

Minecraft Gets A New "unified" PC Launcher For Java, Bedrock, And Dungeons

This not only means those playing on PC through Game Pass get access to cross-play with others "regardless of platform" - there's also a new "unified Minecraft launcher" to help you start both versions of the game from the same place.

"We are introducing a new feature - the unified Minecraft Launcher!" Mojang Studios creative writer Cristina Anderca announces in a blog post. "Instead having separate launchers for Java Edition and Bedrock Edition, you'll be able launch both Minecraft versions using one game launcher."

The post later reads: "Minecraft has never been easier to play on PC, and I'm sure you'll enjoy it as much as I do. I've only been switching between both editions so far and marveling at the ease of it all. I'm sorry, but I must find out who invents this idea so I can send them fan mail.

A handy explainer on Minecraft's help centre site offers some details on how this new feature, called the Minecraft Launcher for Windows, works. It can be found in the Windows store. It allows you to launch Minecraft: Java Edition and even their dungeoncrawler spinoff Minecraft Dungeons from one place. This is a "one-stop portal to the Minecraft universe", as the store's page describes it. You don't really need it to play these games, but it is a useful option in case you want to access them all from one launcher.

Turn up that jukebox and light up the skies in fireworks: Minecraft is now included in Game Pass for PC! This subscription includes Java and Bedrock, plus a unified launcher to both editions.

Learn how you can join the party

- <https://t.co/e5lVnE6Xv1> - pic.twitter.com/wyHhGgNRnp

- Minecraft (@Minecraft) November 2, 2021

The launcher is completely free, but you will need to have purchased the games separately or subscribed for Xbox Game Pass for PC (or Game Pass Ultimate), to access them. There was an older launcher called "Minecraft Unified Launcher", which was only for Windows 7 or 8, and launched Minecraft Dungeons and Java Edition. Just say yes You don't need to uninstall this one to run the new one, but Mojang recommends doing so "to cut down on confusion".

For the full info on how to grab and run the new launcher, head to that help centre site post linked above. To sign up to Xbox Game Pass for PC, head to that link.