

2Simple Collection FAQ

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Q: What is the 2Simple Collection?

A: The 2Simple Collection is a combined set of 28 programs from 2Simple - 2Animate, 2Calculate, 2Connect, 2Control NXT, 2Create, 2Create A Story, 2Draw, 2Email, 2Handwrite, 2Investigate, 2Paint A Picture, 2Publish+, 2Review+, 2Simulate, 2Type, Alphabet Soup, DevTray, Infant Toolkit, Literacy Collection, Maths City, Maths Games 1, Modelling Toolkit, Music Toolkit, Photo Simple, Science Simulation, Simple City, Stories 2 Tell, Talking Stories

Q: Are all 2Simple programs included within the 2Simple Collection?

A: No – the 2Simple Collection was a special deal which included 28 2Simple programs – all the 2Simple programs that had been released up to that time. Subsequent to the 2Simple Collection deal, new programs have been released that are available separately – 2Do it Yourself, 2Simple French, 2Simple Spanish, Maths City 2, 2Assess, 2Create A Superstory. Purple Mash is also not part of the 2Simple Collection.

Q: Why are there 3 discs that come with the Collection?

A. The first 2 discs are DVDs and the 3rd is a CD.

1. Disc 1 contains 2 large combined installations which include 26 of the 28 programs (all except Alphabet Soup and 2Email). “Collection 1 install” contains 18 programs and “Collection 2 install” contains a further 8. When installing Collection 1, you also have an option to install with or without videos (the videos of all 18 programs in Collection 1 are about 1 GB in size).
2. Disc 2 contains individual installs of each of the 28 programs. There are times when it is preferable to use the individual installs rather than the combined ones on disc 1, for example if you are installing via GPO (see below.)
3. Disc 3 is a CD rather than a DVD and is provided for schools who do not have DVD drives. It contains the Collection 1 lite install (no videos). See below for more information on how to install the Collection if you do not have a DVD drive at your school.

Q: What is the best way to deploy the Collection across a network?

A: We recommend deploying the individual program MSIs to each machine using Group Policy. These are located in DVD 2 of the Collection box set. Although using the combined installs in DVD 1 can be useful and save time when installing on a stand-alone machine, we do not recommend they be used when deploying the via GPO because the size of the combined installs (the largest one is over 1GB) can put stress on a network during installation. In addition, it is less easy to change / remove individual programs via GPO using this method (for example if a program gets upgraded to a new version). Note that it is also possible to install most 2Simple programs to a single server location and run it from there, rather than install on each local machine. To read more about this option, see www.2simple.com > support > networks.

Notes on GPO installation:

If you assign all 28 MSIs using GPO to all computers in one go, this could cause stress on your network – it may be better to assign to subsets of computers (using organizational units), or not assign all 28 programs at once. Note also that if you assign all 28 MSIs at once, the local workstations, when rebooted, may take an hour or more to install all the programs since the total size is over 2GB. You will not be able to use the workstation during this time, so it may be best to reboot the computers at the end of the day if you plan to install all 28 programs at once.

Q: How should I install the Collection on RM CC3 / CC4?

A: Do not use the combined installs – each of the 28 programs has its own CC3 / CC4 MSI package which can be deployed through the RMMC. For more information see www.2simple.com > support > networks > CC3 / CC4.

Q: Should I uninstall any existing 2Simple programs before installing the Collection?

A: Ideally, yes. The Collection install does not uninstall or update any existing installs of 2Simple programs on your computer, so if you don't uninstall any existing programs you may have them installed in 2 separate places after you install the Collection. This will not stop the programs from working but does waste disk space as well as possibly cause confusion if different program versions or program settings are involved.

Q: Do the combined installs contain the latest versions of all 28 programs?

A: Yes, with the exception of 2Publish+. A new version of 2Publish+ (1.2.0.19) was released subsequent to the release of the Collection. The Collection combined install contains the original version of 2Publish+ (1.0.70). If you are installing the Collection to an individual workstation using the combined install, we recommend that you unselect the 2Publish+ element of the install so that v1.0.70 does not get installed, and then install 2Publish+ 1.2.0.19 separately. If you are deploying the 2Simple Collection to a network using GPO, we recommend you use the individual MSIs for each program rather than the combined installs.

Q: What size are the Collection installs?

Installation	Size once installed
Collection 1 Lite (no videos)	460 MB
Collection 1 Videos only	1.03 GB
Collection 1 Full	1.43 GB
Collection 2	1.47 GB
2Email	17 MB
ABC Soup	325 MB

Q: Can I choose which programs to install when using the combined installs?

A: Yes - when you run the installation, one of the dialog screens will ask you to select which “features” (ie programs) you would like to install. The default is that every program will be installed. To change this so that a particular program is not installed, click on the hard drive icon to the left of that program and select “Entire feature will be unavailable”. Once you have done this a red cross will appear next to the program, confirming your choice. To change back, click on the red cross and choose “Will be installed on local hard

drive". (Ignore the middle option – "Entire feature will be installed on local hard drive."). NB –these options are not available if you install via GPO.

Installation Problems

Q: I am unable to install the software – it takes too long / freezes

A: The programs contained within the Collection contain a lot of graphics, sound and video content. The combined installs are each over 1GB in size. The time taken to complete a combined install is potentially 10 minutes or more, depending on your computer speed. There are 3 main parts which take time:

1. When you first click to install, you will get a window displaying "**Preparing to install...**" This window will stay unchanged for at least 4 minutes. There are no buttons to press at this stage. The installation has not crashed – it is just copying the setup file to a temporary location on your local hard drive.
2. After this, you should get the first installation screen appearing, asking you to click NEXT. Continue through the rest of the screens until the progress bar appears and the installation itself starts. **You will now need to wait at least 3 minutes before the progress bar starts to move.**
3. Once the progress bar starts to move, you will have to wait a further few minutes until it completes.

Q: I insert the a Collection disc into my CD drive but it is not recognised

A: Disc 1 and 2 of the Collection are DVDs, not CDs. You need a DVD drive to be able to access them. The 3rd disc is a CD however, and will be recognised on a CD drive. See below.

Q: My computer does not have a DVD drive – how do I install the Collection?

A: Due to space considerations, the 2Simple Collection installs have been provided on DVDs rather than CDs. If your computer does not have a DVD drive:

1. Use the support CD (the 3rd disc) to install the Collection 1 "Lite". This contains 18 core 2Simple programs, excluding videos.
2. If the computer is connected to your network, insert the DVD 1 into a computer which *does* have a DVD reader, and copy the entire contents of the DVD to a shared location on the network. Now use the MSIs to deploy the Collection across the network using GPO. Alternatively, once the contents of the DVD are on a shared area of the network, you can simply run the installations manually from the computer which has no DVD drive by browsing to the network location and double-clicking the install file.
3. If the computer is **not** connected to your school network, you can copy the installs from the DVD to the computer using a USB Flash memory stick, and then install them. Alternatively, contact 2Simple and request a further 3 support CDs which contain individual installations of the 10 programs that are not on the first support CD.
4. The videos for all 2Simple programs can also be viewed online at www.2simple.com/videos/

Q: "Add operation failed: Unable to extract package information..."

Q: "The System administrator has set policies to prevent this installation"

A: If you are deploying the Collection via GPO, make sure your server has a minimum 3GB of space on the C Drive (or the letter of the Operating System Drive). The desktop machines will also need a minimum of 3GB spare on the C Drive. If this does not resolve the error, download the appropriate hot fix from <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/925336> (2003 Server only).

The Collection Launcher

Q: What is the Collection Launcher?

A: It is a small program which can be used to easily link to all 28 2Simple programs. It is automatically included with Collection 1 Full and Lite installations, and is also available as a separate installation MSI. The Launcher will automatically attempt to find any 2Simple programs that have been installed on your computer. If it finds them, it will display their icons and you should be able to run them from the launcher. If the videos are accessible, you can view them by clicking on the small "V" to the right of the program. If

the 2Simple programs have not been installed, or were not installed in their default locations, the launcher will not find them. You can instead manually locate them by going into the teacher options (Ctrl + Shift + the letter “o”). Within the teacher options you can double-click on any program and then navigate to where that program is installed. Select the program and click OPEN. The launcher will remember this choice. Using the teacher options, you can also hide selected programs by unticking them and change the order in which programs are displayed by dragging the program names up or down.

Q: If I install the individual program MSIs, will the Launcher MSI clean up the desktop shortcuts?

A: No. The individual program MSIs will install their own shortcuts to the start menu and desktop, and the launcher MSI will not affect these – it will simply add its own shortcut to the start menu and desktop. If you do not want the individual program shortcuts on the desktop, you may need to remove them manually, although the problem with that is the MSIs may subsequently try to repair this and place the desktop shortcuts back. Another option, if you only want one shortcut on the desktop, is to contact 2Simple and ask for download links of the individual program MSIs which do not contain shortcuts.

Q: If we add further programs later, will the Launcher pick these up automatically?

A: The Launcher will only try to find the 28 programs within the Collection. You can however manually add further programs to the Launcher – see below.

Q: How do I add programs to the Collection Launcher?

A: You need to manually editing the progdata.xml file.

- This is usually here: C:\Program Files\2Simple Software\2Simple collection\Launcher\data\
- This file will not exist initially – it is generated the first time you run the launcher.
- Open the file in Notepad and turn off word wrap to see each program listed on its own line.
- <order> dictates the display order, for example p2='11' means the 2nd list entry is displayed 11th.
- <program name> has the following sections
 - o Program name – as seen in the launcher window.
 - o Path – where to find the program
 - o Picpath – where to find the icon (removing this section to use the default icon)
 - o Desc – The description which appears on mouse hover
 - o Videopath – where to find the videos
- To display new programs
 - o Copy an existing line and modify its contents as appropriate
 - o Amend the ORDER line. Eg. add p29='29' to add a new entry at the bottom.
 - o Save and exit the file, then mark it as **read only** using right-click > properties. If you don't do this, the next time you open the launcher, your changes will be lost.
- To avoid having to make the above changes on every machine, you could consider running the launcher from a central server location, in which case there will be only one xml file to change.

Q: I installed the Collection on a 64-bit OS and the launcher program icons are all greyed out

A: Windows 64-bit OS installs 32-bit applications to C:\Program files (x86) instead of the usual C:\Program files. The collection launcher isn't smart enough to realize this. The current solution to this problem is to manually edit the progdata.xml file which is by default located here: C:\Program Files\2Simple Software\2Simple collection\Launcher\data\. Open it in Notepad and click Edit > Replace. Replace all instances of “C:\Program Files\” with “C:\Program Files (x86)\”, then save and exit. You can copy this xml file to other machines using one of the methods described in www.2simple.com > support > networks > copying 2Simple settings across a network.