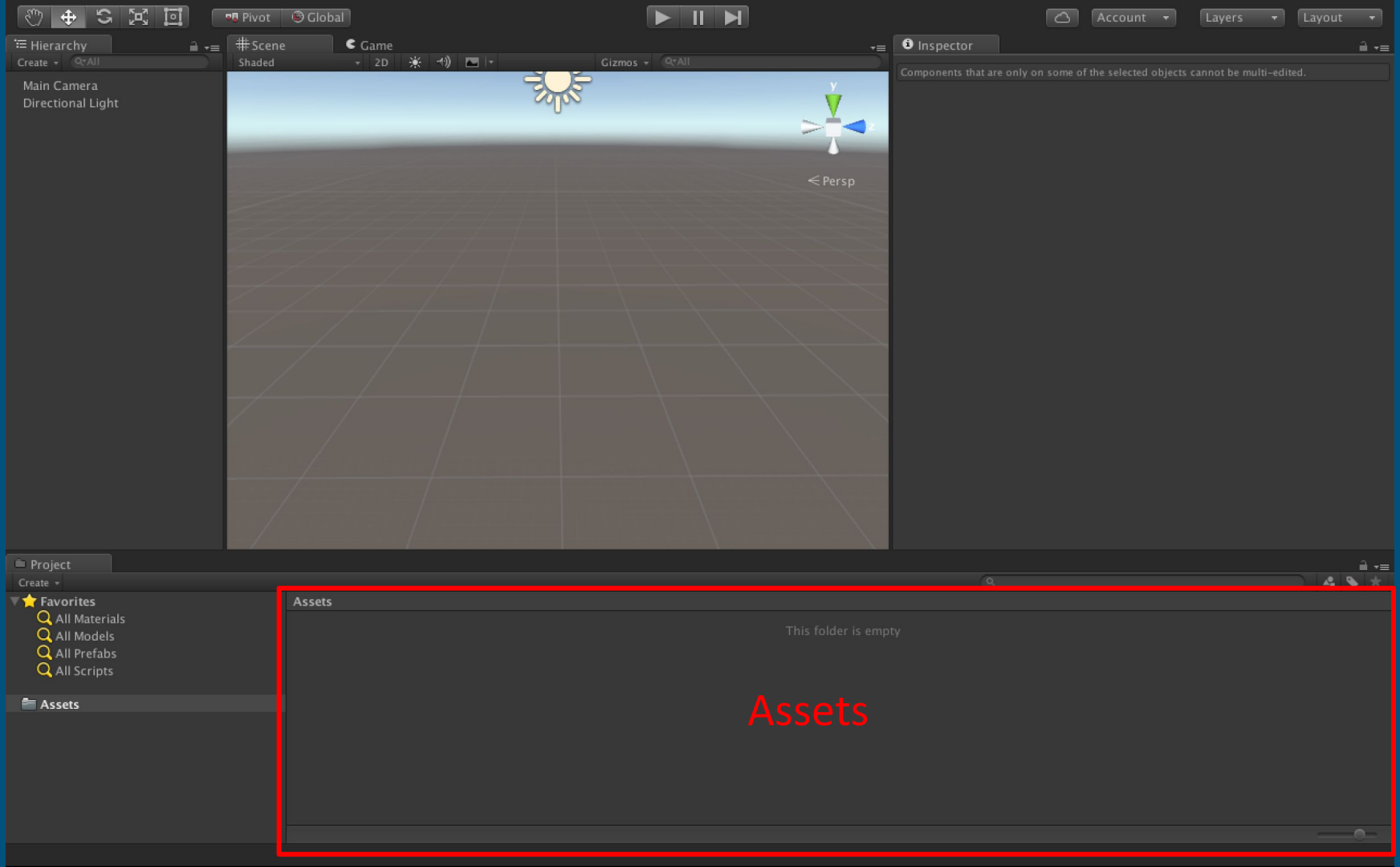
Shaded
2D
Gizmos
Persp
Inspector
Components that are only on some of the selected objects cannot be multi-edited.
Project
Create
Favorites
All Materials
All Models
All Prefabs
All Scripts
Assets
Assets
This folder is empty

Don’t Panic

Key Terms: Assets

- **Assets** are your tools for creating an experience
- Your “Assets” folder contains all the resources you will use
  - This can include objects, models, scripts, materials, etc
- It’s a good idea to keep your assets organized.
  - I.e. a “Scenes” folder, a “Scripts” folder, a “Materials” folder…
- There are many assets available online!
  - Standard Unity packages, online asset store, etc...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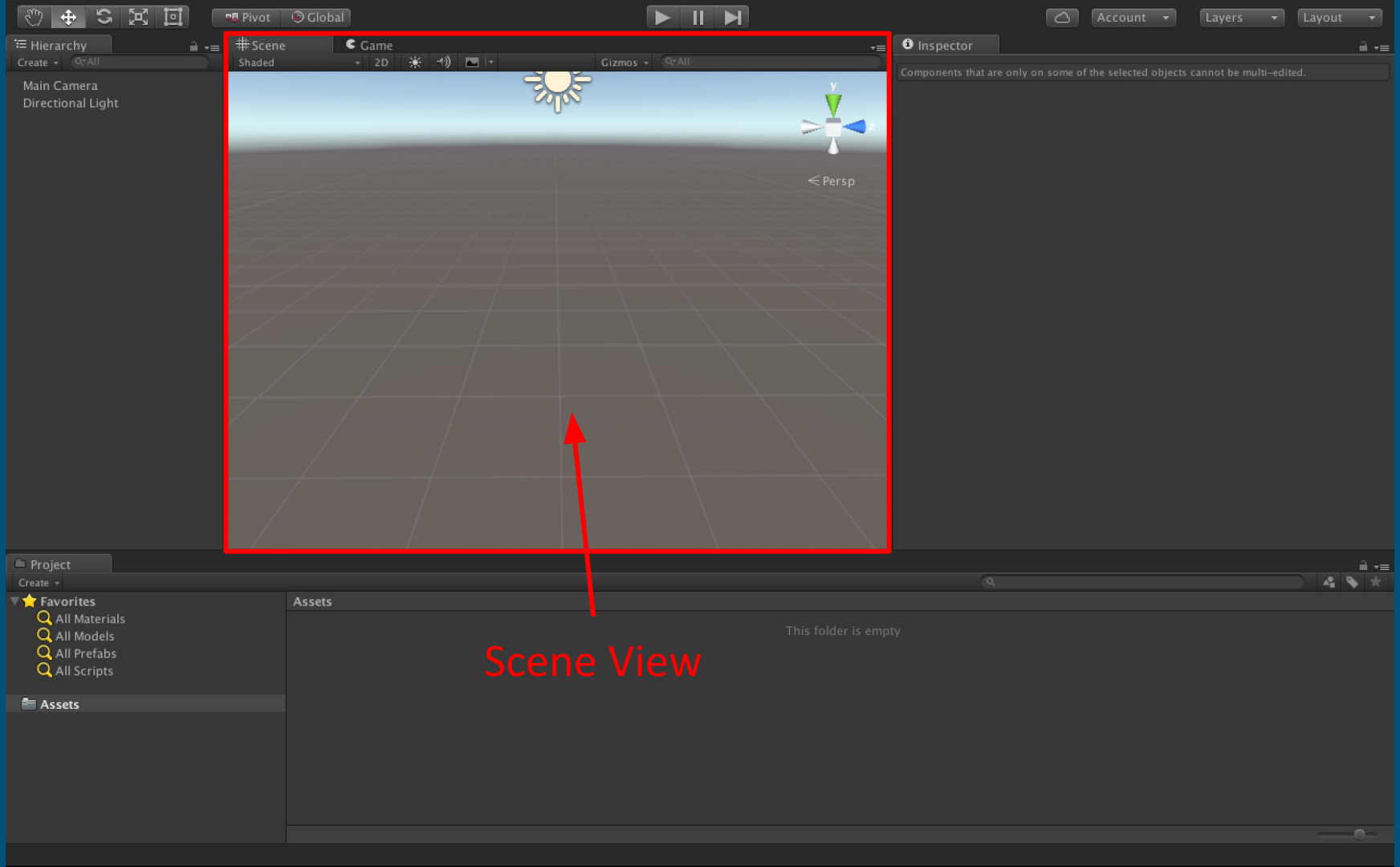
Assets

Key Terms: Scene View

- The **Scene View** is a developer's view of the game
- You can navigate freely and change objects
- Not bound by the game's camera perspective

- The **Game View** is the player's view of the game
- This is what an actual player will see!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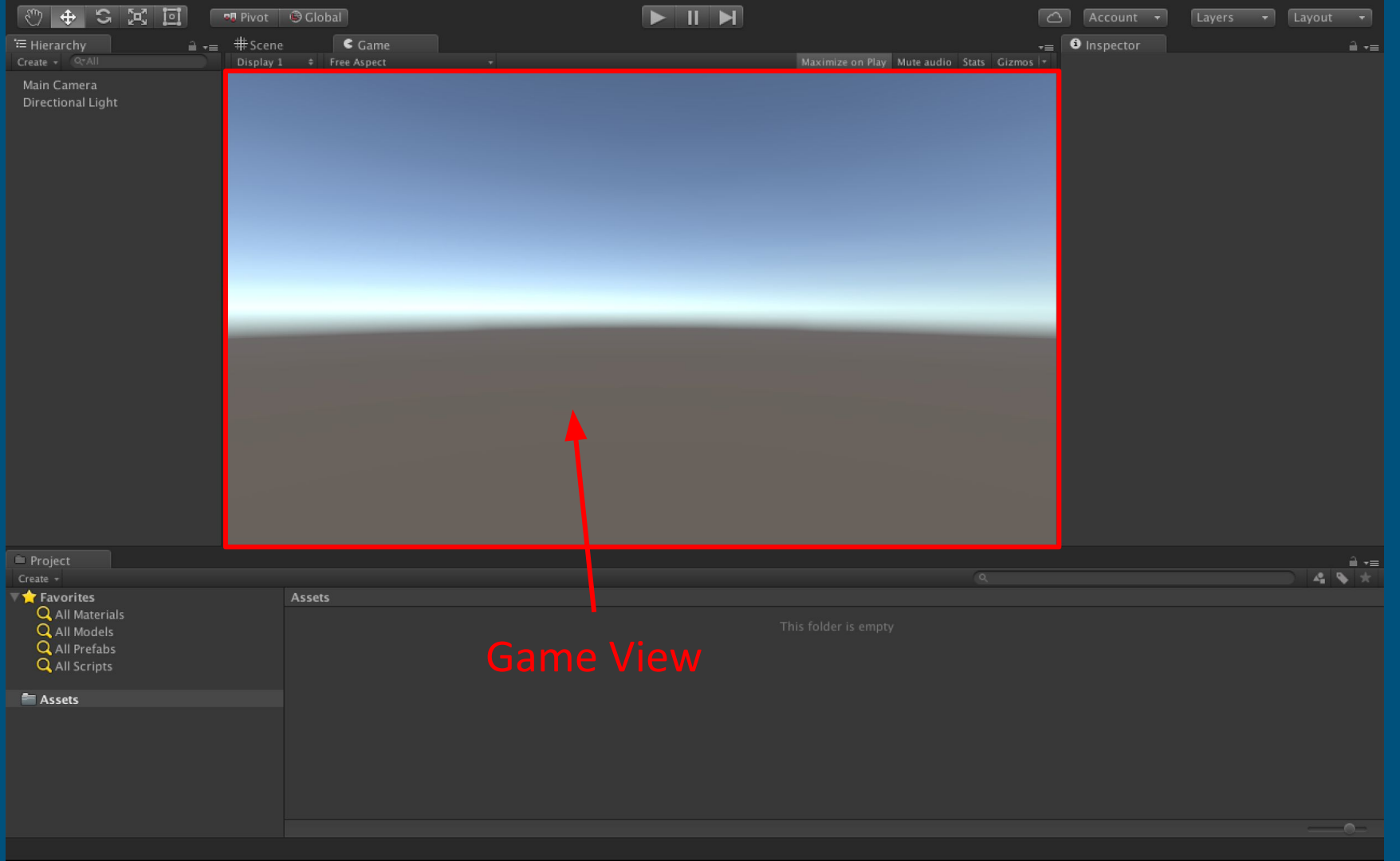
Scene View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Assets
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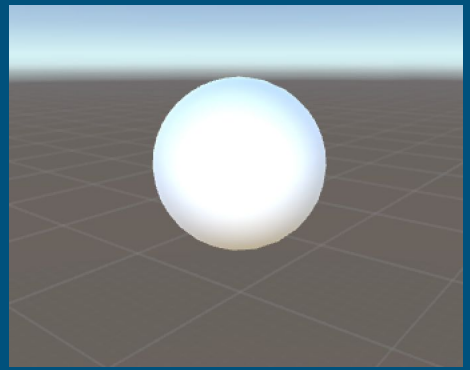
Game View

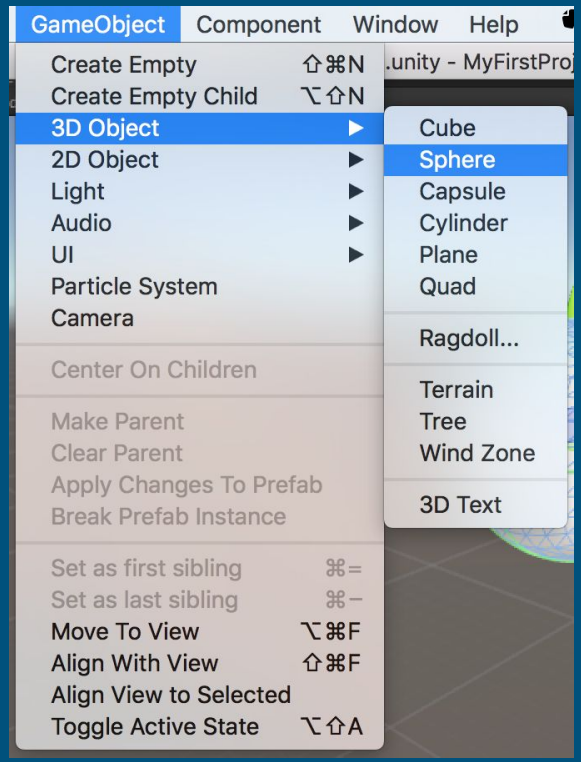
Key Terms: GameObjects & Components

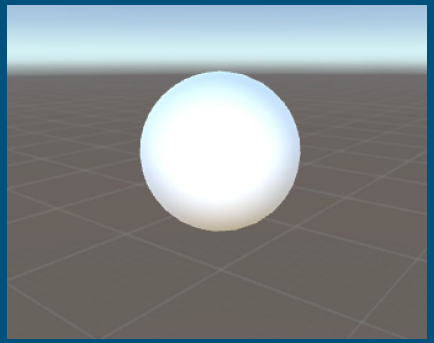
- A **GameObject** is anything that exists inside your **scene**.
- **GameObjects** consist of **Components**
- **Components** are what give a **GameObject** it's properties and behaviour
  - A GameObject is only as unique as the components it has
- In this sense, all **GameObjects** are just collections of **Components**
- **GameObjects** appear in the Hierarchy
- **Components** appear in the Inspector



Key Terms: GameObjects & Components

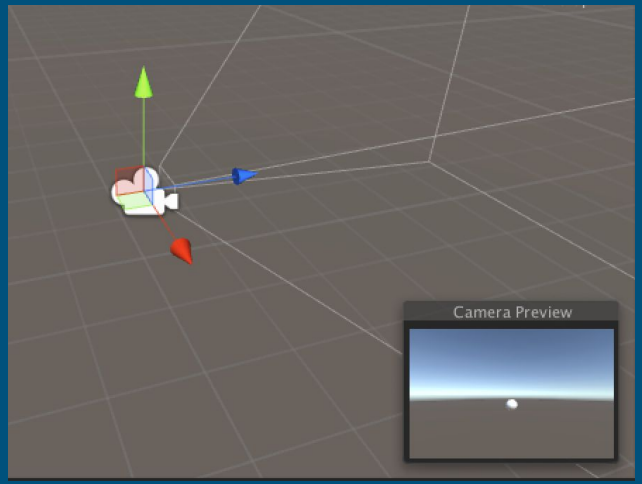
- To create a GameObject…
- 1. Go to GameObject Menu
- 2. Select “3D Object”
- 3. Choose a shape!
- What about “Create Empty”?
  - Creates a GO with no Components
  - Called an Empty GameObject
  - Does nothing!
- Your shape is in the **Hierarchy**
  - It’s components in the **Inspector**

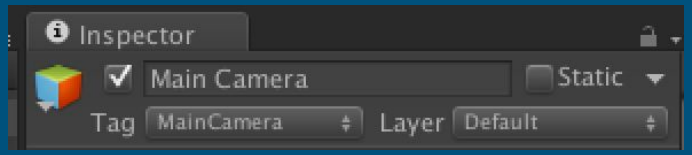


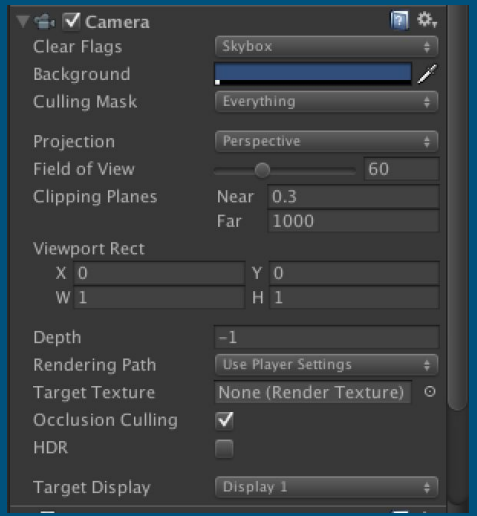


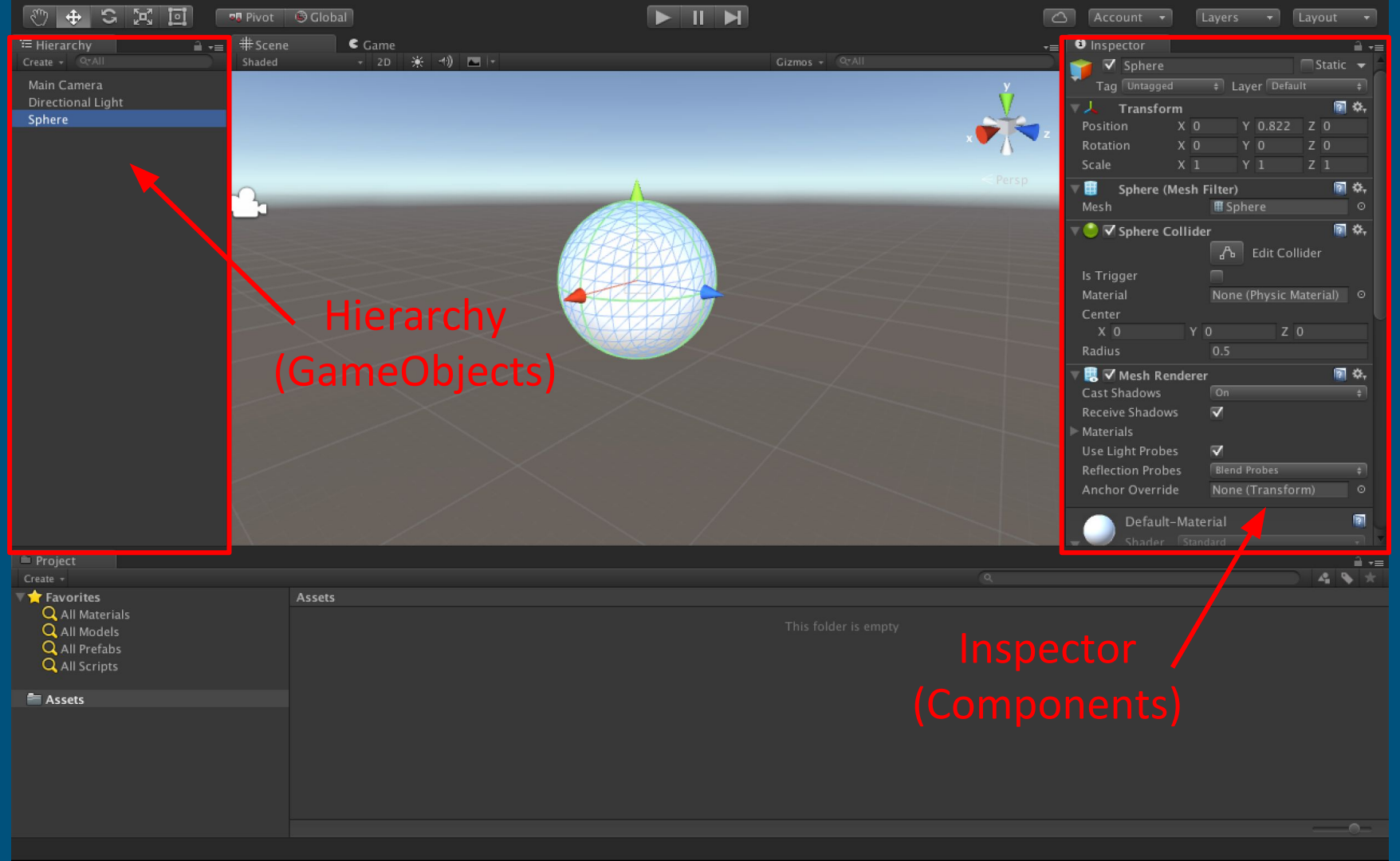
Key Components: The Camera

- The Camera: What the user will see
  - An object containing a “Camera” component and the “Main Camera” tag
  - Note: The **only** thing making this a camera is the “Camera” component
  - You can see the camera’s field of view in Scene view





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Hierarchy
(GameObjects)
Inspector
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Tag
Untagged
Layer
Default
Transform
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Rotation
Scale
Sphere (Mesh Filter)
Mesh
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Sphere Collider
Edit Collider
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None (Physic Material)
Center
Radius
Mesh Renderer
Cast Shadows
On
Receive Shadows
Materials
Use Light Probes
Reflection Probes
Blend Probes
Anchor Override
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Default-Material
Shader
Standard
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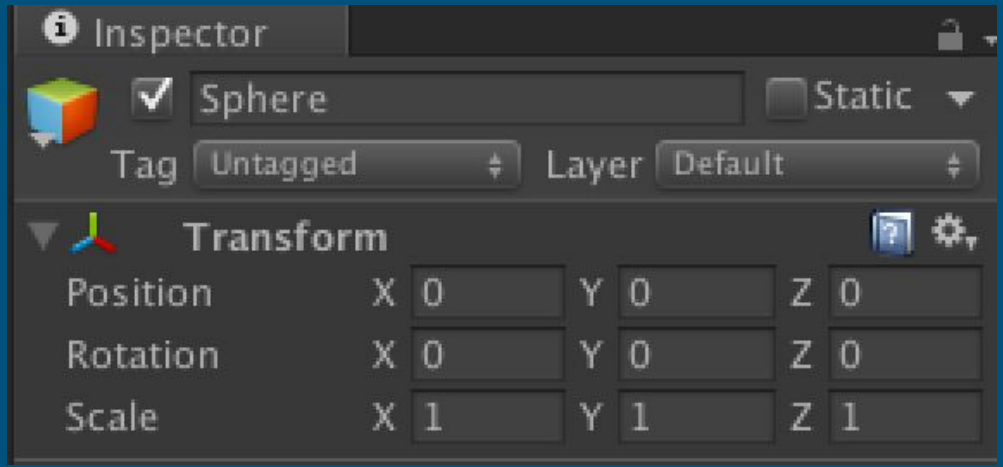
Inspector
(Components)

Navigation

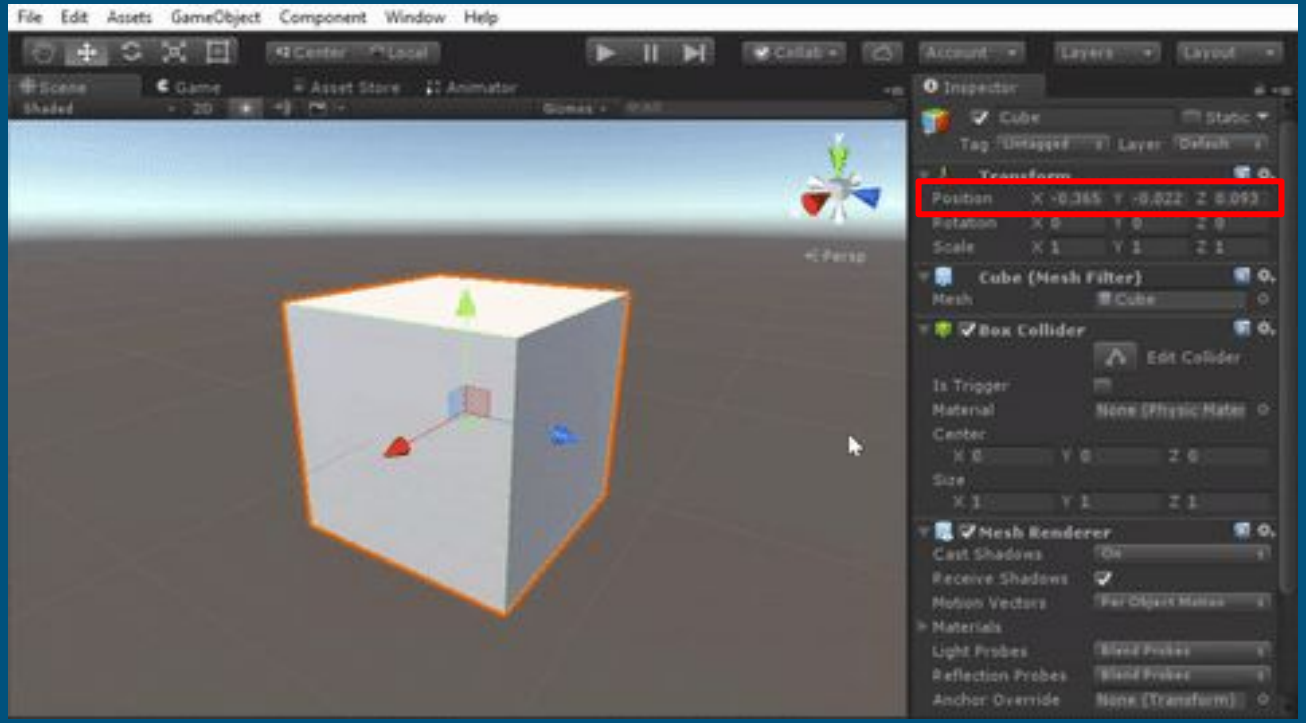
- Ways to navigate scene view:
- Recommended: Hold down right mouse button and use WASDQE keys
- Mouse wheel to zoom in.
- Right mouse to rotate view.
- Double click GameObject to center on it
- “F” key to focus on an object, when it’s selected
- Arrow keys with scene selected.

Key Components: Transform

- Transform: Position and rotation of an object
  - This is the 3D location, rotation, and scale of the object in your world
  - This location is *relative* to the object's parent in the hierarchy
  - **All GameObjects have the "Transform" component**

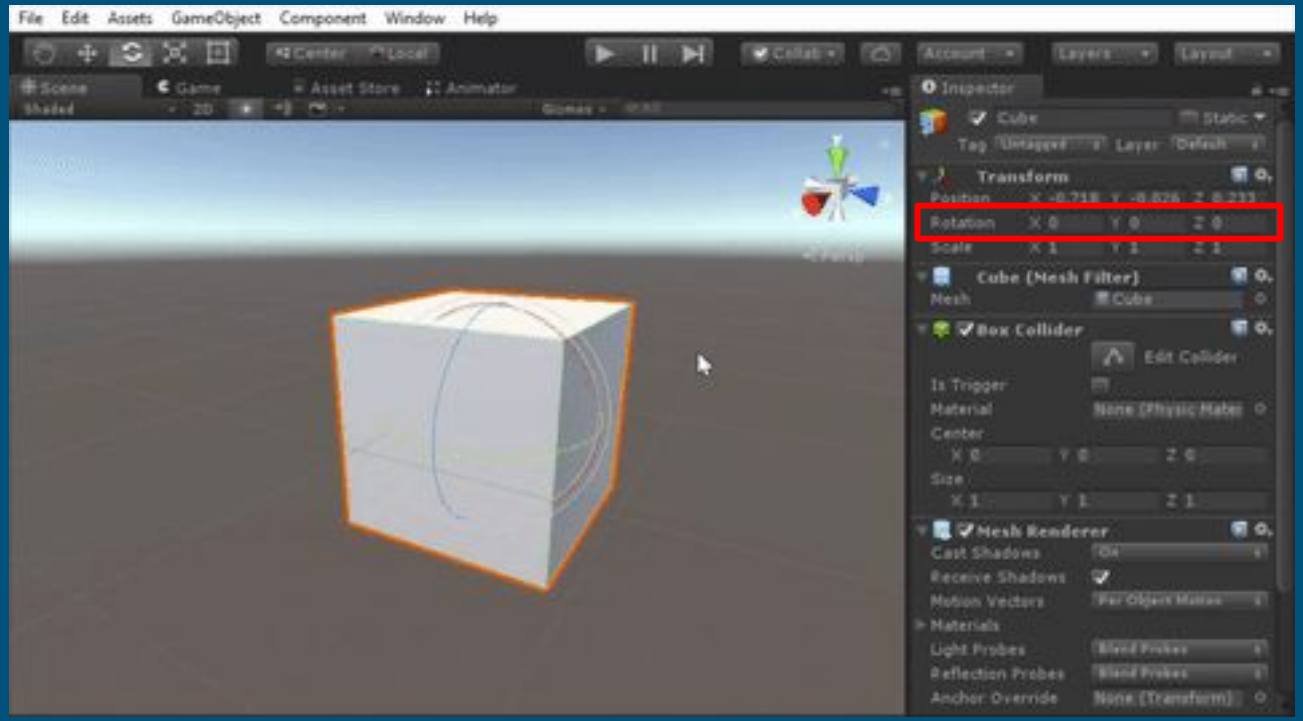


How to move things?



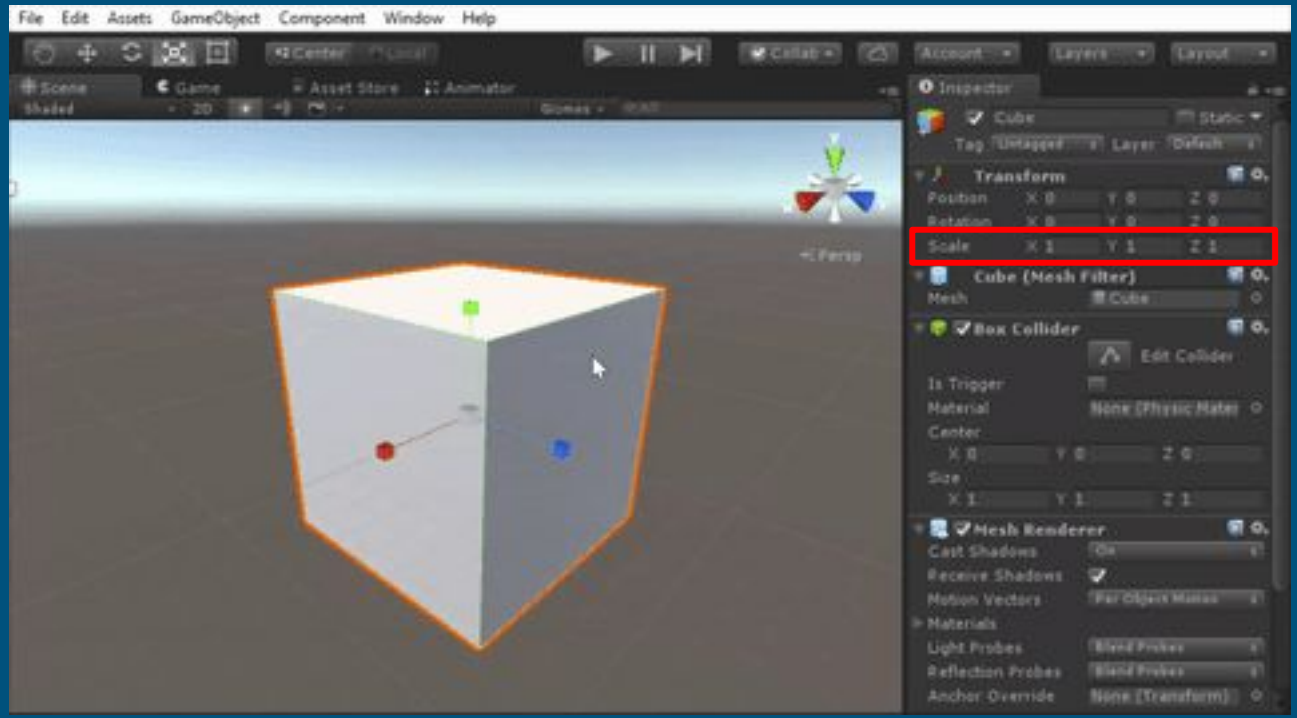
Press W to move object

How to move things?



Press E to rotate

How to move things?



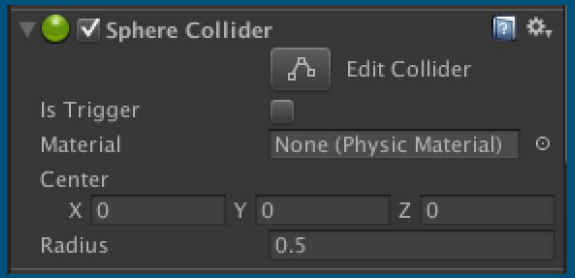
Press R to scale object

Key Components: Rigidbody

- **Rigidbody**: Allows the object to work with physics.
- A Rigidbody applies physics to an object:
  - Falling
  - Colliding
  - Bouncing
  - Etc…
- Needed for collisions as well!

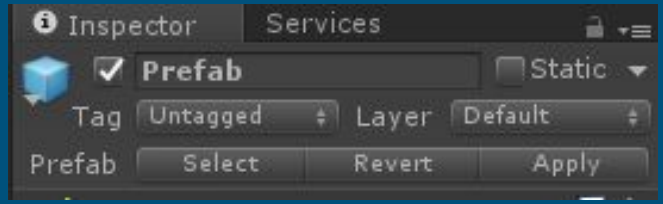
Key Components: Collider

- Collider: A physical barrier or trigger that handles collisions.
- There are several different types of colliders
  - Box Collider
  - Sphere Collider
  - Capsule Collider
  - Mesh Collider (Fits to any model)



- Activated when two objects with colliders come into contact
- If a collider has **“Is Trigger”** checked, it won’t respond to physics.
  - I.e. No bouncing from objects with Rigidbodies
  - It still sends collision data though! Just not a “physical” wall.
- If an object doesn’t have a collider, things will pass right through it.

Unity: Prefabs



- A **Prefab** is a saved GameObject that can be used outside of a scene.
  - It saves any components, children, and everything else!
- You need prefabs:
  - To make copies of something.
  - To create something at runtime.
    - Eg. a soda can out of a machine, bullets out of a gun, etc.
- To create a prefab from a GameObject, just drag it from the scene to Project
  - You can also add Prefabs back to the scene by dragging them from Project to Hierarchy
- Changing one will change the others!
  - You can “Save” your changes to a Prefab by clicking the “Apply” button on it.
  - Yes, this changes all versions of the prefab!

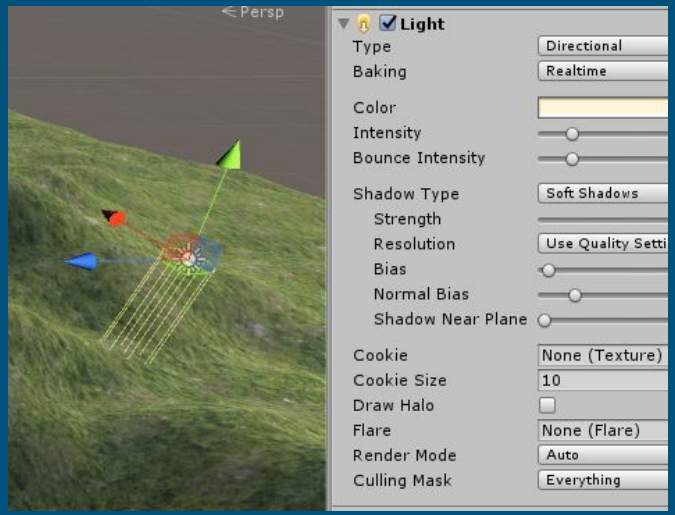
Testing Without VR

- First import the Utility package from Standard Assets
- Put SimpleMouseRotator.cs on a Main Camera
- Play!
- The mouse then simulates looking around.

Additional Information

- The following slides may be useful as a supplement.

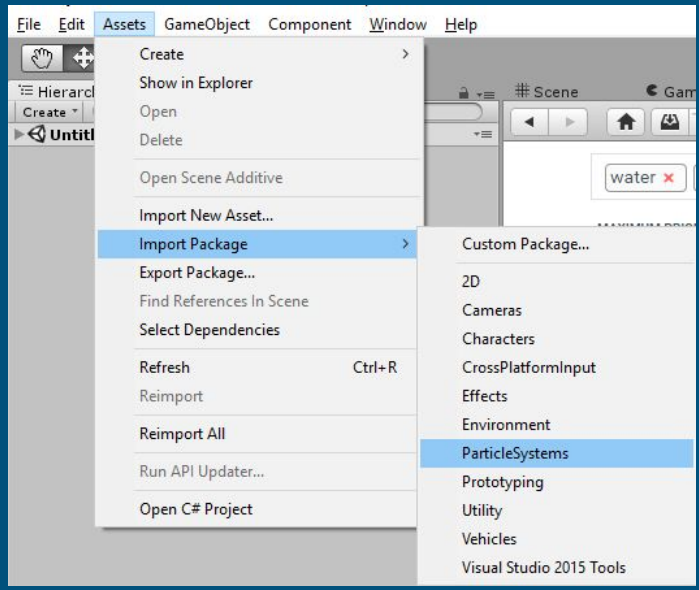
Unity Tools: Light



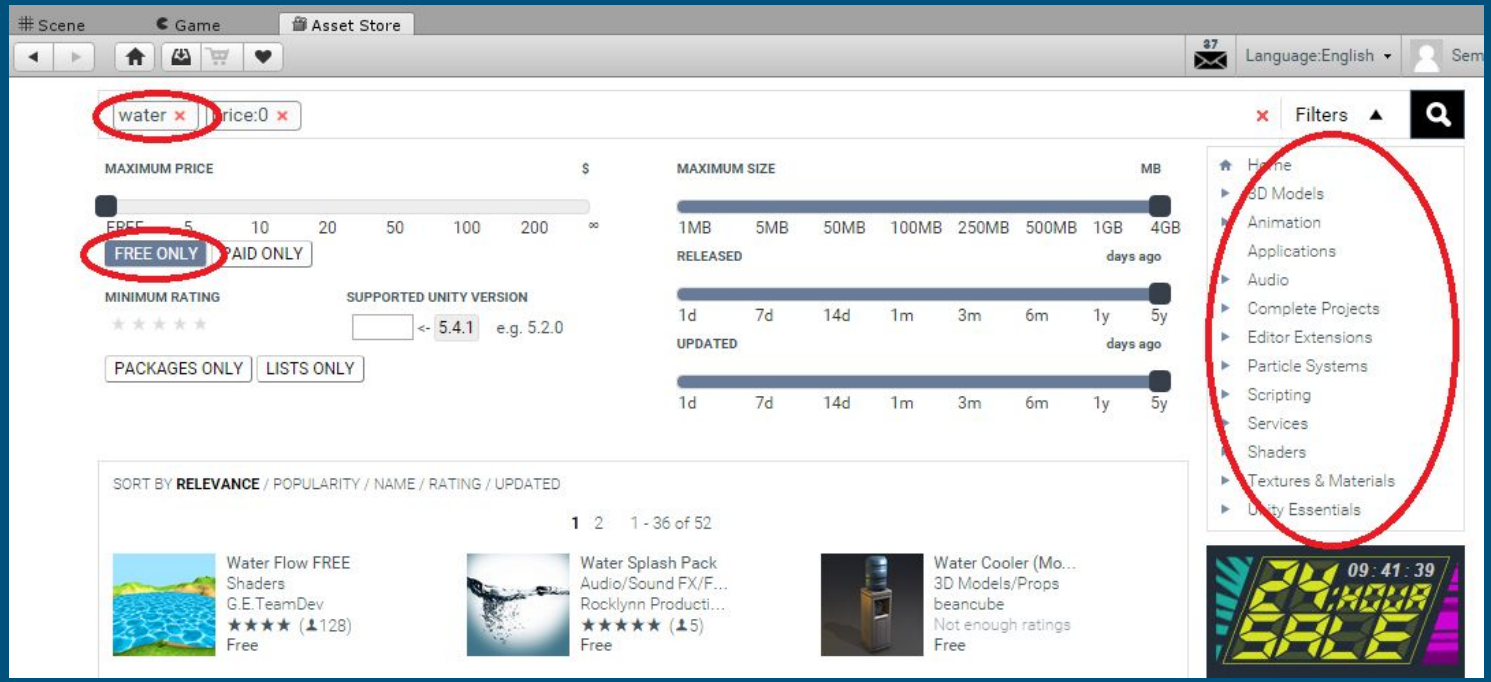
- Makes things visible!
- 3 Types:
  - Point: Like a light bulb, Sends rays from a point.
  - Spot: Like a flashlight, Sends rays from a point, but within a cone.
  - Directional: Like the sun, All rays are parallel in a direction.

Unity: Importing Assets

- Unity provides some default assets.
- Check out Environment, Vehicles, Effects, and ParticleSystems for art.
- Check out Utility and Characters for useful code and prefabs.

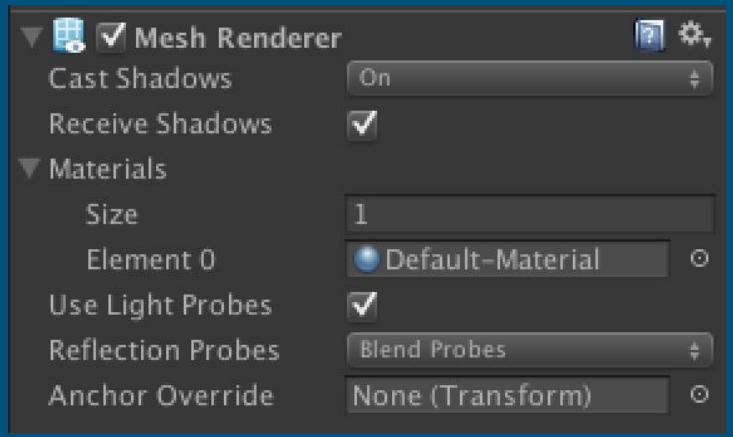


Unity: Importing Assets + Asset Store



Key Components: Renderer

- Renderer (or MeshRenderer): What makes the object visible
- Without a renderer, the object will be completely invisible!
- Rendering is the process of displaying something graphically
- The object can **still exist** without a renderer - just no physical appearance

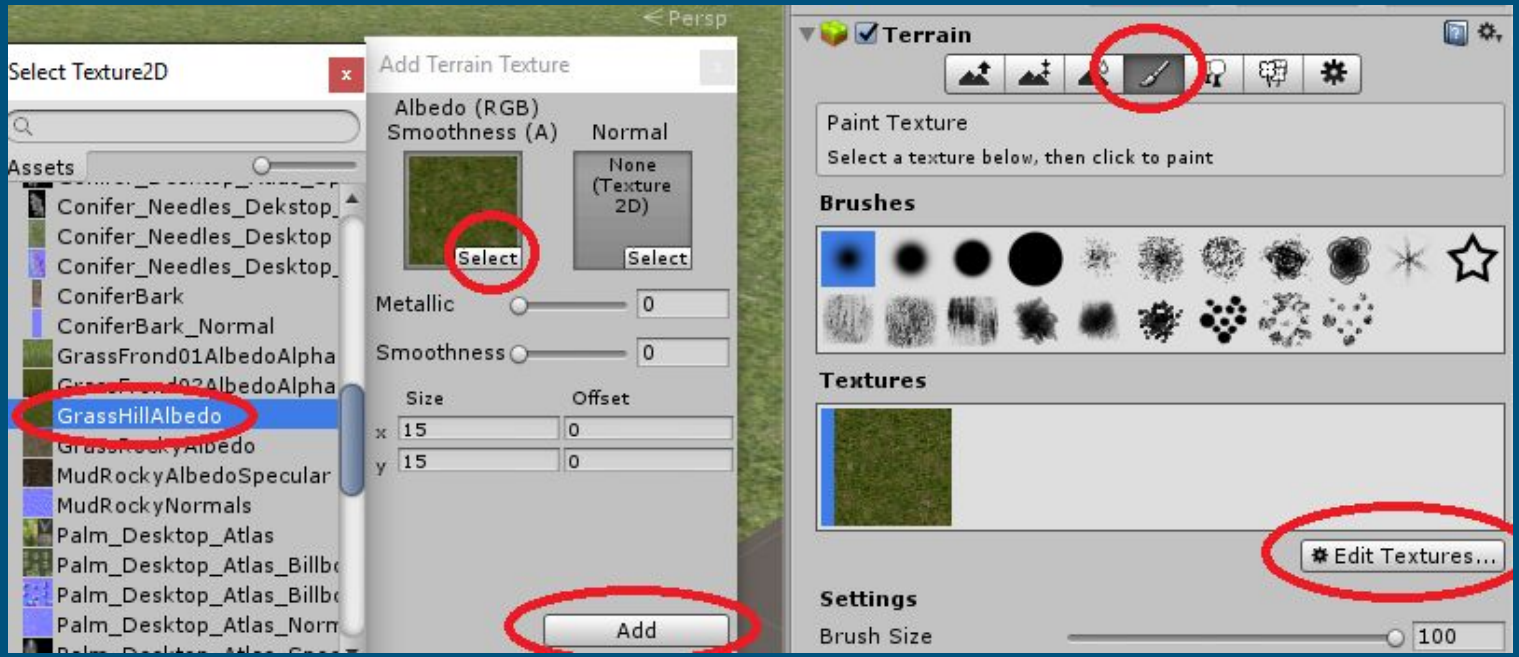


Unity Tools: Terrain

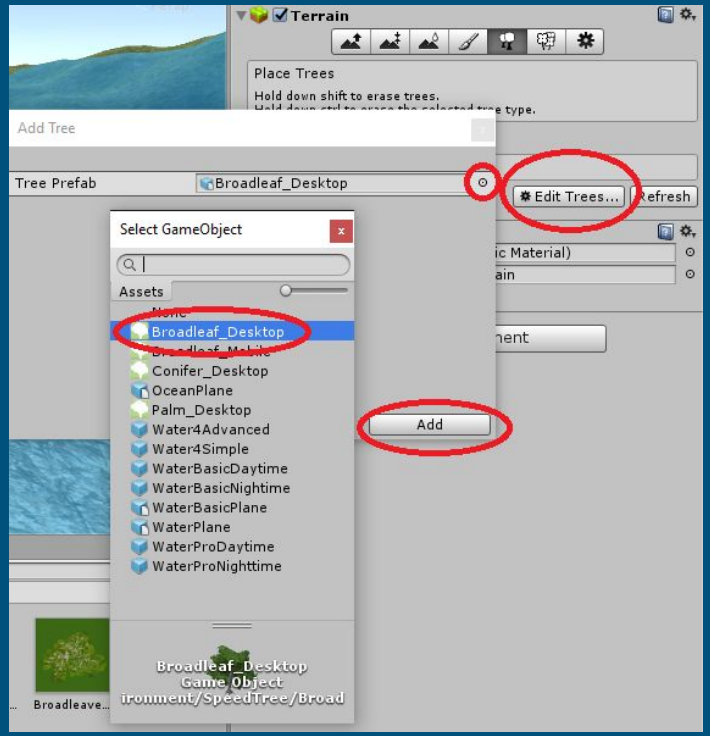
- If you haven’t already, import the environments package
- Check the terrain component for useful tools.
- Note that trees and grass are expensive in terms of frame rate.

Unity Tools: Terrain

- How to set terrain texture.

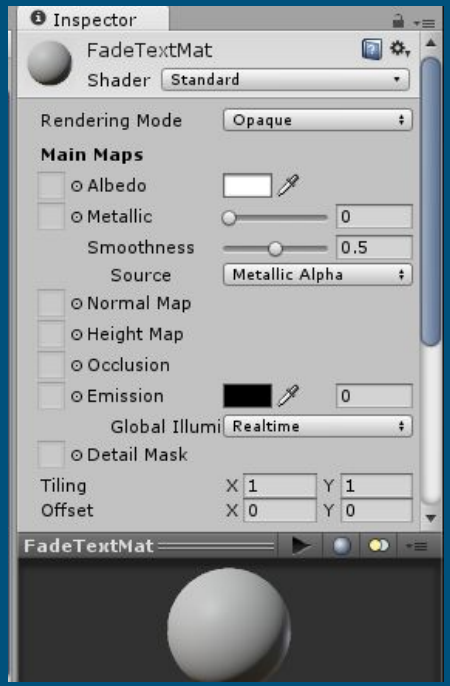


Unity Tools: Terrain



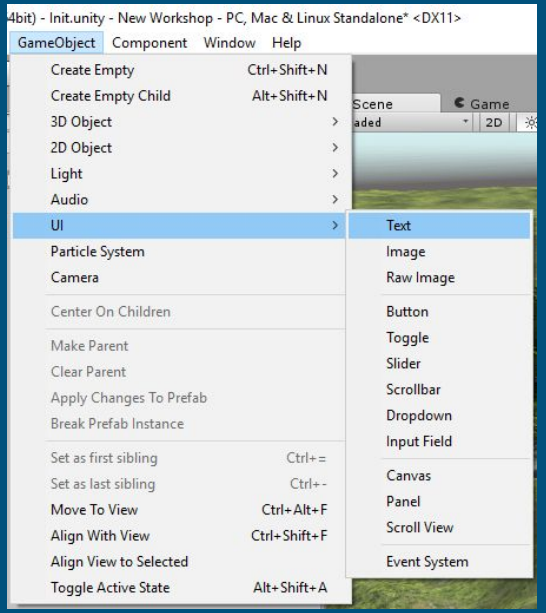
- How to set trees. Similar process for grasses.
- After that is painting them.

Unity Tools: Materials

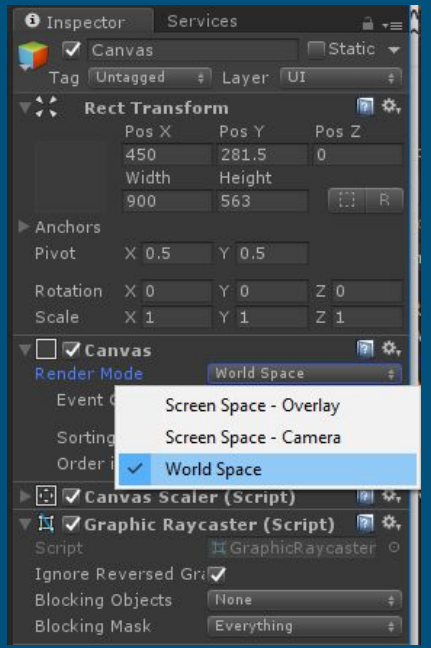


- Gives visual properties to objects.
- Albedo is color.
- Emission is released light.
- Old asset store assets may use legacy shaders.

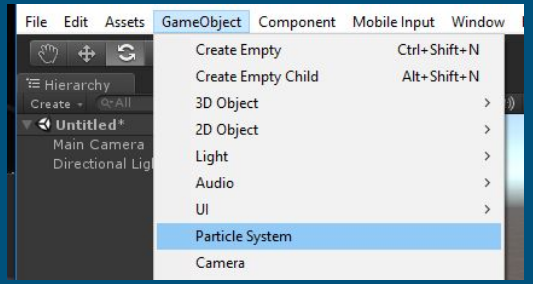
Unity Tools: UI



- Don’t use screen space, keep UI in world space.
- Consider placing on controllers
- You can use:
  - Text
  - Panels
  - Images
  - Buttons
  - Dropdowns
- To get text to look good…
  - Put large font size and scale down



Unity Tools: Particle Systems



- Do this when you're sick of working on everything else.
- Start from the standard assets particle systems.
- Really fun to just try new combinations.

- Particle Systems are special effects
- Explosions, fountains, etc…
- Lots of customization!