

# UpdateControl for MediaPortal

**Version 1.9.1**

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## **1. Summary**

UpdateControl is a MediaPortal plugin to show, search, download and install windows updates. Additionally you can open knowledge base articles directly in your favorite browser.

## **2. Requirements**

This plugin requires MediaPortal v1.3.0 or higher (for more information see the homepage <http://www.team-mediaportal.com>).

## **3. Installation**

To install the UpdateControl plugin, please run the installer “UpdateControl.mpe1” or, if you want to manually install the plugin, follow the described steps:

- Step 1: unzip the file “UpdateControl.zip” to a temporary directory and open this directory
- Step 2: navigate to folder “*UpdateControl\Release\Plugins\Windows*”
- Step 3: copy all files to the MediaPortal plugin directory, e.g. “*c:\program files\team mediaportal\plugins\windows*”
- Step 4: navigate to folder “*UpdateControl\Release\Skin\Default*”
- Step 5: copy all files and directories to your MediaPortal skin folder, e.g. “*c:\programdata\team mediaportal\mediaportal\skin\default*”
- Step 6: navigate to folder “*UpdateControl\Release\Skin\Default\Media*”
- Step 7: copy all files and directories to your MediaPortal skin folder, e.g. “*c:\programdata\team mediaportal\mediaportal\skin\default\media*”
- Step 8: navigate to folder “*UpdateControl\Release\Language\UpdateControl*”
- Step 9: copy all files to your MediaPortal language folder, e.g. “*c:\programdata\team mediaportal\mediaportal\language\UpdateControl*”

### **3.1. Preparation for Menu Mode version**

If you want to use the Menu Mode version, please open your MediaPortal Configuration Utility, go to “Plugins”, select “UpdateControl”, check the option “Enable window” and select your desired location by pressing button “In Home” or “In Plugins”. Now you can start MediaPortal and open the UpdateControl window using a menu entry.

### **3.2. Preparation for Background Mode version**

If you want to use the Background Mode version, open your MediaPortal Configuration Utility, goto “Plugins” and open the UpdateControl configuration dialog. Navigate to tab “Settings” and uncheck the option “Enable window”. To display the window inside MediaPortal, it is required to edit your skin file(s).

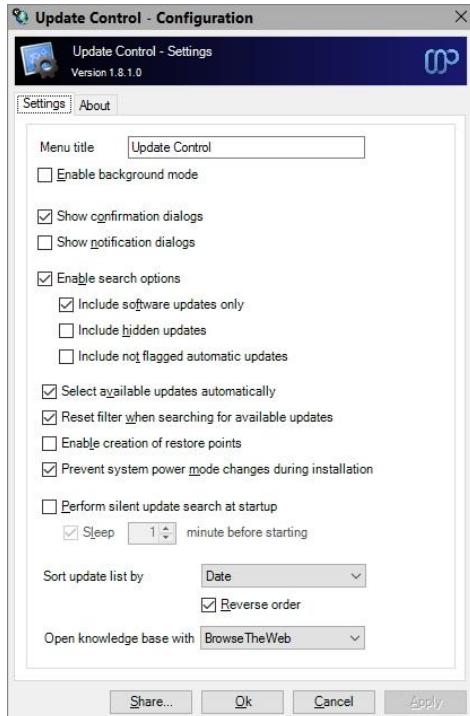
- Step 1: go to your skin directory and find the window, where you want to include the information, e.g. myhome.xml
- Step 2: open it with a text editor
- Step 3: include a control section in the following form:

```
<control>
<description>UpdateControl</description>
<type>button</type>
<id>2</id>
<label>UpdateControl</label>
<hyperlink>7984</hyperlink>
</control>
```
- Step 4: save the file and refresh/reload the window
- Step 5: after pressing the button, the window updatecontrol.xml opens

## 4. Configuration

UpdateControl has specific configuration options. To change this, please open your MediaPortal Configuration Utility, go to "Plugins", select "UpdateControl" in the list of plugins and press button "Config" to change options.

### 4.1. Settings



**Enable window:** Enable or disable the Menu Mode / Background Mode version.

**Menu title:** Enter the menu title here.

**Show confirmation dialogs:** If you switch on this option, confirmation dialogs appears for important actions.

**Show notification dialogs:** If this option is switch on, notification dialogs will be displayed.

**Enable search options:** Select this option, if you want to specify special search options.

**Select available updates automatically:** If this option is switched on, all available updates are selected for installation.

**Reset filter when searching for available updates:** Select this option, if you want to reset your current filter settings automatically before searching for available updates.

**Enable creation of restore points:** Select this option, if you want to create a restore point before updates were installed (Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows 7 only).

**Prevent system power mode changes during installation:** Select this option, if you want to keep your system alive during update installations. Please note, that this functionality can only prevent system specific power options, initiated power state changes from 3<sup>rd</sup> party plugins cannot be handled.

**Start silent update search at startup:** Select this option, if you want to run a silent windows update search at MediaPortal startup. Additionally you can define until which time period the update search process will start.

**Open knowledge base:** Please select your favorite browser here, if you want open the appropriate knowledge base article directly. To open the article later, please use the context menu.

## 5. Settings and Profile Sharing

By default, all plugin related settings will be saved locally inside the pre-configured client data directory of MediaPortal. In addition to that, UpdateControl allows sharing settings and profile information among clients. This way you have to define your various plugin settings, credentials, etc. only once and accordingly every client can access this data. Before starting with settings and profiles sharing, please observe the following hints and requirements.

- In principle all local and network storages or cloud services (e.g. OneDrive, Dropbox, SugarSync) can be used for sharing. Before using this feature, possible device or service specific configurations should be checked to prevent access or synchronization problems later.
- The current implementation does not support concurrent read or write operations. Also, the synchronization or latency behavior of a device or service cannot be influenced.
- When using a shared network folder, the device must be available and the operating system must know the credentials to access the device.
- When using an OneDrive folder, an internet connection must be established and the synchronization tool must be installed and running across all devices. Additionally the selected OneDrive folder must be available offline (Windows 8 and below only) or enabled as a sync folder.
- When using a Dropbox folder, an internet connection must be established and the synchronization tool must be installed and running across all devices. Additionally the selected Dropbox folder must be enabled as a selective sync folder.
- To share passwords or keys correctly, all synchronized devices must be in the same network domain or workgroup.

The button “Share” inside the dialog allows the definition of the central configuration storage path. Enter this path information in every client’s setup to ensure, that each clients will use the same settings.

Depending on the selection, the button “Ok” will use the central file storage as defined (when sharing is enabled) or the pre-configured client data directory (when sharing is disabled). The button “Apply” acts in the same way without closing the configuration dialog itself.

## 6. Window Properties

This plugin offers some properties, see the following table for more information.

Property Name	Return value
#UpdateControl.UpdateAgentVersion	Returns the version number of Windows Update Agent.
#UpdateControl.UpdateAgentLastRunDate	Date of last Windows Update run/update installation.
#UpdateControl.UpdateAgentLastRunTime	Time of last Windows Update run/update installation.
#UpdateControl.Action	Current action type (e.g. "Searching", "Installing")
#UpdateControl.Filter	Current filter string
#UpdateControl.AvailableUpdateCount	Count of available windows updates
#UpdateControl.AvailableUpdateSelectionCount	Count of selected available windows updates
#UpdateControl.AvailableUpdateSelectionSize	Size of selected available windows updates
#UpdateControl.AvailableUpdateSize	Size of available windows updates (KByte, MByte, GByte)
#UpdateControl.AvailableUpdateUrgency	Urgency (time difference) until last update cycle (e.g. "critical", "important", "low")
#UpdateControl.AvailableUpdateUrgencyImage	Urgency (time difference) until last update cycle <sup>1</sup>
#UpdateControl.InstalledUpdateCount	Count of installed windows updates
#UpdateControl.InstalledUpdateSize	Size of installed windows updates (KByte, MByte, GByte)
#UpdateControl.UpdateDate	Publishing date of update
#UpdateControl.UpdateDescription	Description of update
#UpdateControl.UpdateInstallType	Installation type of update (e.g. "uninstallable", "not uninstallable")
#UpdateControl.UpdateTitle	Title of update
#UpdateControl.UpdateType	Type of update (e.g. "Software", "Driver")
#UpdateControl.UpdateSeverity	Severity of update (e.g. "critical", "important", "moderate", "low")
#UpdateControl.UpdateSeverityImage	Severity image of update <sup>1</sup>
#UpdateControl.UpdateSize	Maximum download size of update
#UpdateControl.UpdateSupportLink	Support URL of update

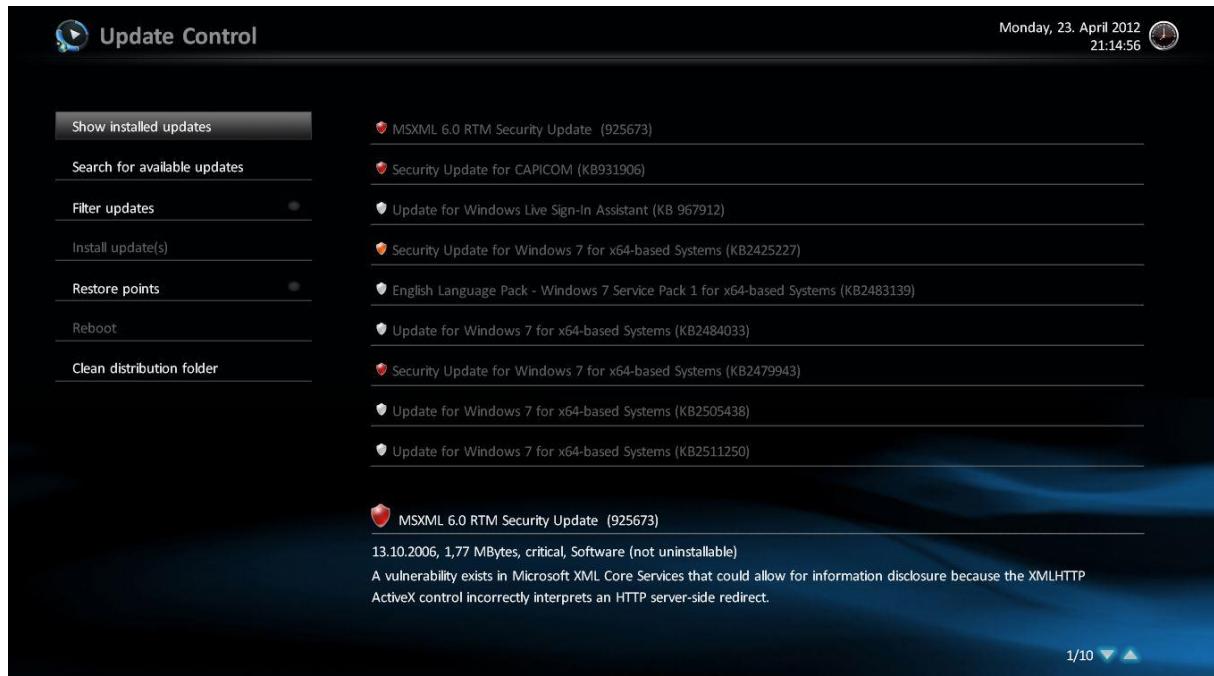
#UpdateControl.DownloadProgress	Download progress for update
#UpdateControl.DownloadOverallProgress	Download overall progress for selected updates
#UpdateControl.InstallProgress	Installation progress for update
#UpdateControl.InstallOverallProgress	Installation overall progress for selected updates

- <sup>1)</sup> valid values are “updatecontrol\_critical.png”, “updatecontrol\_important.png”,  
“updatecontrol\_moderate.png”, “updatecontrol\_low.png” and “updatecontrol\_empty.png”

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## 6 | UpdateControl for MediaPortal

## 7. Screenshots



UpdateControl main window example

## 8. Version History

- 0.1.0 – Internal Release
- 0.2.0 – Search option functionality added
- 0.3.0 – List functionality added
- 0.3.1 – Bugfixing for button handling routines
- 0.3.5 – List sensitive properties and severity images added
- 0.4.0 – Functionality to select updates, new properties added
- 0.4.1 – Configuration Dialog typographic error corrected
- 0.4.2 – Restore Point functionality added
- 0.4.2 – Rework for update search routines
- 0.4.4 – Clean distribution folder functionality added
- 0.4.5 – Patch urgency properties added
- 0.4.6 – graphics updated
- 0.5.0 – Progress properties added
- 0.5.1 – Version/Subsystem control functionalities added
- 0.5.2 – Code hardening for file routines
- 0.5.3 – last improvements for MediaPortal v1.2.0
- 0.5.4 – browser support for knowledge base articles
- 0.5.5 – add context menu for browser support
- 1.0.0 – final version
- 1.0.1 – functionality for delayed silent update search added
- 1.0.2 – filter functionality added
- 1.0.3 – change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.3.0, add new properties  
(UpdateAgentLastRunDate, UpdateAgentLastRunTime)
- 1.0.3 – bugfix for available update selection functionality, changes to configuration window
- 1.0.4 – source maintenance, cumulative updates
- 1.1.0 – major source maintenance
- 1.1.1 – minor improvements for MediaPortal v1.3.0, skin changes, add Titan skin
- 1.2.0 – maintenance release
- 1.2.1 – fix for timer specific issues in case threaded plugin loading is enabled
- 1.2.2 – add functionality to prevent system specific power state changes
- 1.2.3 – hotfix for menu related configuration settings in case background mode option could not initialized correctly
- 1.2.4 – fix possible deadlock condition for background worker specific issues in case threaded plugin loading is enabled
- 1.2.2 – change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.5.0
- 1.2.3 – refactoring of plugin startup code, code cleanup, internal maintenance/test release
- 1.3.0 – several performance improvements
- 1.3.1 – change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.6.0
- 1.4.0 – rework to support updated plugin framework v1.1.0
- 1.5.0 – change target framework to .NET 4.0, enable runtime binder for Windows Update interoperability library, change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.7.0, support for updated plugin framework v1.2.0
- 1.5.1 – change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.8.0
- 1.5.2 – rework update mechanism, changes to support plugin framework 1.3.0
- 1.6.0 – change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.9.0
- 1.6.1 – internal test release

- 1.6.2 – change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.10.0
- 1.6.3 – architectural enhancements
- 1.7.0 – rework of configuration dialog
- 1.8.0 – cryptographic routines updated, functionality to share settings and profiles added, support for MediaPortal v1.12.0
- 1.8.1 – rework of message management routines, improvements to sharing functionality, partly support for Microsoft Windows 10 added, maintenance
- 1.9.0 – support for plugin framework v1.4.0, change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.13.0
- 1.9.1 – maintenance release, change compatibility flags to support MediaPortal v1.14.0

## 9. Skin Changes

- 0.4.2 – button ID for “Reboot” changed from 5 to 6, Button “Restore Points” (ID 5) added.
- 0.4.4 – button “Clean distribution folder” (ID 7) added.
- 0.4.6 – image “updatecontrol\_empty.png” added.
- 1.0.2 – button “Filter updates” (ID 8) added
- 1.1.1 – button type of ID 5 and 8 changed to checkbutton

## 10. Known Limitations

- This plugin doesn't work, if windows update API libraries (e.g. wuapi.dll) are not installed.
- Updates for Microsoft Windows Update service must be installed manually.
- Microsoft Windows Server Update Services (WSUS server) infrastructure not supported.
- The last Microsoft Windows Update date cannot be determined correctly when using Microsoft Windows 10.
- The Windows Update Installation feature isn't completely tested with Microsoft Windows 10, so please use this feature to your own risk.

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