

MAME File Manager User Guide

Author	phweda
Reviewer	coccola



0.90 Release

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Introduction

MAME File Manager (MFM) is a desktop application for creating lists of Games and Systems, and extracting sets of MAME ROMs, CHDs, and Extras to another location from complete or larger sets. As of July 2017 the total of MAME resources is 2.5 TB+! MFM helps you create smaller sets.

Its primary goals are:

- Display all available information for each Machine¹
- Filter machines to create lists
- Create Playsets² from lists

The primary focus of MFM is machines that are runnable³. However we share both full and runnable only [Data Sets](#).

MFM **does not** audit or manage ROMs/CHDs/Extras in any way except for the intended copying a subset of runnable machines to a different location. It does not validate those files. Use a ROM Manager (such as [Clrmamepro](#) or [RomVault](#)) to validate/fix your sets.

MFM will run MAME for you if you have your MAME properly setup and configured. This is a limited feature providing basics such as running a machine or running and recording a machine. MFM **does not** seek to be a full MAME frontend.

¹ Machine is the current MAME term for a Game or System

² Playset is a subset of MAME resources; ROMs, CHDs and Extras, for a list of machines

³ Runnable here is defined by Machine being marked Good or Imperfect by the MAME developers

Prerequisites

[Java 8](#) or higher installed.

At least one set of: MAME ROMs, CHDs, Software List ROMs or Software List CHDs.

MAME – some features of MFM require the MAME executable or additionally MAME preconfigured to run Machines. (see [MAME Installation](#))

Theoretically MFM will run on any OS with Java 8 JVM

Tested Operating Systems:

- Windows 7 & 10
- Linux Ubuntu 16.10
- Mac OS X El Capitan

RAM Memory

Minimum System RAM for the JVM (Java Virtual Machine) will vary based on many factors. For simple 'out of the box' usage you need at least 1 GB although 2 GB is recommended. Parsing MAME (see [Advanced Usage](#)) requires 4+ GB. With [Data Sets](#) the most recent MAME versions, 180+, the required RAM to run the ALL set is 3+ GB.

For 32-bit Java your maximum RAM for the JVM is approximately 1280 to 1536 MB.

Screen Size

1280 x 1024 is the smallest screen size that MFM supports. However note that if you use the large or very large fonts some things will not show completely at that resolution.

1600 x 1024 or larger is recommended.

Installing

File **MFM <version>.zip**

Unzip all contents into a folder. Recommended is to give MFM its own folder.

Get Data Sets

Download one or more [Data Sets](#) from the site where you obtained MFM. These are placed into **<MFM Root>/Data** folder. MFM automatically searches that folder.

If Java system variables are set in your OS (standard Java x64 installation) MFM is ready to run. Exception is if you are on 32-bit Java, you must [edit the startup script](#).

Use the **MFM.bat** or **MFM.sh**⁴ file provided. These will run without editing. If you do not have Java system variables set you will need to edit your .bat or .sh to point to the Java executable. See [editing startup scripts](#).

From Previous MFM

If you have a previous MFM you can copy over your playlists.

Copy file **MFM_Playlists.xml** from your old MFM to your new **<MFM Root>/Settings** folder.

⁴ Unix users need to execute "chmod +x MFM.sh" first

First Run

A settings windows will open. Image contains example entries as if filled out by you. Left-click twice on the edit box to launch the File Chooser. Any path you can traverse in the File Chooser can be used.

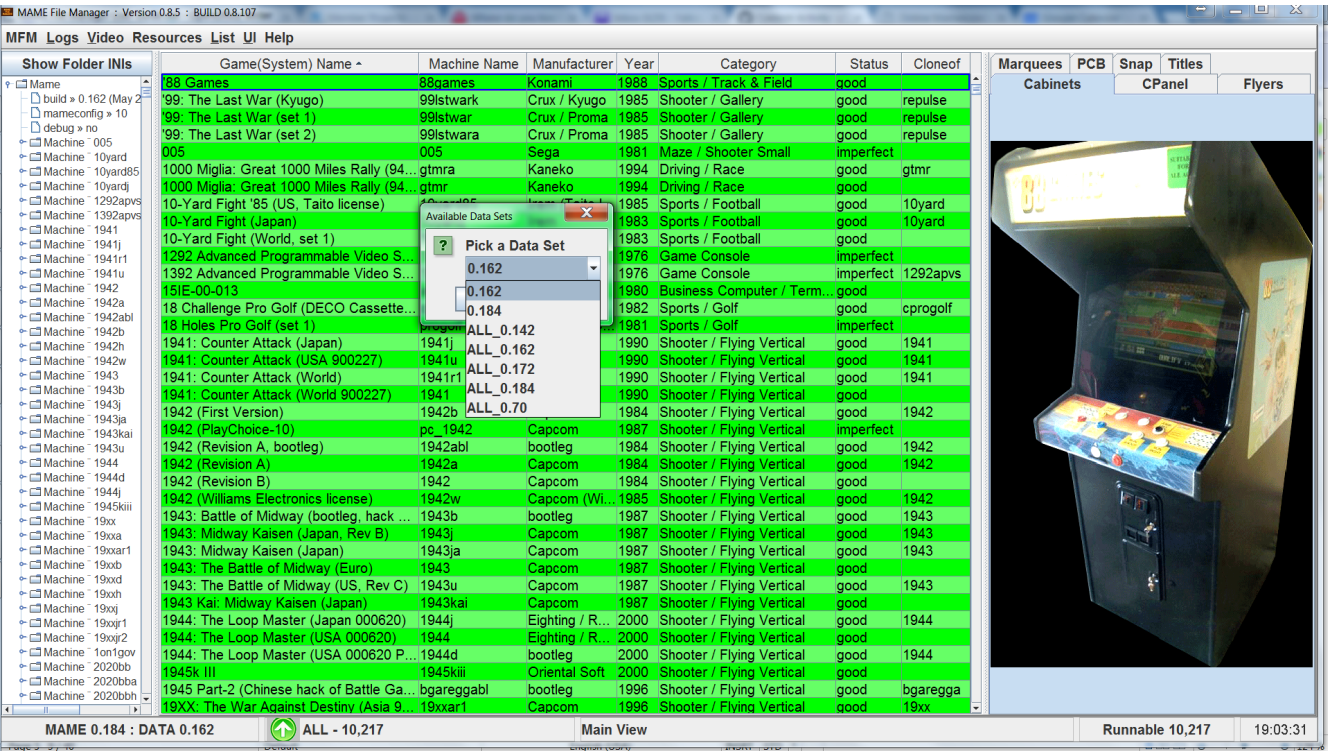
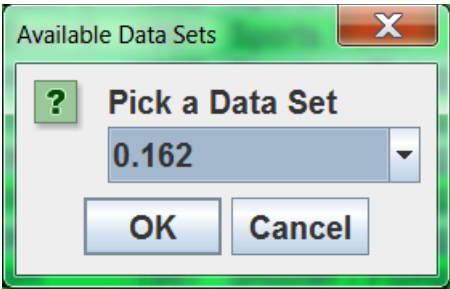
The screenshot shows the 'MFM Settings' window with the following fields and values:

- Select Playset Directory to place MAME resources:** C:\MAME Selected
- Select MAME Executable:** C:\MAME\mame64.exe
- Select root Directory full MAME Rom set:** C:\MAME ROMs
- Leave unchecked if you have a SPLIT or MERGED ROM set:** ☐ MAME ROMs NON-MERGED?
- Select root Directory full MAME CHD set:** C:\MAME CHDs
- Select root Directory full Software List ROMs:** C:\MAME Software List ROMs
- Select root Directory full Software List CHDs:** C:\MAME Software List CHDs
- Select root Directory full MAME Extras set:** C:\MAME EXTRAS
- Select Directory of your MAME videos:** C:\MAME VideoSnaps

Buttons at the bottom: Save MFM Settings, Cancel

- Playset directory is where MFM will copy resources to. Simplest setup is to use your MAME directory.
- MAME Executable is where the installed binary of MAME is (mame64.exe), NOT the installation binary (e.g. mame0180b_64bit.exe).
- MAME ROMs NON-MERGED checkbox to differentiate Split and Merged sets from [Non-Merged](#). Check if you have Non-Merged ROM set. If you have a Split or Merged set and check this your set will be missing some or all required ROMs. If unchecked and you have a Non-Merged set unneeded resources are copied.

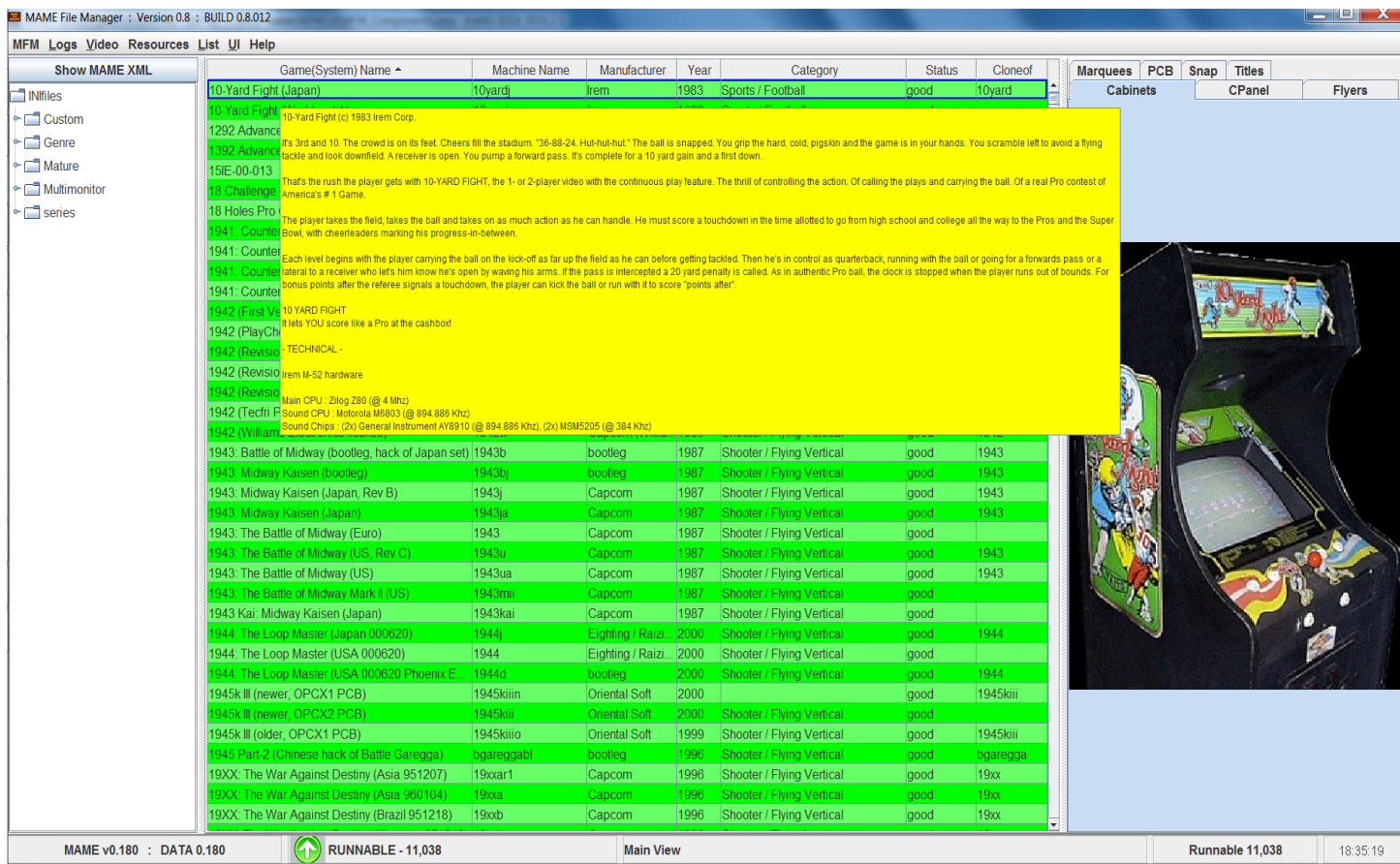
If you have more than one Data Set you will then be prompted to select a Data Set.



User Interface

There are two basic modes: Full and List Only.

Full mode, if you have .inis you will get the left panel where you can view them in a tree.



MAME File Manager : Version 0.8 : BUILD 0.8.012

MFM Logs Video Resources List UI Help

Name	Game(System) Name ^	Machine Name	Manufactu...	Year	Category	Status	Cloneof
build » 0.180 (mame018)	1942 (First Version)	1942b	Capcom	1984	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1942
mameconfig » 10	1942 (PlayChoice-10)	pc 1942	Caocom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	imperfect	
debug » no	1942 (c) 1984 Capcom.						
Machine ~ 005	1942 (F) 1942 is a vertically scrolling shoot 'em up set in the Asian theater of World War II. The goal is to reach Tokyo and destroy the entire Japanese air fleet. The player (the American 'Super Ace') pilots a plane, and has to shoot down enemy planes. Besides shooting, the player can also perform a loop-the-loop to avoid enemy fire.						
Machine ~ 10yard	1942 (T) TECHNICAL -						
Machine ~ 10yard85	1942 (I) Main CPU : Zilog Z80 (@ 4 Mhz)						
Machine ~ 10yardj	1943: Sound CPU : Zilog Z80 (@ 3 Mhz)						
Machine ~ 11beat	1943: Sound Chips : (2x) General Instrument AY8910 (@ 1.5 Mhz)						
Machine ~ 1292apvs	1943:						
Machine ~ 136094-0072	1943: Screen Orientation: Vertical						
Machine ~ 136095-0072	1943: Screen Resolution: 256x224						
Machine ~ 1392apvs	1943: Refresh Rate: 60Hz						
Machine ~ 1941	1943: Palette colours: 256						
Machine ~ 1941j	1943: Players : 2						
Machine ~ 1941r1	1943: Control : 8-way joystick						
Machine ~ 1941u	1943: Buttons : 2						
Machine ~ 1942	1943: TRIVA -						
Machine ~ 1942a	1943 Kai, midway kaisen (Japan)	1943kai	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
Machine ~ 1942abl	1944: The Loop Master (Japan 0006...)	1944j	Eighting / ...	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1944
Machine ~ 1942b	1944: The Loop Master (USA 000620)	1944	Eighting / ...	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
Machine ~ 1942h	1944: The Loop Master (USA 00062...)	1944d	bootleg	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1944
Machine ~ 1942p	1945k III (newer, OPCX1 PCB)	1945kiin	Oriental Soft	2000		good	1945kiin
Machine ~ 1942w	1945k III (older, OPCX2 PCB)	1945klii	Oriental Soft	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
Machine ~ 1943	1945k III (older, OPCX1 PCB)	1945kiio	Oriental Soft	1999	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1945kiio
Machine ~ 1943b	1945 Part-2 (Chinese hack of Battle ...)	bgareggab1	bootleg	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	bgareggga
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (Asi...	19xxar1	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (Asi...	19xxa	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (Bra...	19xxb	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (His...	19xxh	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (Jap...	19xxjr2	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (Jap...	19xxjr1	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (Jap...	19xxj	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (US...	19xx	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
	19XX: The War Against Destiny (US...	19xxd	bootleg	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
	1 on 1 Government (Japan)	1on1gov	Tecmo	2000	Sports / Basketball	imperfect	
	2020 Super Baseball (set 1)	2020bb	SNK / Pallas	1991	Sports / Baseball	good	
	2020 Super Baseball (set 2)	2020bba	SNK / Pallas	1991	Sports / Baseball	good	2020bb
	2020 Super Baseball (set 3)	2020bbh	SNK / Pallas	1991	Sports / Baseball	good	2020bb
	21 (Mirco)	m21	Mirco Ga...	1976	Casino / Cards	good	hitme

MAME v0.180 : DATA 0.180 ALL - 11,038 Main View Runnable 11,038 18:49:06

The List Only mode can be activated via switch -list (see [Command Line Options](#)).

Game/System Name	Machine Name	Manufacturer	Year	Category	Status	Cloneof
1941: Counter Attack (Japan)	1941j	Capcom	1990	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1941
1941: Counter Attack (USA 900227)	1941u	Capcom	1990	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1941
1941: Counter Attack (World)	1941r1	Capcom	1990	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1941
1941: Counter Attack (World 900227)	1941	Capcom	1990	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1942 (First Version)	1942b	Capcom	1984	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1942
1942 (PlayChoice-10)	pc_1942	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	imperfect	
1942 (Revision A, bootleg)	1942abl	bootleg	1984	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1942
1942 (Revision A)	1942a	Capcom	1984	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1942
1942 (Revision B)	1942	Capcom	1984	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1942 (Tecfri PCB, bootleg?)	1942p	bootleg	1984	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1942
1942 (Williams Electronics license)	1942w	Capcom (Williams Electronic...	1985	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1942
1943: Battle of Midway (bootleg, hack of Japan set)	1943b	bootleg	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1943
1943: Midway Kaisen (bootleg)	1943bj	bootleg	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1943
1943: Midway Kaisen (Japan, Rev B)	1943j	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1943
1943: Midway Kaisen (Japan)	1943ja	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1943
1943: The Battle of Midway (Euro)	1943	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1943: The Battle of Midway (US, Rev C)	1943u	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1943
1943: The Battle of Midway (US)	1943ua	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1943
1943: The Battle of Midway Mark II (US)	1943mii	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1943 Kai: Midway Kaisen (Japan)	1943kai	Capcom	1987	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1944: The Loop Master (Japan 000620)	1944j	Eighting / Raizing (Capcom li...	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1944
1944: The Loop Master (USA 000620)	1944	Eighting / Raizing (Capcom li...	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1944: The Loop Master (USA 000620 Phoenix Edition) (bootleg)	1944d	bootleg	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1944
1945k III (newer, OPCX1 PCB)	1945kiii	Oriental Soft	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1945kiii
1945k III (newer, OPCX2 PCB)	1945kiii	Oriental Soft	2000	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	
1945k III (older, OPCX1 PCB)	1945kiii	Oriental Soft	1999	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	1945kiii
1945 Part-2 (Chinese hack of Battle Garegga)	bgareggabl	bootleg	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	bgaregga
1991 Spikes (Italian bootleg, set 1)	spikes91	bootleg	1991	Sports / Volleyball	prelimin...	pspikes
1991 Spikes (Italian bootleg, set 2)	spikes91b	bootleg	1991	Sports / Volleyball	prelimin...	pspikes
19 in 1 MAME bootleg	19in1	bootleg	2004	Multiplay / Compilation	prelimin...	39in1
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Asia 951207)	19xxar1	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Asia 960104)	19xxa	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Brazil 951218)	19xxb	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Hispanic 951218)	19xxh	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Japan 951207)	19xxjr2	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Japan 951225)	19xxjr1	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx
19XX: The War Against Destiny (Japan 960104, yellow case)	19xxj	Capcom	1996	Shooter / Flying Vertical	good	19xx

When you load a data set or parse MAME for all machines (-all) those marked as *preliminary*, not runnable, will be highlighted in red. Preliminary machines only appear in the: All, Arcade, BIOS, Devices, Systems(MESS), and Languages lists.

List Builder

Base List – Select one of your lists to filter. Default is the built-in Runnable(All) list.

Categories – if no categories are selected MFM does not filter categories

Controls – if no controls are selected MFM does not filter controls

Any → Machine has at least one of the selected Controls

All → Machine has all the selected controls

Exact → Machine has exactly the selected controls

Make your selections, enter a **List Name**, and select *Create List*. If list generated has one or more entries it will be created and displayed in the main view.

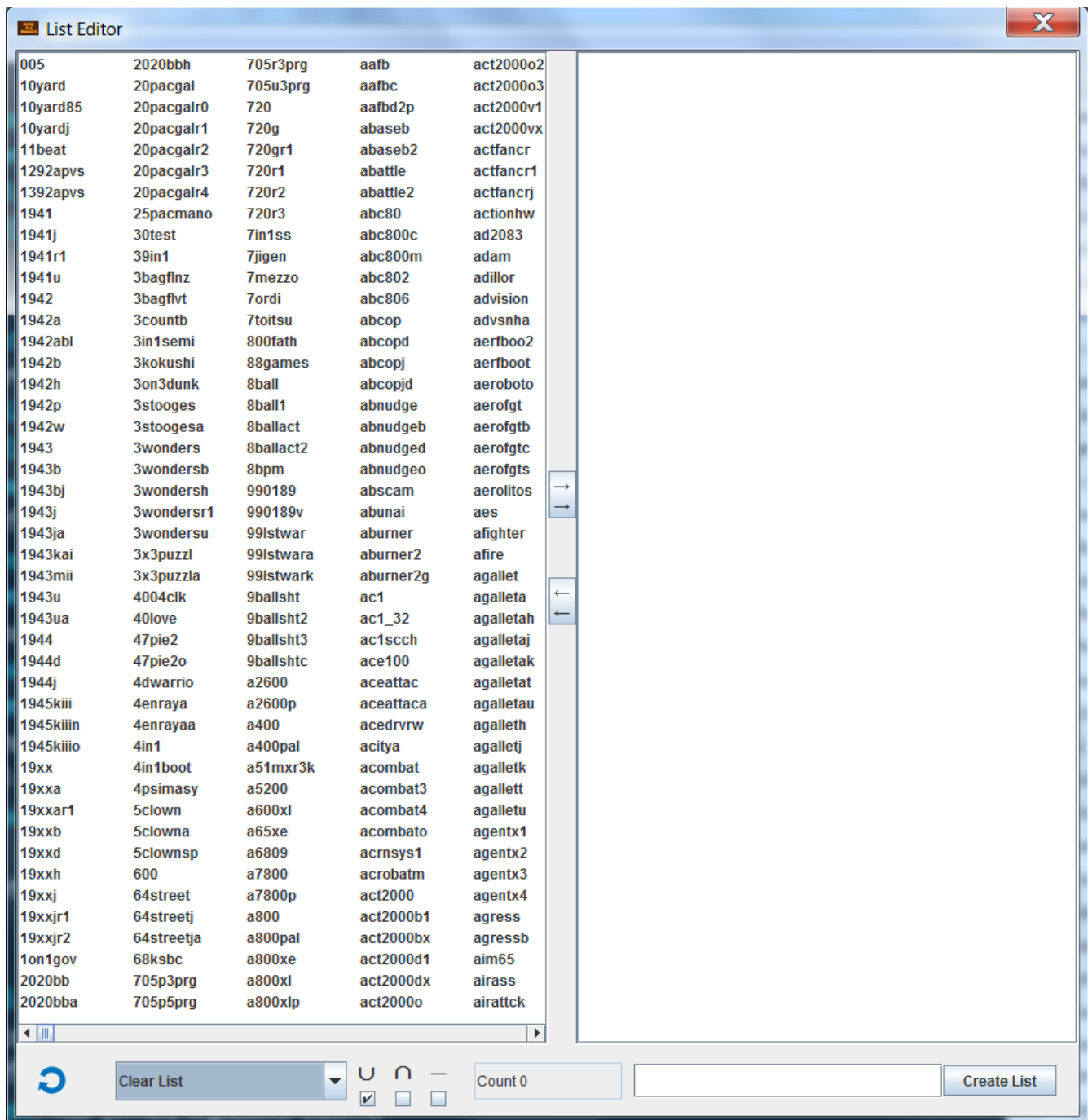
Save List to File – Saves selected list to a text file in the <MFM Root>/Lists directory. File name is <List Name><Data Version>.txt

Import List – Imports list from a text file

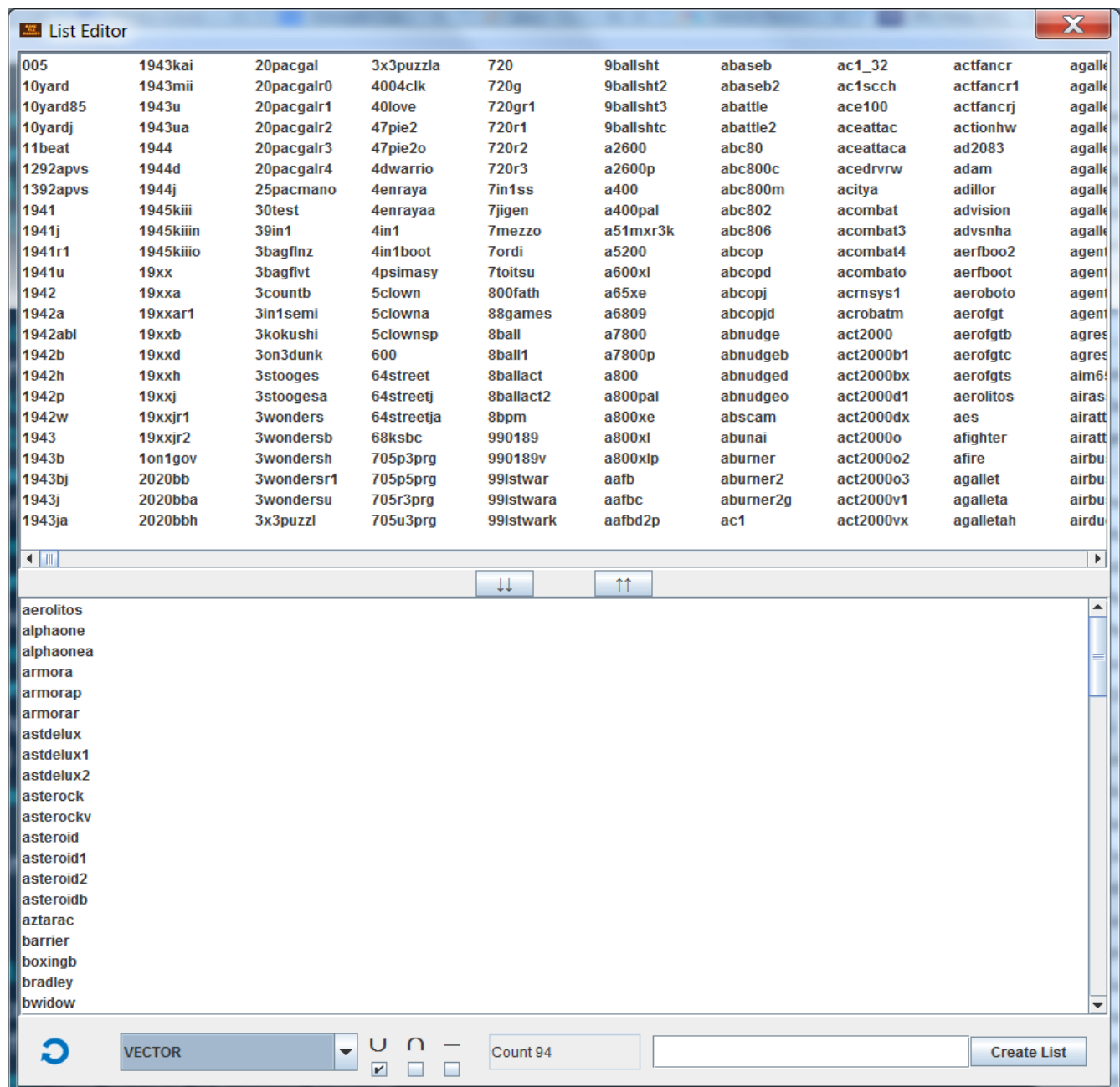
Diff Lists – Removed feature; see [List Editor](#)

List Editor

List Editor provides manual and List combination capabilities.



Switch view to Left or Top



Left hand or Top List contains all machines. These are the MAME Machine name. If you hover over an entry the tooltip will show the description. Example: 1941j → 1941: Counter Attack (Japan)

Multi-select to add or remove machines from the Working List.

Drop down selects a list to:

- U Add this list to the current Working List
- n Intersection (machines in both) of this list with current Working List entries
- Subtract this list from the current Working List

Resources

Scanning

When MFM scans, **Resources** → *Scan Resources*, it catalogs all of the files in the roots of your ROMs, CHDs, and Extras sets. **Every time you update or change your sets you must rescan.** This data is stored in <MFM Root>/Settings/Resources_cache.ser

Copying

Resources → *Copy Resources* MFM looks up resources in the **Resources_cache.ser** for each machine in the selected list. It copies them to the corresponding folder in your playset directory.

It is important to keep your sets 'clean'. MFM utilizes naming conventions to identify and copy resources. ROMs and CHDs by filename, and Extras by zip or folder name plus filename. If there are naming collisions in your sets, duplicate names, MFM resource copying behavior is not guaranteed.

Command Line Options

- all Include non runnable machines in lists (only applies when you parse MAME)
- list list only view
- d debug logging
- m memory usage logging
- s system out development logging – writes to command shell – some of these also go to the standard debug log

[Examples see below](#)

Mouse Actions

Double Click

- In the List: will run that Machine (if your MAME is configured)
- Over an Extras image: will open that image file from your OS

Hover

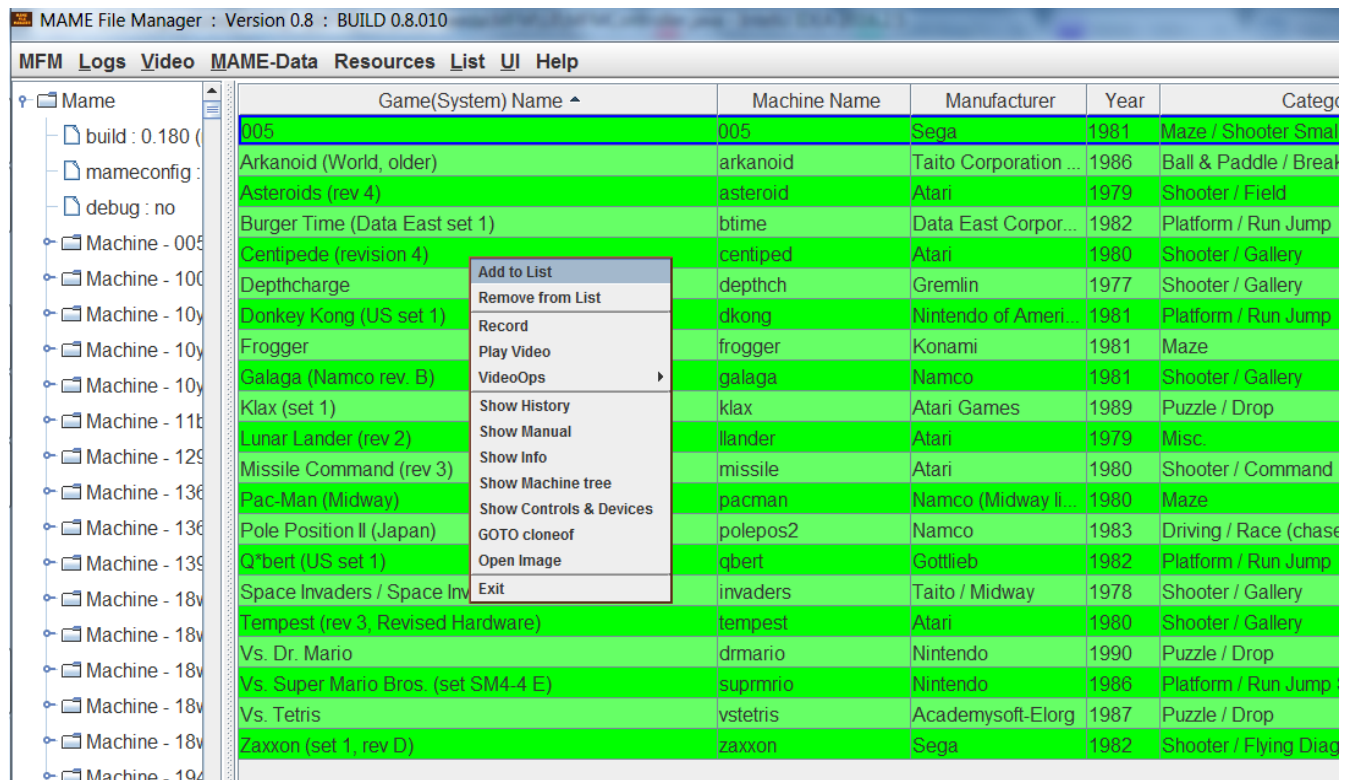
- Over the *Game(System) Name* column: will open a tool tip with the top of the history entry for that machine [see above](#)

Left Click – ini Folder view only

- If machine highlighted in the Folder tree exists in the open list that list will scroll to it

Right Click

- Over MAME tree: will copy the value displayed at that location
- Over the list: will open a [popup menu](#) for that machine



Hot Keys

<u>Key</u>	<u>Function</u> – for selected Machine
ENTER	Run the selected Machine
F1	Show History
F2	Show Manual
F3	Show Info
F4	Record Game to INP
F5	Playback to AVI
F6	Playback Game
F7	Play Game to AVI
F8	Play Video
F9	Edit AVI
F10	unassigned
F11	Crop AVI
F12	Convert Videos to MP4
CTRL c	Copy – copies selected Machine information
CTRL o	Opens file chooser in the MFM List directory to open selected file
CTRL x	Show XML for selected Machine
CTRL z	Zip MFM logs
CTRL →	Go to next list
CTRL ←	Go to previous list
ALT →	Go to next <i>My List</i>
ALT ←	Go to previous <i>My List</i>
a	Switch to the ALL list
c	Switch to the CLONE list
h	Switch to the HORIZONTAL list
n	Switch to the NOCLONE list
r	Switch to the RUNNABLE list
s	Switch to the SYSTEMS(MESS) list
v	Switch to the VERTICAL
CTRL a	Switch to the ARCADE list
CTRL n	Switch to the NOIMPERFECT list
CTRL r	Switch to the RASTER list
CTRL s	Switch to the SIMULTANEOUS list
CTRL v	Switch to the VECTOR list

Menus

- **MFM**

- ➔ *Open File* – Opens a file chooser window in the MFM Lists folder. File chosen will be opened from the OS (if a file association exists).
- ➔ *Settings* – Opens the MFM settings window
- ➔ *Load Data Set* – User selects MAME [Data Set](#) by version (if more than one is present)
- ➔ *Parse MAME* – User initiated data set creation. Parses the MAME executable in settings.
- ➔ **Exit** – Closes MFM

- **Logs**

- ➔ *Log* – Opens the MFM log in your OS's default Text editor
- ➔ *MAME_OUTPUT* – Opens log of MAME command shell output. (only if you ran MAME from MFM)
- ➔ *Error Log* - Opens the MFM error log in your OS's default Text editor

If you run with -d or -s debug flags you will also get these three menus

- ➔ *Zip Logs* – zips up your MFM logs
- ➔ *Paste errors to Pastie* – pastes last 100 lines of the error log to pastie.org
- ➔ *DUMP WAYS Controls* – Saves this information to file to support coding filters
- ➔ *Clean Logs* – Deletes any MFM logs older than 48 hours

- **Video**

- ➔ *Vdub* – legacy function to support video project; requires [VirtualDub](#)
- ➔ *Ffmpeg* – legacy function to support video project; requires [ffmpeg](#)

- **DAT**

- ➔ *Create DAT from List* – creates DAT file for selected list
- ➔ *Create List from DAT* – creates a List from DAT entries (not validated so MFM may not have information for all these Machines)
- ➔ *Filter DAT by List* – Loads a DAT file and removes any entries NOT in selected MFM list
- ➔ *Filter DAT by External List* – Loads a DAT file and removes any entries NOT in selected file (file must contain flat list of machine names one per line)

- **Resources**

- ➔ *Scan Resources* – Scans the resource roots in your MFM settings and stores the file information to support copying resources
- ➔ *Copy Resources* – Copies all available resources for the Machines in the selected list to the Playset directory
- ➔ *Save Resources to File* – Creates a text file with a list of the resources found by MFM for this list

- **List**

- ➔ *List Builder*
 - Previous – Opens the state of List Builder when last used
 - New – Opens fresh corresponds to the **All** list
 - (MFM built in lists) – Opens List Builder with setting to produce this MFM built in list
- ➔ *My Lists*
 - (Lists you have created or imported)
- ➔ *MFM Lists*
 - (All built in MFM lists)
- ➔ *Import List* – creates list from a file
- ➔ *Remove List* – deletes this list from MFM
- ➔ *Save List to File* – creates text file with this list's machines
- ➔ *Save List Data* – creates a CSV file with a subset of Machine data

- **UI**

- ➔ *Font Size* – changes the display font size
 - Very Large
 - Large
 - Normal
- ➔ *Look & Feel* – synonymous with [*skins*](#); changes the look of the MFM GUI
 - Various depending on your OS and Java installation.

- **Help**

- ➔ *MFM User Guide* – this guide
- ➔ *About*
- ➔ *MFM Copyright*
- ➔ *GNU Copyright*

Popup Menu

Add to List
Remove from List
Record
Play Video
VideoOps ▶
Show History
Show Manual
Show Info
Show Machine tree
Show Controls & Devices
GOTO cloneof
Open Image
Exit

- *Add to List* : Adds this machine to list you select. If you select **-NEW-** you can enter a new list name which will be created with this machine as its entry.
- *Remove from List* : Remove this machine from list you select
 - ↓ If you have MAME configured properly; otherwise these will fail.
- *Record* : Runs machine in MAME and records to .inp file
- *Play Video* : If a video file exists for this machine opens it from your OS
- **VideoOps**
 - ➔ *Play & Record to AVI* : Runs machine in MAME and records to AVI file (configured snaps directory)
 - ➔ *Playback to AVI* : If .inp exists for this machine plays it back in MAME while recording to AVI file
 - ➔ *Edit Video* : If .avi file exists for this machine and you have [VirtualDub](#) installed opens that file in VirtualDub
 - ➔ *Crop AVI* : If .avi file exists for this machine and you have [ffmpeg](#) installed will crop the avi to even numbers (some systems output unusual AVI frame sizes)
- *Show History* : Shows the full History for this machine
- *Show Manual* : If manual exists for this machine opens it from your OS
- *Show Info* : Show all the info available for this machine
- *Show Machine Tree* : Opens MAME XML for this machine
- *Show Controls & Devices* : Shows controls and devices for this machine
- *GOTO cloneof* : If parent machine is in this list scrolls to that parent machine
- *Open Image* : Opens currently displayed image from your OS
- *Exit* : Exits MFM

DATs

MFM produces DAT files for lists. The DAT produced is complete per Machine. Each entry contains all the required resources: BIOS, CHD, Devices, and ROMs. In the parlance of MAME it would be a Full Non-merged set. See [Non-Merged](#).

Troubleshooting

1) MFM does not run when I execute the .bat or .sh file.

(a) Do you have Java 8 or higher installed? Goto a command shell and enter `>java -version`

You should get output like:

java version "1.8.0_112"

Java(TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 1.8.0_112-b15)

Java HotSpot(TM) 64-Bit Server VM (build 25.112-b15, mixed mode)

Solutions

If you do have Java installed try editing your .bat or .sh file to point directly (complete path) to the java.exe file

Otherwise install [Java](#)

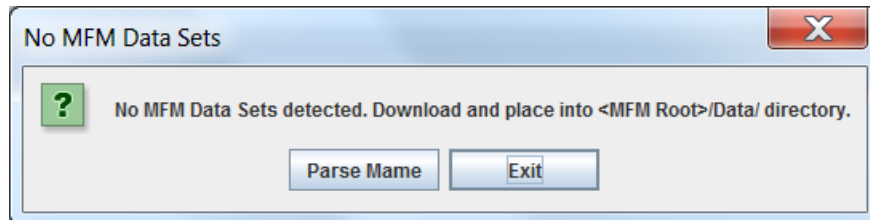
(b) Check for MFM logs in the <MFM Root>/Logs directory. You should find two logs for each attempt.

i. Contact us with logs available

ii. If logs do not exist try to run the .bat or .sh from the command shell. In that file add the -d and -s flags

iii. Save the command line output and contact us

2) First run after inputting [Settings](#) you get the following dialog but do not want to Parse. Did you download [Data Sets](#) and place them in <MFM Root>/Data folder?



3) MFM regularly hangs, stops responding, for 1 to 5+ seconds. JVM is pausing to free up memory

(a) Run in List Only mode MFM flag [-list](#) : extracting/showing images uses a lot of memory

(b) Increase the [memory to run MFM](#)

Help

If you are familiar with the site we are members of you can get on the forum thread for MFM.
Or you can join us on IRC. [ForeverChat](#) #MFM channel.

Caution

- Always close MFM in the application via **MFM** → *Exit* or the close *X* of the window.
 - MFM utilizes temporary files to display or open zipped resources. It will delete these on proper exit.
- Do not run MFM by double clicking the .jar file. If you do MFM may draw too much memory (RAM) and slow your system.
- MFM **does not** monitor your ROMs/CHDs/Extras sets. If you update or change them you must rescan resources before copying.
- When copying resources to your Playset directory MFM will, without warning, overwrite any files already there.
- **NEVER** try to edit settings files except the two noted in the next section [Advanced Usage](#).

Advanced Usage

Following require some manual steps. In the future some of these will be automated.

1. Controllers name mapping You can change the display names for controllers displayed in the List Builder. Goto <**MFM Root**>/Settings and open file **MAME_Controllers.ini**. You will see entries such as:

dial = Dial

doublejoy = 2 Joysticks

gambling = Gambling Buttons

DO NOT change values on the left. Values on the right after the = can be changed. Save your changes and restart MFM. Open **List Builder** → *New* you should see your controller names changed.

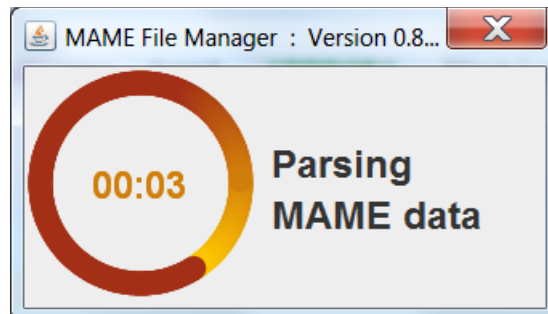
2. Adding/changing Extras folders

MAME_folders.ini contains the list of folder/zip names MFM uses to search for and copy machine extras. You can add or change this list by editing that file. For example I do NOT want Artwork copied so I remove that line. Maybe you have an older Extras set and want folder **cabdevs** copied. Add a line **cabdevs** to the file.

Open <**MFM Root**>/Settings/MAME_folders.ini

3. Parsing MAME

- a) You must have MAME Extras if you want all data.
- b) If you want updated category, version, language and players information you need to get most recent versions of these files:
 - i. catver.ini → Found at [Progetto Snaps](#)
 - ii. [Extras files](#)
- c) **MFM** → *Parse MAME* Parses the currently set MAME executable
- d) If you have setup correctly you should see the following progress window



NOTE: Parsing is NOT bulletproof. Contact the author for [Help](#).

What's New

0.9 Release

- Major addition is the List Editor
- Added features to the List Builder: Year Filter, No Machine, select Base List to filter, advanced Controls filter logic
- List Builder UI updated
- Added DAT menu and new DAT functionality: *Create List from DAT*, *Filter DAT by List*, *Filter DAT by External List*
- Fix for **List** → *Save List Data* bug which truncated output for some older MAME version Data Sets and Lists

0.85 Release

- Major addition is support for switching between data for multiple MAME versions
- Parsing and display of -listxml for all MAME versions beginning with 0.70 (first with -listxml) to present⁵
- Parsing your MAME version triggered from the UI
- Added Devices as a built-in list
- Fix parsing bug for updated messinfo.dat (183 extras)

⁵ In older MAME versions not all -listXML Elements/Attributes exist in MFM. We have ported a subset of the XML changes see next section.

MAME XML

It is important to understand the context of the MAME *-listxml* output within the overall project. [MAME's purpose is to preserve decades of software history](#). Outputting machine related data via XML is an add-on data dissemination feature provided to benefit MAME related tools, primarily Front Ends and ROM Managers. And of course MFM.

MAME XML Document structure is defined by a [DTD](#). However that definition is not static. It changes over time as the MAME project evolves. Maintaining backward compatibility is NOT a requirement for the MAMEDev team. So any tool utilizing this output must adjust to these changes over time.

With the 0.85 release MFM supports the MAME XML for all versions beginning with 0.70 onward. However this does not mean “all the XML”. Where needed to support core MFM functionality, such as lists and DATs, MFM code is provided to port older information to the newer XML Document type.

MFM's code base for MAME objects is based on the MAME 180 DTD. This means that for the most recent MAME versions (175-185) the XML displayed and used by MFM is an exact representation. The further back the MAME version the greater the gaps in the XML displayed by MFM.

As of MAME 0.185 there have been 27 different DTDs for MAME XML.

0.70, 0.71, 0.85, 0.96, 0.102, 0.107, 0.115, 0.118, 0.124, 0.127, 0.132, 0.135, 0.136, 0.137, 0.139, 0.140, 0.142, 0.143, 0.144, 0.145, 0.146, 0.150, 0.153, 0.162, 0.173, 0.175, 0.184, 0.186.⁶

Where a simple Element rename occurred e.g. **Game** to **Machine** the translation by code is simple. But in MFM you will always see “Machine” in the displayed XML even for versions 161 or older where the actual XML has “Game”.

⁶ A few of these DTD changes are minor such as the 184 & 186 changes which have no effect on MFM

Appendix A – MFM <version>.zip

MFM<version>.zip contains:

- MFM.jar – the application
- MFM.bat – command file for Windows
- MFM.sh – shell file for Unix systems
- Folders
 - Category
 - ◆ ArcadeCategoryRoots.xml
 - ◆ CategoryListsMap.xml
 - ◆ CategoryRoots.xml
 - folders
 - ◆ catver.ini
 - ◆ languages.ini
 - ◆ nplayers.ini
 - Jars
 - ◆ swingx-all-1.6.4.jar
 - Lists
 - ◆ Favs.txt Phweda's favorites – use **List** → *Import List* to add to MFM
 - Settings
 - ◆ MAME_Controllers.ini Controllers naming mapping
 - ◆ MAME_folders.ini MAME extras folders list
- MAME File Manager User Guide.pdf

Appendix B – Machine Information

MFM utilizes multiple sources for information.

The MAME executable is the primary source of information. It is obtained by parsing the -listxml output. 0.85 release can provide XML output for MAME 0.70 or newer.

[Progetto-SNAPS](#) by AntoPISA provides the catver.ini and languages.ini files bundled and used by MFM. All Category, Version and Languages data in MFM are from these two files. Additionally a huge number of the MAME Extras resources come from this site.

[MAME Extras](#) contain information files which MFM parses. They are: history.dat, mameinfo.dat, mess.dat, sysinfo.dat, languages.ini, nplayers.ini

Appendix C – Editing startup scripts

Editing your .bat or .sh startup script

To reference Java put in the full path to the executable:

Windows

```
"C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre1.8.0_45\bin\java.exe" -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms2g -Xmx2g -jar  
./MFM.jar <MFM flags>
```

Linux

```
/usr/lib/jvm/java-8-oracle/jre/bin/java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms2g -Xmx2g -jar ./MFM.jar <MFM flags>
```

32-bit Java: you can try to increase this up to about maximum of 1536 MB

```
java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms1280m -Xmx1280m -jar ./MFM.jar <MFM flags>
```

Java RAM flags:

- Xms2g sets initial memory for the JVM where '2g' means 2 GB
- Xms1280m sets initial memory for the JVM where '1280m' means 1280 MB
- Xmx2g sets maximum memory for the JVM where '2g' means 2 GB
- Xmx1280m sets maximum memory for the JVM where '1280m' means 1280 MB

If you parse MAME with MFM: (NOTE: 4+ GB strongly recommended)

```
java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms4g -Xmx6g -jar ./MFM.jar <MFM flags>
```

To run List Only:

```
java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms1g -Xmx1g -jar ./MFM.jar -list
```

To run ALL sets of most recent (180+) MAME versions:

```
java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms4g -Xmx4g -jar ./MFM.jar -list
```

Debugging:

```
java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms2g -Xmx2g -jar ./MFM.jar -d -s -m
```

Parse to see All Machines: *only applies to MAME versions 143 or higher*

```
java -XX:+UseG1GC -Xms4g -Xmx6g -jar ./MFM.jar -all
```

Appendix D – Resources & Logic

- i. MFM expects resource sets; ROMs, CHDs, and Extras, to conform to the naming conventions in MAME.
- ii. Resource Logic
 1. ROMs are discovered by searching your entered ROM roots for <Machine name>.zip or <Machine name>.7z
 2. CHDs are discovered by searching your CHD roots for the CHD(s) by full file name from MAME. Such as **area51.chd** or **golf_fore_2003_v3.00.09.chd**
 3. Extras are discovered by searching your Extras root for <Machine name>. And searching any zips in your Extras folder that match folder names defined in **MAME_folders.ini** . When it discovers a match it will copy to the corresponding playset extras folder. For example:
C:\MAME EXTRAS\flyers\005.png will copy to C:\MAME Selected\flyers\005.png
C:\MAME EXTRAS\flyers.zip(005.png) will copy to C:\MAME Selected\flyers\005.png
- iii. Extras folders in the Playset
 1. MFM utilizes the entries from **MAME_folders.ini** to search your Playset directory for those folders. If it finds them then it uses those locations to copy resources to.
 2. If a **MAME_folders.ini** entry is found, folder or zip, in your Extras full set, but not in your Playset, MFM will create that folder as needed when copying resources. When MFM creates a Playset folder such as **cabdevs** it is <Playset root>\ **cabdevs**

MAME Extras

Some folders/archives are used by the [MAME](#) emulator:

- [artwork](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → contains: bezels, control panels, marquees, instruction cards, backdrops, overlays, lamps and LEDs
- [ctrlr](#): **Pierre Kutec's** → controller configurations
- [samples](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → ZIPped WAV files for systems that don't have audio emulated yet
- [cheat.7z](#): **Pugsy's Cheats** → compilation of cheats

The **dats** folder has text files displayed by MAME. Its contents are:

- [command.dat](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → commands list (e.g. how to do a Hadouken in Street Fighter)
- [gameinit.dat](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → initialization procedures for games not playable on first run
- [hiscore.dat](#): **MAMEdev** contained in releases → unofficial highest scores achieved
- [history.dat](#): **Arcade History** → history information text file
- [mameinfo.dat](#): **MASH's MAMEINFO** → information text file of arcade games
- [messinfo.dat](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → information for non-arcade machines
- [story.dat](#): **MAMESCORE** → top scores
- [sysinfo.dat](#): **Progetto EMMA** → systems information; contains details of the machines and basic usage instructions

The **folders** folder has INI files. Each INI file appears in MAME (or frontends) as one or more folders with systems inside according to specific criteria. Its contents are:

- [arcade.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → arcade games
- [arcade_NOBIOS.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → arcade games that don't require a BIOS to run
- [category.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → systems in about 235 categories
- [catlist.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → systems in about 224 categories (with slightly different criteria)
- [genre.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → systems in about 28 categories
- [languages.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → systems in about 16 languages
- [mamescore.ini](#): **MAMESCORE** → games with MAMESCORE entries
- [mess.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → non-arcade systems
- [monochrome.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → games with two colors in three categories: "Black and White Games", "Monochromatic Games" and "Vectorial Black and White"
- [nplayers.ini](#): **Nplayers** → how many players the game supports and if it's simultaneous play
- [screenless.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → systems without video output
- [series.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → lists series of games
- [version.ini](#): **Progetto-SNAPS** → lists of games that were added on every MAME version

The other archives are used by the MAME emulator or frontends – All from [Progetto Snaps](#):

- [artpreview](#) → artwork preview screenshots
- [bosses](#) → boss (final and hardest enemy of a level) screenshots
- [cabinets](#) → cabinets screenshots
- [covers_SL](#) → covers of the Software Lists
- [cpanel](#) → images of control panels
- [devices](#) → images of the electronic gadgets
- [ends](#) → screenshot of the end of each game (when the game is completed)
- [flyers](#) → scanned paper advertisement intended for wide distribution to promote the systems
- [gameover](#) → screenshot of the game over message of every game
- [howto](#) → screenshot of the general instructions that the games display
- [icons](#) → icons of arcade games and the other systems
- [logo](#) → screenshot of the logo of the company that created every game
- [manuals](#) → manuals in PDF (usage and operational)
- [manuals_SL](#) → manuals in PDF (usage and operational) of Software Lists
- [marquees](#) → photos of the brand of the cab that is on the top of the cabinet, usually back-lit neon sign
- [pcb](#) → Printed Circuit Board snapshots; photos of the motherboards of the systems
- [scores](#) → screenshot of the default high score of every game
- [select](#) → screenshot of one selection menu of every game (character, country, level, gun, tool, language etc)
- [snap](#) → in-game screenshots
- [snap_SL](#) → in-game Software Lists screenshots
- [titles](#) → title screenshots, usually taken when the name of the game is shown during attract mode
- [titles_SL](#) → title screenshots of Software Lists, usually taken when the name of the game is shown during attract mode
- [versus](#) → screenshot of the presentation of the characters that will play against each other

Appendix E – Fatal Errors

Message	Explanation
Process finished with exit code 2	User chose to not parse MAME and has no Data Sets (MFMController.java)
Process finished with exit code 3	Total failure to load MAME info after Parsing attempt. Check MAME runs. (MAMEInfo.java)
Process finished with exit code 4	User canceled MFM Settings – cannot run without them (MFM_SettingsPanel.java)
Process finished with exit code 5	Data integrity issue. MFM_cache.ser missing or corrupt. (MFMListBuilder.java)
Process finished with exit code 6	Data integrity issue. Data Set MFM is set to load is not found. Did you delete or alter a Data Set file?(MFM_Data.java)
Process finished with exit code 7	MFM failed to detect its running directory (MFM.java)
Process finished with exit code 8	MFM failed to find/create its required directories (MFM.java)
Process finished with exit code 9	MFM failed to load data set or parse MAME (MFMInfo.java)

Appendix F – Add-on Look and Feels

MFM supports several optional Java Look and Feels. If you want to add them download the JAR files from the sites below and put them into <**MFM Root**>/Jars folder. MFM will pick them up when it runs next.

NOTE: you will find certain L&Fs with 'bugs' in the layout and function of the UI. Coding and testing for every L&F is beyond the scope of this project.

1. <http://www.jgoodies.com> - jgoodies-looks-2.6.0.jar & jgoodies-common-1.7.0.jar
2. <http://www.jtattoo.net> - JTattoo-1.6.10.jar
3. <http://www.easynth.com/freewares/EaSynthLookAndFeel.html> – EaSynthLookAndFeel.jar
4. <https://sourceforge.net/projects/liquidlnf/> - LiquidLnF.jar : Download liquidlnf-0.2.9-alpha5.zip which contains the jar file.

Appendix G – MAME Installation

Create the ini file with the appropriate command:

```
mame64 -createconfig
```

Edit the mame.ini file created on the same folder of the emulator executable and add the corresponding paths. Example:

```
rompath          roms;C:\MAME ROMs;C:\MAME CHDs;C:\MAME SL ROMs;C:\MAME
SL CHDs
samplepath       samples;C:\MAME EXTRAs\samples
artpath          artwork;C:\MAME EXTRAs\artwork
ctrlrpath        ctrlr;C:\MAME EXTRAs\ctrlr
cheatpath        cheat;C:\MAME EXTRAs\cheat
snapshot_directory snap;C:\MAME EXTRAs
```

Edit the ui.ini file created on the same folder of the emulator executable and add the corresponding paths. Example:

```
historypath      history\dats;.;C:\MAME EXTRAs\dats
extrainipath     folders;C:\MAME EXTRAs\folders
cabinets_directory cabinets;cabdevs;C:\MAME EXTRAs
cpanels_directory cpanel;C:\MAME EXTRAs
pcbs_directory  pcb;C:\MAME EXTRAs
flyers_directory flyers;C:\MAME EXTRAs
titles_directory titles;C:\MAME EXTRAs
ends_directory  ends;C:\MAME EXTRAs
marquees_directory marquees;C:\MAME EXTRAs
artwork_preview_directory "artwork preview;artpreview";C:\MAME EXTRAs
bosses_directory bosses;C:\MAME EXTRAs
logos_directory logo;C:\MAME EXTRAs
scores_directory scores;C:\MAME EXTRAs
versus_directory versus;C:\MAME EXTRAs
gameover_directory gameover;C:\MAME EXTRAs
howto_directory howto;C:\MAME EXTRAs
select_directory select;C:\MAME EXTRAs
icons_directory icons;C:\MAME EXTRAs
covers_directory covers;C:\MAME EXTRAs
```

Appendix H – MAME Data Sets

MFM provides support for switching between MAME version data sets. We share pre-compiled sets.

Each set is contained in a single zip file. MFM reads directly from these archives.

For example the 184 sets are:

MFM_MAME_ALL_0.184.zip contains all machines ~50MB

MFM_MAME_0.184.zip only contains runnable machines ~27MB

The files contained in each archive are:

- ♦ MFM_cache.ser Category and built-in Lists data
- ♦ MFM_MAME.xml MAME XML data

Why Two Sets?

MAME versions from 143 onward will have the two sets as above. 70 → 142 will just be the complete ALL set. Between 142 and 147 the total number of MAME machines grew approximately 2.5 times. In older sets the majority of machines were runnable whereas with current MAME versions only ~35% run. So two main reasons:

- By Design. Primary purpose of MFM is to create subsets of runnable machines. So MFM users who use it for this reason have no need for the full set.
- Resource usage. Absolute minimum RAM required to run 184 ALL set in [Full mode](#) is 3+ GB. The 184 runnable set will run with 1 GB RAM. MFM will remain usable for people with older or limited resource systems.

Location

<MFM Root>/Data folder. MFM automatically searches under that folder (can be in sub folders).

Appendix I – Glossary

Term/Acronym	Represents
CHD	Compressed Hunks of Data MAME specific format to support large data sets: hard disks, laser disks etc.
DTD	Document Type Definition
JVM	Java Virtual Machine
GUI	Graphical User Interface
MAME	Multiple Arcade Machine Emulator
MFM	MAME File Manager
RAM	Random-Access Memory
ROM	Read-Only Memory

Appendix J – Data Set Torrent

BOLD are folders.

➤ **DATA**

Readme.txt

MFM_Readme.txt

MFM_Data_Versions.xml

→ **All Machines**

MFM_MAME_ALL_185.zip

MFM_MAME_ALL_184.zip

↓ (various versions)

MFM_MAME_all_70.zip

→ **List DATs** (playable only for 143 or higher)

180_DATs.zip (contains DATs for all MFM built-in lists)

179_DATs.zip

↓ (various versions)

70_DATs.zip

→ **Playable Machines**

MFM_MAME_185.zip

MFM_MAME_184.zip

↓ (various versions)

MFM_MAME_143.zip

Appendix K – Source Code

Hosted on GitHub at <https://github.com/phweda/MFM>