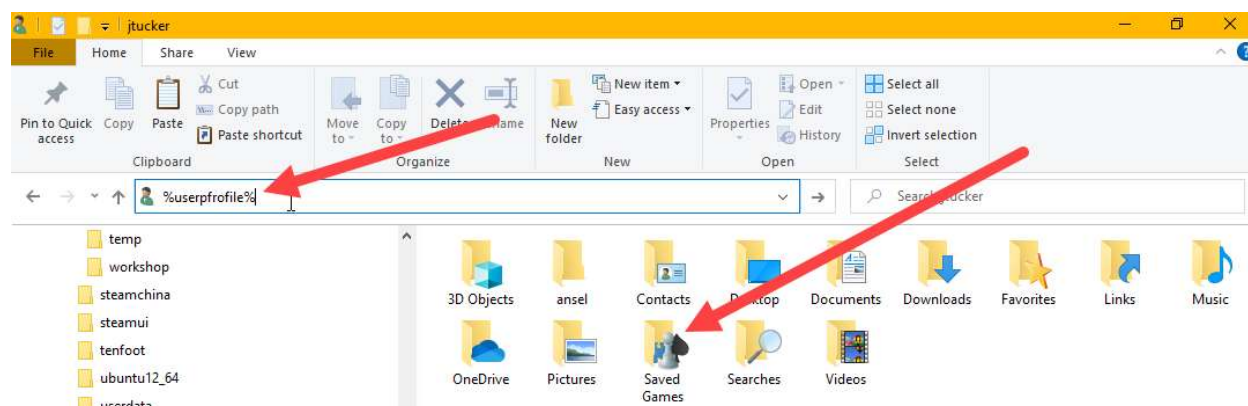


Fresh Install of DCS on New Computer

So you got yourself a new computer. Yay! First thing you want to do is get DCS installed and usable. That is why you got a new computer in the first place, right? I just finished getting a new computer setup to include DCS and I thought I would share my experience. First off, I want to say DCS is fully functional without errors.

If possible create a full backup of your computer. If it is not possible, copy at a minimum your Saved Games folder. In the File Explorer put this in the URL box. %USERPROFILE% and press enter. Your profile will open and there should be an icon for saved games.



PRO TIP! Take the hard drive from the old computer and temporarily install as another hard drive in the new computer. This way to can copy necessary files from the old drive to the new drive.

You can open the folder by clicking the icon.

Look for a subfolder named “DCS”, “DCS.openbeta”, etc.

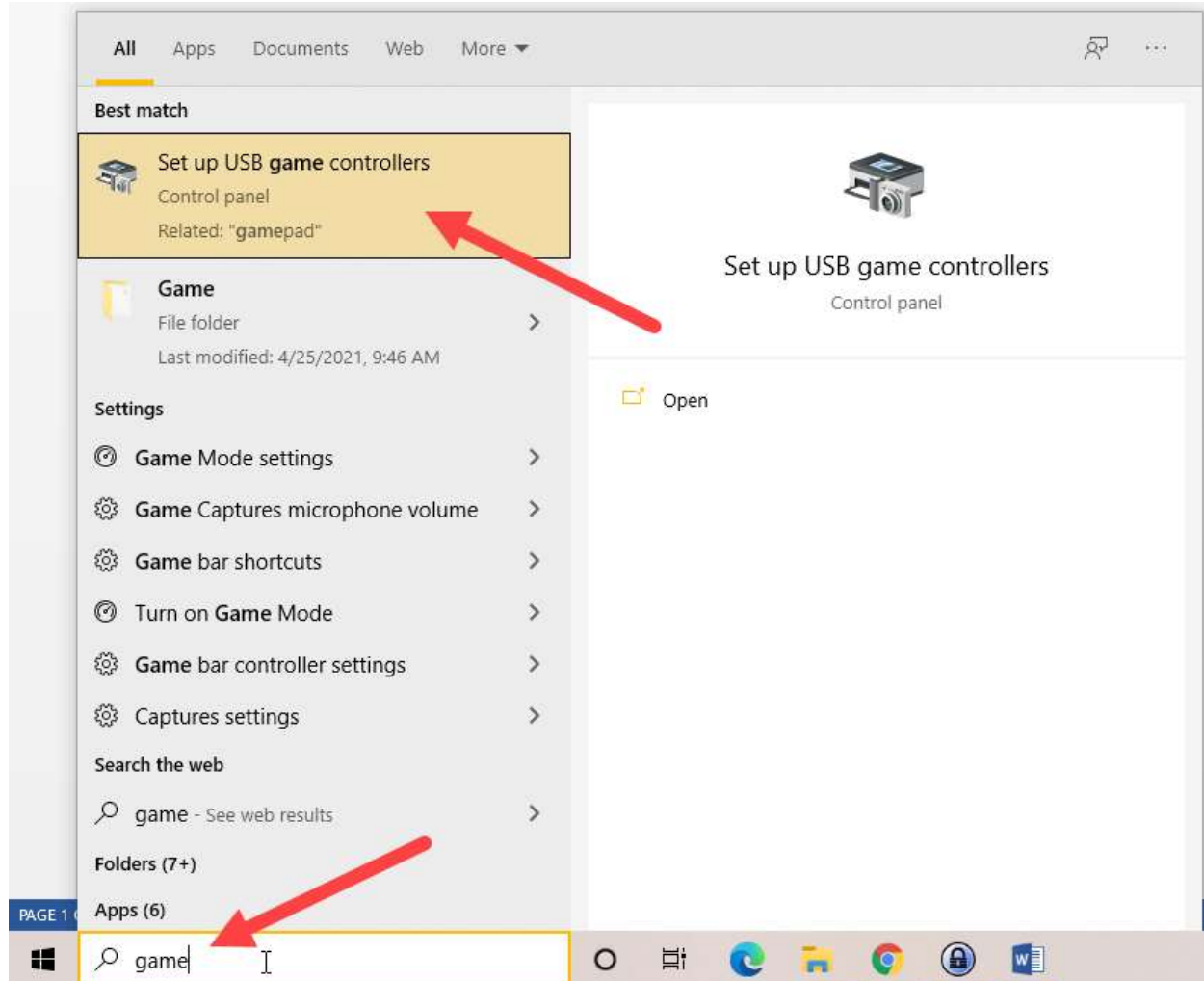
If you have more than one folder, look at the contents of each and find the folder named “LOGS”. Check the date. If this date corresponds to the last time you ran DCS, then you have the correct folder.

Copy the subfolder. This folder has most importantly your custom missions, controls, (we know how much of a pain to get your controls right), etc.

Run through the initial setup of Windows on the new computer including all the latest updates.

Perform the initial setup in Windows for your controllers (joystick, throttle, pedals, etc).

Make sure they work in game controller section of Control Panel. (hint: go to search box in Windows and type “game”).



Test all the axes and buttons.

Get the latest video card drivers from the manufacturer's website (MSI, EVGA, etc.) or the chip manufacturer's website (NVIDIA / AMD)

PRO TIP! DON'T TWEAK ANY SETTINGS YET! Wait until you are done with installing DCS!

Go to <https://www.digitalcombatsimulator.com> and download and install the latest preferred version. In my case, I went for version 2.7 which is considered Open Beta.

After install is complete, open DCS.

Open the options and setup your preferred video settings.

I picked one of the preset video settings boxes at the bottom. My hardware is above the recommended settings so I selected HIGH. This will be your baseline.

Now load an Instant Action mission OR create a new mission to test. I recommend not loading a mission you were using in previous versions of DCS because some pilots have reported issues with

incompatibilities. It has been reported that merely opening the mission in Mission Editor and saving it will fix some inconsistencies.

At this point you can start tweaking settings. In my case, I preferred to make changes to the NVIDIA control panel and use settings from my previous computer.

Now for controllers. I have seen a lot of forum posts with people having issues with new computers and their controllers being wonky. When Windows is reloaded, and controllers are plugged in, they receive a new GUID which will not match what they were on the previous Windows load (or new computer).

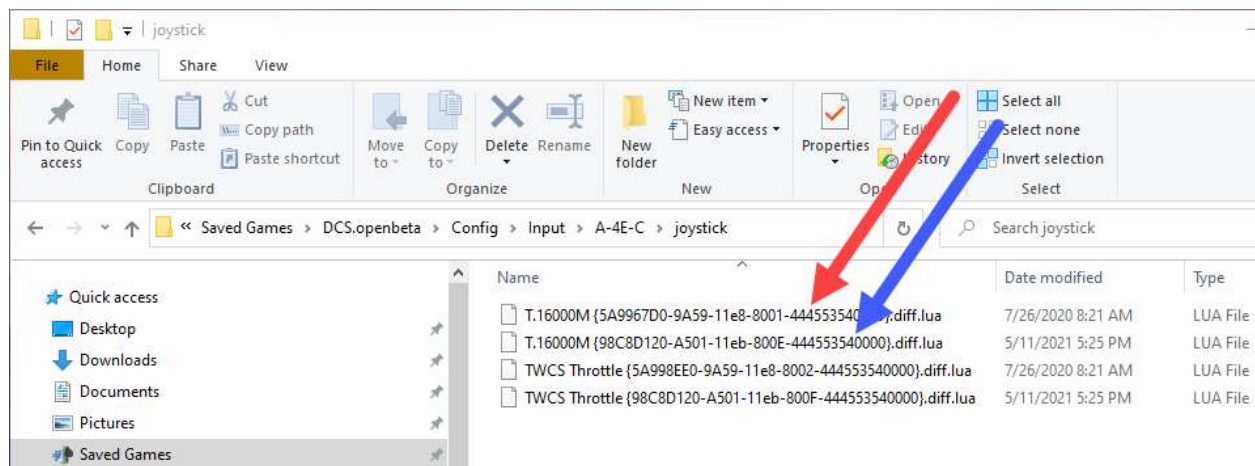
The configuration files for controllers in DCS are saved in

%userprofile%\saved games\DCS.openbeta\config\input\AIRCRAFT_NAME\joystick

In my case I have Thrustmaster TWCS which is a joystick and throttle set. The below screenshot is for A-4E-C.

{5A9967D0-9A59-11e8-8001-444553540000} **OLD GUID**

{98C8D120-A501-11eb-800E-444553540000} **NEW GUID**



There are two methods to get the controllers to map in the new install. One way is to go into each aircraft and import the old config files. The other way is to make copies of the config files and rename them with the new GUIDs. I personally used the import method. Since I have several modules, I did them as I needed them the first time. However I still had to do some tweaking after the import but it was a lot faster than going through each controller and remapping.

Hopefully this guide will assist you with setup when you get new gear.

If you have comments or questions, please use the ED forums private message to "silverdevil". I would like to improve this document so all comments are welcome.

Happy flying!!