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Unity 3d endless runner game tutorial

tl;dr: check the code here on GitHub and play the game here in a WebGL enabled browser This is another blog/tutorial post in my Unity game development tutorial series, the first is about a 3D game. Here, let's explore how to make a very special type of game, an infinite 3D runner game. Since this post was made something big, it is divided into two parts (see the second part here). The odds are high that you have played an infinite 3D runner game at least once in recent years, when this genre became known and successful. These games have a 3rd person camera pointing at the main character who is running in a direction in a 3D environment, while he tries to avoid several dangerous objects that explode around that can kill him by colliding. This environment can be a great path in which the character can change lanes as in normal traffic (as in the Subway Surfers game) or he can swipe left or right at various points to correctly follow the designated path (as in Temple Run). Subway Surfers Game Temple Run Game This tutorial we have made contains two levels that feature both game mechanics. As you'll see, these levels share some similarities, but they also have some notable differences. As usual, you can find the code here on GitHub and play the game here in a WebGL-enabled browser. Asset Credits Since this tutorial is a 3D game, you wouldn't have anything great to show without any 3D assets. Since I have no experience in creating 3D assets, I needed to find some prefabricated ones. Where else to look for anything other than the Unity Asset Store? The Asset Store is a wonderful place, where you can easily find low-cost assets (even free) for your game. This tutorial would not be possible if it weren't for these great assets that we use: Game overview When starting the game, the player can see a screen with two simple buttons: You can choose one of two game levels, either the rotated route level or the straight route level. At the level of rotated routes, Max follows a narrow platform (route) until it comes to an end. At some point before this happens, the game engine randomly chooses where to place the next platform, either left, right or directly. The point where this next route will be placed is at the end of the current route. When Max reaches the end of the current path, the player has to swipe to go left or right, or simply continue on the main path. If the player does not slide his finger in time, then Max can collide with the wall and die (the red walls, depicted in the image below). As you walk along the way, Max can choose the candy that in front of it to get some points to increase your score, you can (should!) jump to avoid obstacles and, of course, you can swipe left or right when the platform is about to spin in order to follow the new path. Level of rotated paths Important: You'll see me refer to the player's input as As you'll see below, this game has two input methods (either arrow keys or swipe on a touch screen). Therefore, when we say 'swipe', this involves the use of arrow keys or the regular use of swipe on a touch screen. At the level of straight routes, Max follows a wide platform and moves continuously in a straight direction. The player can swipe left or right to move sideways along imaginary lanes (as in normal traffic), while he can choose candies to increase his score. You should also avoid popping obstacles at random, either moving in a different lane or jumping on them. If Max falls into an obstacle, he dies and the game is over. Straight path level In both cases/levels, the game can theoretically continue indefinitely. The game ends when Max falls on a red wall (level of rotated trajectories) or collides with an obstacle (both levels). When this happens, the player can tap the screen to restart the game. Finally, as you can easily see, the score is increasing as Max is still alive and keep running. In our game code and building the Unity scene! We'll start by explaining the code for the common classes used at both levels and end up examining each level in detail. During the following sections we will describe the classes used in the creation of the game. As for the input of the game The developer can easily switch between two input methods for the player to use. You can turn on input using the mouse/keyboard (left, right, and top arrow keys) or touch input, i.e. the player by dragging your finger on the screen and swiping left, right, or up. Both input methods have been created as classes that implement a specific interface so the main game only checks the result of the input method, without knowing how the input is performed (a very simple example of the principle of control reversal). Since we have used the same (more or less) code in our 2048 game tutorial, we will not go into details here, but rather encourage you to check that blog post for more information. The introductory level is the first screen that our player will see when starting the game. The main screen input level The Introductory Level uses Unity UI controls, specifically two buttons, to allow the player to choose the level they want to play. The public class IntroLevel : MonoBehaviour & public void StraightLevelClick() to SceneManager.LoadScene(straightPathsLevel);
? public void RotatedLevelClick() & This level has only one script that contains two methods. Each corresponds to a button click and transfers the player to the next level, using the Unity SceneManager API. Constants.cs if you've read any of my other tutorials, you'll definitely know that I love having a Constants.cs in my project. This class typically contains static variables (variables that I want to be visible throughout my project). Apart from the part, this file saves us from hard decoding integers and (most importantly!) strings in our game scripts. Public static class constants to public static readonly string PlayerTag ? Player; public static readonly string AnimationStarted ? started; public static readonly string WidePathBorderTag ? WidePathBorder; public static readonly string StatusTapToStart ? Tap to start; public static readonly string StatusDeadTapToStart . Tap to start; As you can easily see, this class contains some useful static variables for our game. GameState enum As all games that respect themselves should do, we have to have a simple enumeration called GameState. public enum GameState - Home, Playing, Dead - Our game status enumeration is simple, containing three states for our game, that is, when the game hasn't started, when the game is playing and when Max is dead. TimeDestroyer We need some in-game items to be destroyed after a certain amount of time, in order to take some weight from our RAM and CPU. For example, there is no need for a path to be 'alive' in the game after Max has passed ahead of it and is no longer visible on the player's screen. A simple solution to this problem is to have this object destroyed after a certain amount of time, which is exactly what this class accomplishes. TimeDestroyer public class : MonoBehaviour ? void Start() ? Invoke(DestroyObject, LifeTime);
? void DestroyObject() - If (GameManager.Instance.GameState != GameState.Dead) Destroy(gameObject); The TimeDestroyer script is attached to several prefabs in our game, specifically to sweets, obstacles and roads. It will cause the game object to disappear after a certain period of time, as long as Max is not dead. This, because we don't want the player to see objects disappearing from the screen when Max is dead, as this would be somewhat uncomfortable for the player to see. Last but not least, the LifeTime public field determines how many seconds this game item will be alive. Obstacle In order to make our game difficult to beat, we put some obstacles along the way. Max has to go through them (both levels) or jump on them (level of turned paths) in a precise time frame in order to avoid them. If Max falls on one of them, the game is over. In the images below you can see the two models that we use as obstacles, as well as their components. The 2 obstacle models – prefabricated Components of barrel model public class Obstacle : MonoBehaviour a void OnTriggerEnter(Collider col) ? if the player hits an obstacle, it is if(col.gameObject.tag == ? As you can see in component images, each obstacle game object is a rigid body activated. The code is very simple, just a method that activates when Max crashes the obstacle. As already said, when this happens, Max dies and the game is over for our player. RedBorder The RedBorder is used at the Rotated Routes level. It's red because it's hot (yes, we could find a :P excuse) and it will kill Max if he falls on it. Max has to avoid them and follow the correct route to the next route (either on the left, on the right or directly). RedBorder prefab RedBorder components public class RedBorder : MonoBehaviour a void OnTriggerEnter(Collider col) ? if (col.gameObject.tag == Constants.PlayerTag) GameManager.Instance.Die(); The RedBorder script is attached to the RedBorder game object. As already mentioned, when Max touches the red border, he is dead and the game is over. The Game Manager GameManager script is a script that contains some basic properties, such as game status and unfortunate for our player, Die method. Check the script code below: GameManager public class : MonoBehaviour & void Awake() - if (instance - null) - instance - this; , else , DestroyImmediate(this); - to the private static instance of GameManager; public static GameManager instance; The GameManager script is a Singleton, which causes only one instance of it to live during the course of the game. The static property named Instance can access this single instance. If you're looking for a more detailed description of Singleton, check out the Unity wiki here. Protected GameManager() - GameState - GameState.Start; CanSwipe to false; • Public GameState GameState & get; set; a public bool CanSwipe ? get; set; a public void Die() to UIManager.Instance.SetStatus(Constants.StatusDeadTapToStart); this; this. GameState to GameState.Dead; • Constructor is declared protected, so external classes cannot instantiate a new GameManager (required for Singleton deployment). GameManager has a GameState enumeration, a CanSwipe bool property that allows the game to accept player hits (used only at the rotated route level), and a public Die method that executes when Max falls on a red border, an obstacle, or off the path. It changes the state of the game and causes the user interface to display messages relevant to Max's death. Random material My artistic skills are mediocre, at best. So, when I needed to color my paths, I decided to select some random colors for the rectangle shapes on the road floor. This class is used for this. Route level rotated, you can see the random color on each plot part. 6 materials to color our paths These materials are located in the Resources folder of our solution, so we use the following code to load them: RandomMaterial public class : MonoBehaviour & // Use for void Awake() initialization? GetComponent().material ? GetRandomMaterial(); GetRandomMaterial(); return Resources.Load(Materials/RedMaterial) as Material; else if (x to 1) returns Resources.Load(Materials/greenMaterial) as Material; else if (x to 2) returns Resources.Load(Materials/blueMaterial) as Material; else if (x 3) returns Resources.Load(Materials/yellowMaterial) as Material; else if (x to 4) returns Resources.Load(Materials/purpleMaterial) as Material; else return Resources.Load(Materials/redMaterial) as Material; • During awakening, assign a random material to the game object, so it has a random color. Candy Most games have a way to increase a player's score in order to make the player happier, allow him to compete with others and improve the value of the game with some replayability. In our game, we've selected to use some beautiful candy 3D items (you love candy, don't you?) that increase the player's score when Max runs over them. Imagine they work as bonus points. The following are candy models/prefabs and candy_01 (which are similar to the other three). The four prefabs Candy public class candy components Candy : MonoBehaviour - // Update is called once per frame void Update() - transform. Rotate(Vector3.up, Time.deltaTime * rotateSpeed); • void OnTriggerEnter(Collider col) to UIManager.Instance.IncreaseScore(ScorePoints). Destroy(this.gameObject); • public int ScorePoints 100; public float rotateSpeed at 50f; • The Candy script continuously rotates the candy on the Y axis to make it more visible to the user. It has a public ScorePoints variable that contains the points worth this bonus and is an activated rigid body. After the collision with Max, the object of the candy game is destroyed and the player is rewarded with the respective points, with the game score increased. UIManager Almost all games have a HUD (Heads-Up Display), i.e. some 2D texts and/or images that is used to give some information about the game to the player. Here, we want to display trivial information to the user, so we use something very simple (two text objects) with the help of Unity's UI system. The two UI text objects that show the game status and current score. The code for the UI script is quite trivial: UIManager public class : MonoBehaviour & void Awake() - if (instance - null) - instance - this; • Else a DestroyImmediate(this); a //Singleton implementation private static UIManager instance; public static UIManager Instance ? get a if (instance ? null) instance ? new UIManager(); return instance; ? ? ? protected UIManager() ? private float score ? 0; public void ResetScore() ? score ? 0; UpdateScoreText(); • public void SetScore(float value) - value; UpdateScoreText(); • public void IncreaseScore(float value) - score + value; UpdateScoreText(); • private void UpdateScoreText() & ScoreText.text - score. ToString(); • public void SetStatus(string text) ? StatusText.text ? text; ? public void SetStatus(string text) ? StatusText; • The UIManager script has placeholders for two UI text game objects. The first is the text object that displays the score, while the second one shows the state of the game. The class itself is a Singleton and has some public methods for setting punctuation and status text objects. It also has an entire private variable containing the player's score that is modified by the respective public methods. Needless to say, the same script is used by both levels of gameplay. Max's lively! The Max model has some animations embedded (fortunately for us!). You can see them when the model is imported into Unity, check below. From these animations we will use inactive, execution and jump animations for our purposes. Animations of the Max 3D model We use Unity's Mecanim animation system to animate Max. Mecanim allows us to create a state machine in which all the necessary states of the Max model are represented each state is related to an animation the transitions between states, as well as the circumstances that occur are described in our game, we use two Boolean variables to help us transition between animation states. Actually, it's pretty simple: at the beginning of the game, Max is in a state of inactivity. When the game starts, Max starts running, so we move on to the running state. When the player swipes up on the screen (or presses the up arrow key) Max jumps, so the transition to the jump state. When Max touches the route again after the jump, he continues to run (you guessed correctly, back to the execution state). Below you can see some relevant images taken within the Unity editor. The animation state machine for Max. In the on the left you can see the two variables (jump and start) that trigger the state change. When inactive, when the started variable becomes true, then we move to the run/animation state. When Max runs, if the jump variable becomes true, then we move on to the jump/animation state. Run the model animation assigned to the OK execution state, the states are all good, but how do you modify the two variables? This happens by getting a reference to Max's animator controller object later when we analyze the motion scripts. End of part 1 We finish part 1 of the tutorial, check part 2 here! As a reminder, you can find the code here on GitHub and play the game here in a WebGL-enabled browser. Thanks for reading! Reading!

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