



# CONSTRUCTION SITE PLAYABLE VEHICLE

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## DOCUMENTATION



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[SCANS] Construction Site: Loader pack features a fully functioning loader with its environment.

## Unreal Engine 4

The Loader is based on an [Unreal Engine Vehicle System](#) with added physics of an arm and bucket. It interacts with the environment - it deforms the landscape, reacts to water and mud (wheels get dirty), has an extensive system of particles, and more - [check video](#).

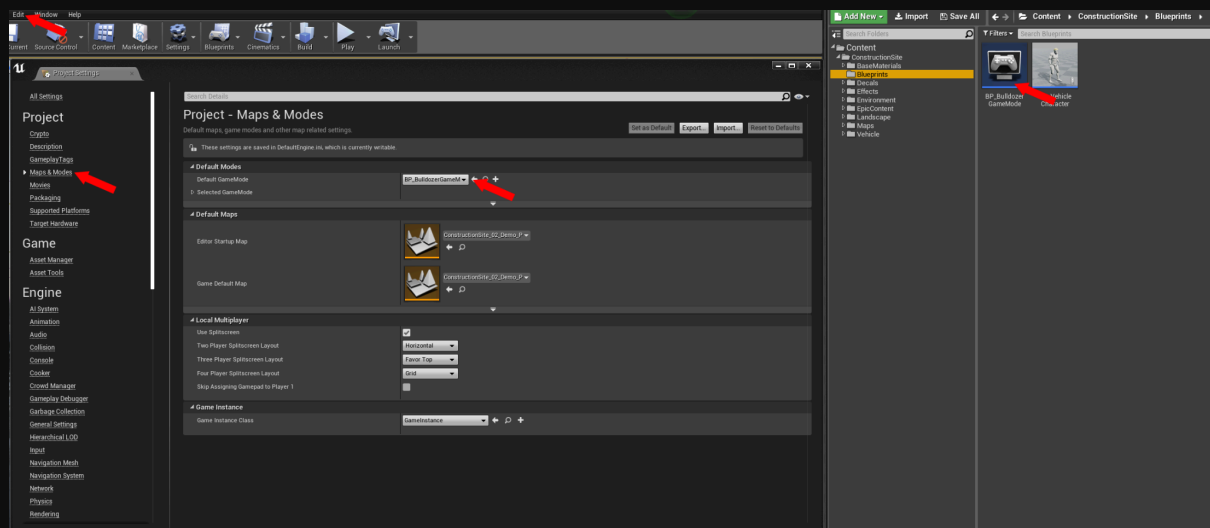
## Unreal Engine 5

The Loader is based on [Unreal Engine Chaos Vehicles](#). All functionalities have been adapted to the new version.

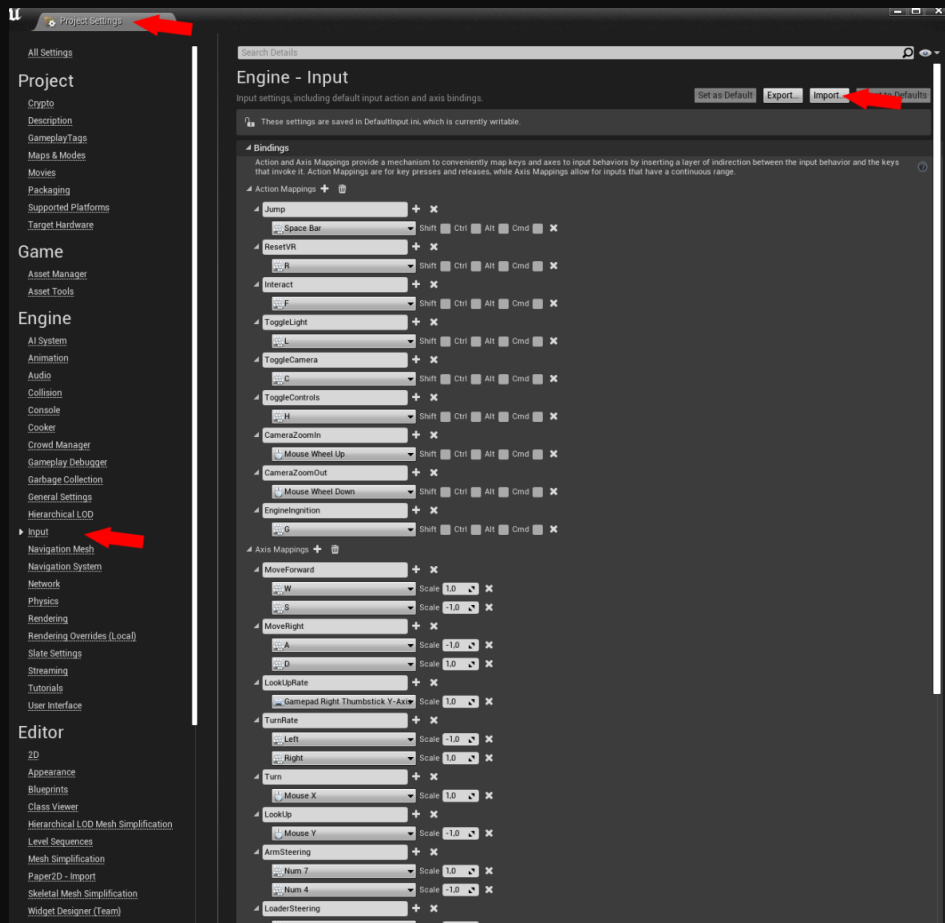
# Unreal Engine 4

## First Steps

The pack is based on a modified **Third Person template**, after adding it to your project you need to change **Default GameMode** in **Project Settings** to our **BP\_BulldozerGameMode**.



If you add a pack to the Blank project you should definite Engine input or import it, simply download it from our drive - [Loader input](#)



The name of the demo scene is **ConstructionSite\_02\_Demo\_P**.



## Pawn

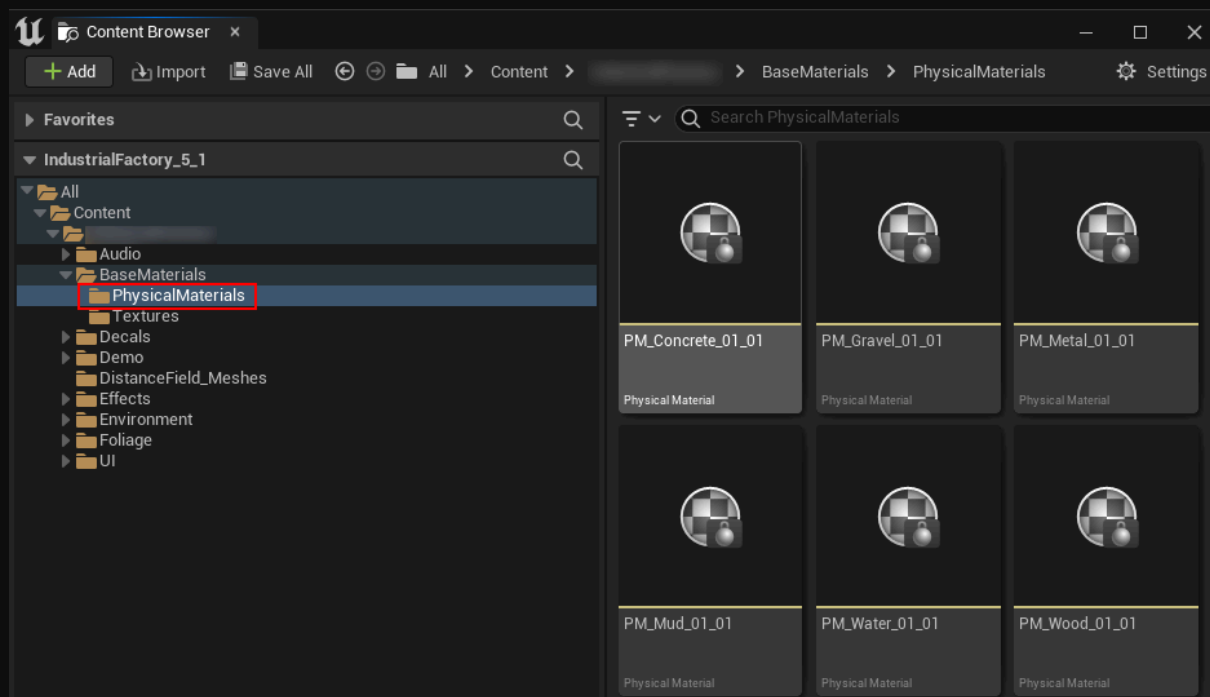
We add to the standard Third Person template pawn some extra functions:

- switch the camera from **Third Person** to **First Person** by pressing **C** on the keyboard
- change the camera to **Top Third Person** by pressing **T** on the keyboard
- pawn flashlight by pressing **L** on the keyboard
- functions for pawn footprints

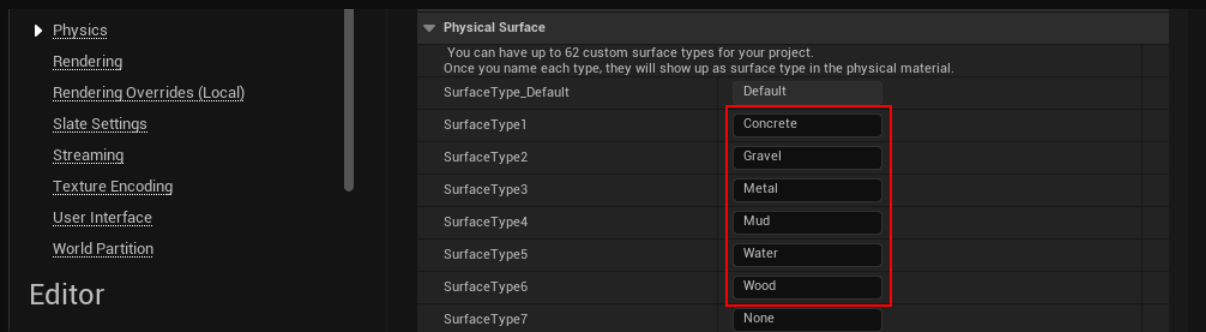


## Footsteps warning

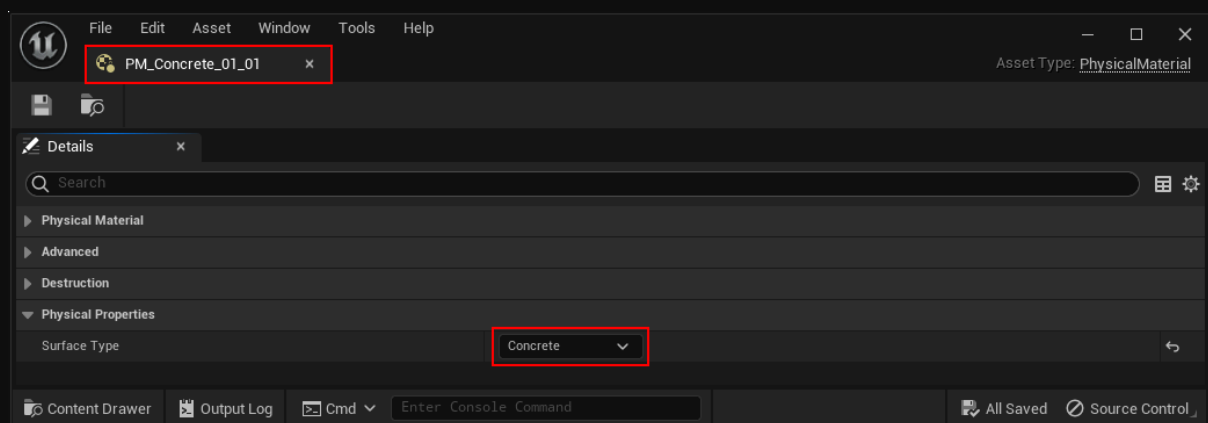
We defined four **Physical Surfaces**: Concrete, Gravel, Metal, Mud, Water and Wood.



Our pawn has footstep sounds implemented for these surfaces. For proper operation and compilation, it must be defined in Project Settings > Engine > Physics > Physical Surface:

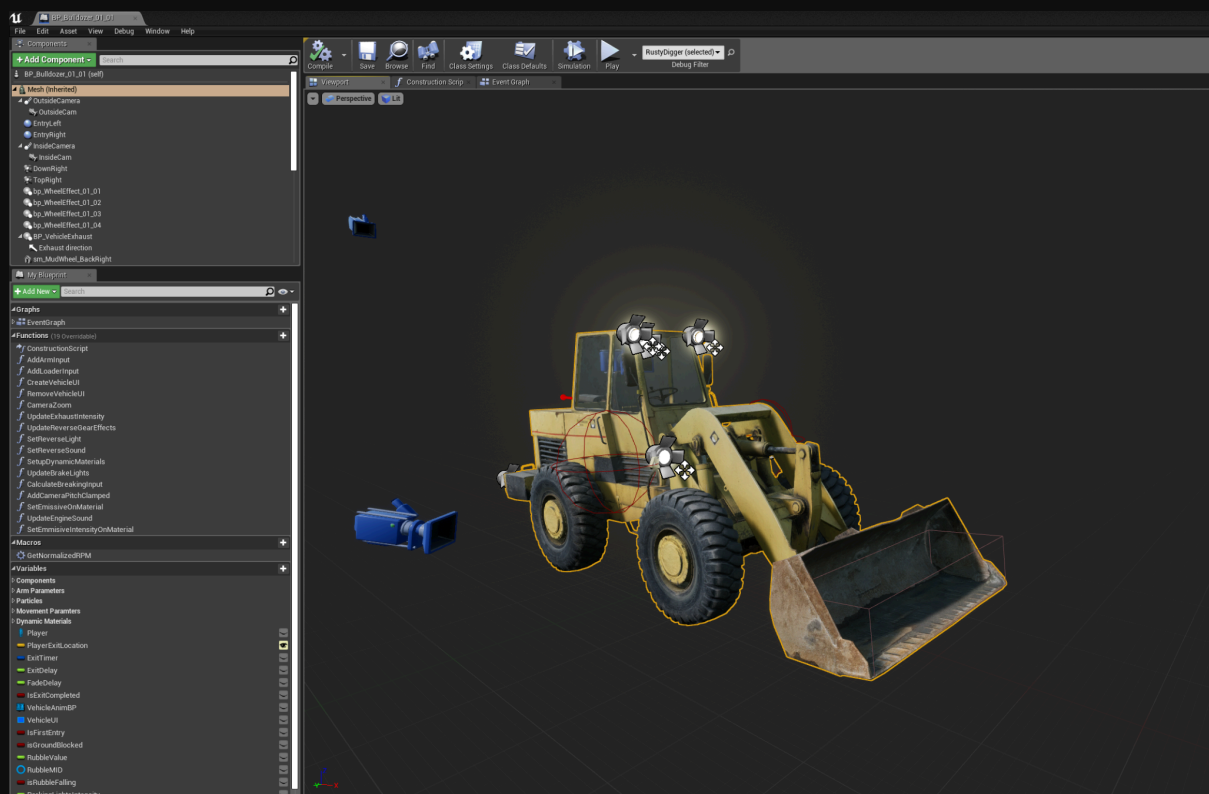
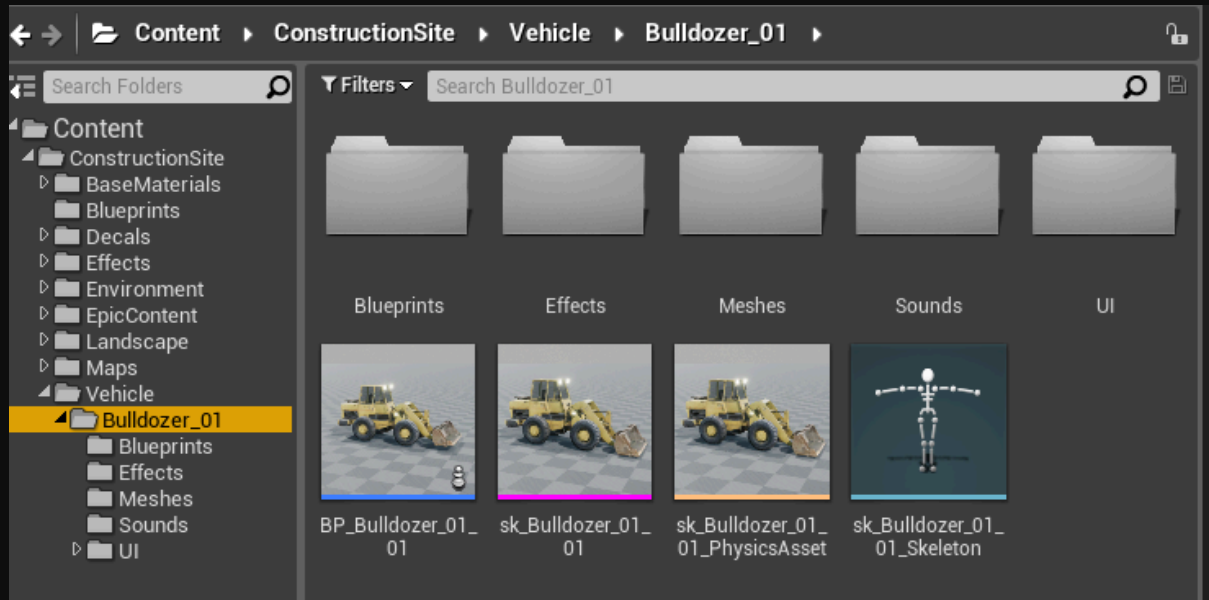


Most likely, in your project, you will need to assign the correct surface in the physical material properties. Just Double-click on each material and choose the correct value from the list:



# Bulldozer

Bulldozer BluePrint's name is **BP\_Bulldozer\_01\_01**



## Bulldozer keyology

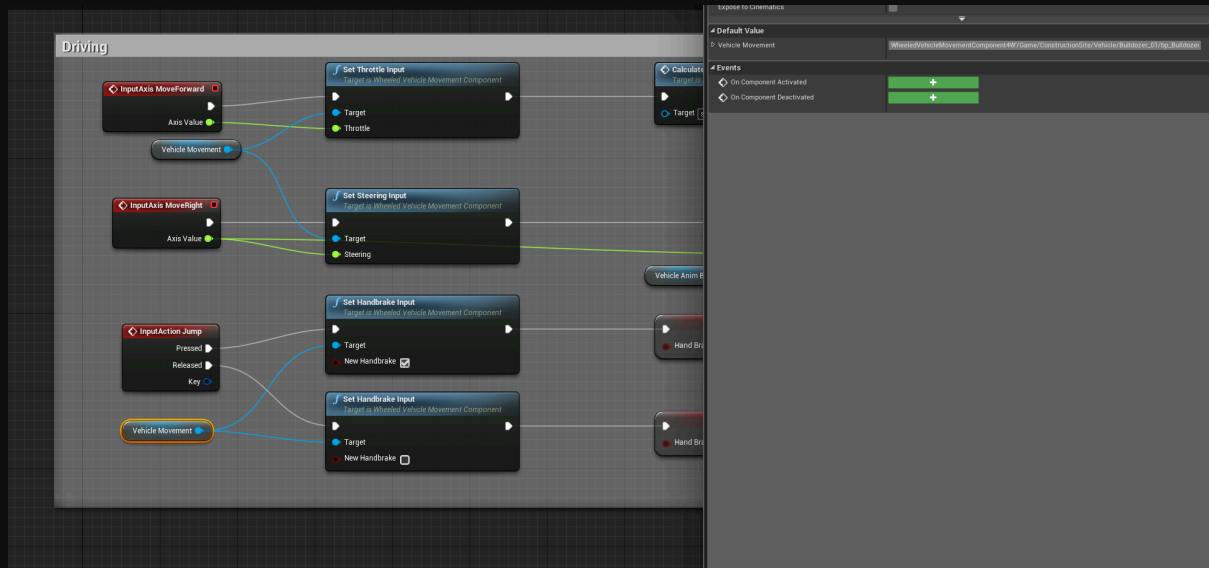
Keyboard	
Move Forward	W
Move Backward	S
Move Left	A
Move Right	D
Handbrake	Space
Raise Loader	Num 8
Lower Loader	Num 5
Incline Forward	Num 7
Incline Backward	Num 4
Exit Vehicle	Hold F
Toggle Camera	C
Toggle Headlights	L
Camera Zoom	Mouse Wheel Up/Down
Toggle Controls	H



To get pawn into the bulldozer press **F** on the keyboard near the trigger area.



You can easily edit the driving characteristics of the bulldozer because it is based on the **Unreal Engine Vehicle System**.



Animation of arm and bucket are based on **Animation BluePrint**.

## Bulldozer features

- deforms the landscape



- reacts to water and mud



- wheels become dirty after defrosting landscape and clean after contact with water-based on layers system



- the bucket has interaction with objects possessing physics





- In contact with the landscape, it flattens the area (heightmap) and the fake ground appears in the bucket, after being lifted it spills out the load - based on particles.

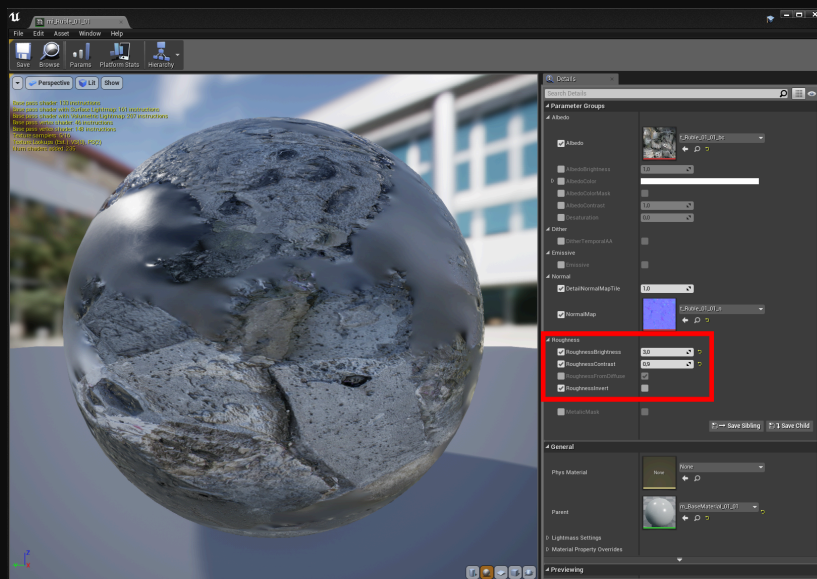


- and more like 3 definite cameras, lights, steering wheel, and lever animation.

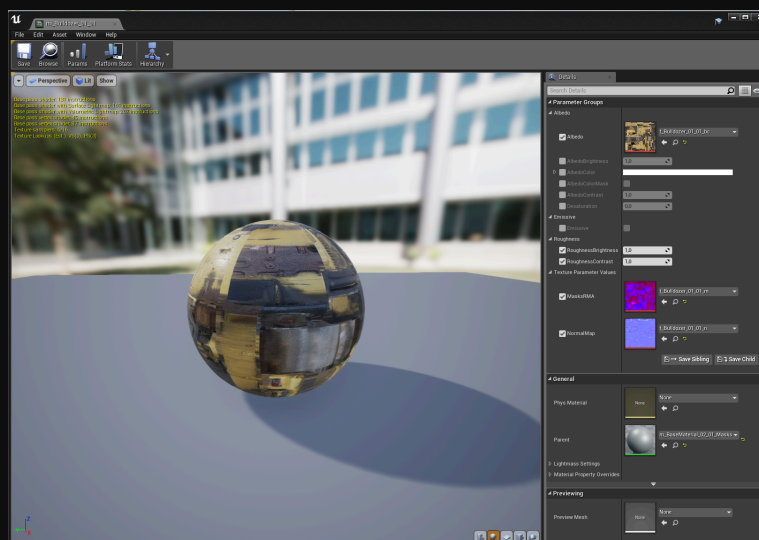
# Materials

Two main materials are **m\_BaseMaterial\_01\_01** and **m\_BaseMaterial\_02\_01\_Masks**.

**m\_BaseMaterial\_01\_01** is special optimal material for models based on photogrammetry scans with many textures. We decide for optimization reasons, to resign from additional texture and generate roughness texture from base color. You can easily control a roughness by two parameters and easy invert it by switch:



**m\_BaseMaterial\_02\_01\_Masks** is based on PBR standard and use RMA mask (roughness, metalnes, ambient occlusion):

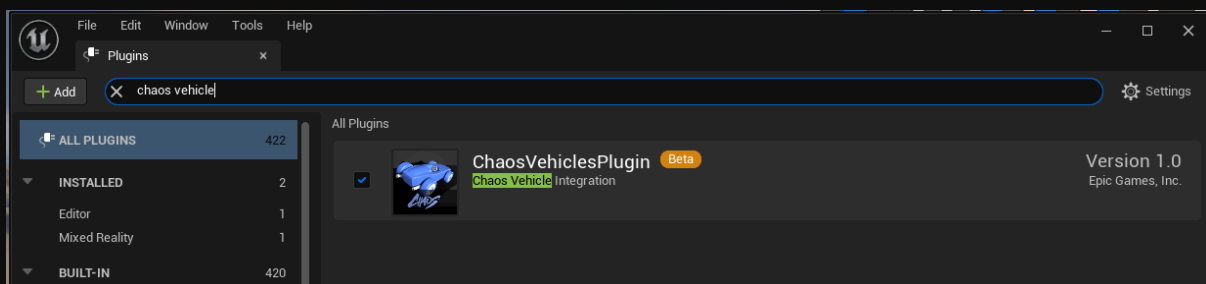
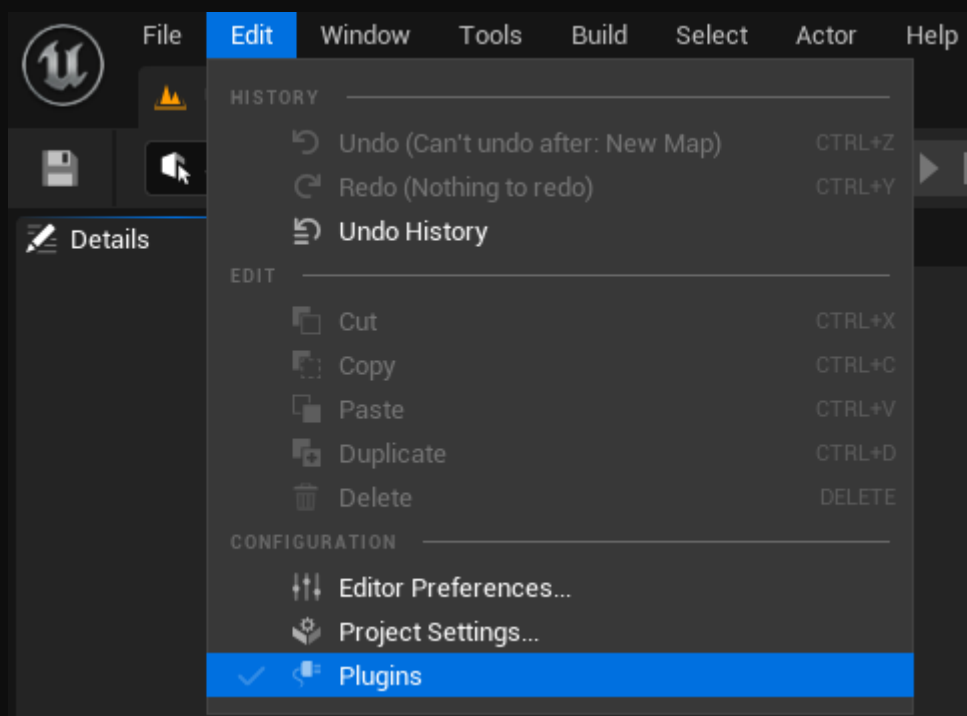


# Unreal Engine 5.0 Update

The bulldozer is based on an [Unreal Engine Chaos Vehicles](#). It interacts with the environment - it deforms the landscape, reacts to water and mud (wheels get dirty), has an extensive system of particles, and more - [check video](#).

## First Steps

You need to turn **ON** a **Chaos Vehicle Physics Plugin** before importing this content. Chaos Physics is set by default in Unreal Engine 5, but you still need to turn **ON** Chaos Vehicle Physics plugin.

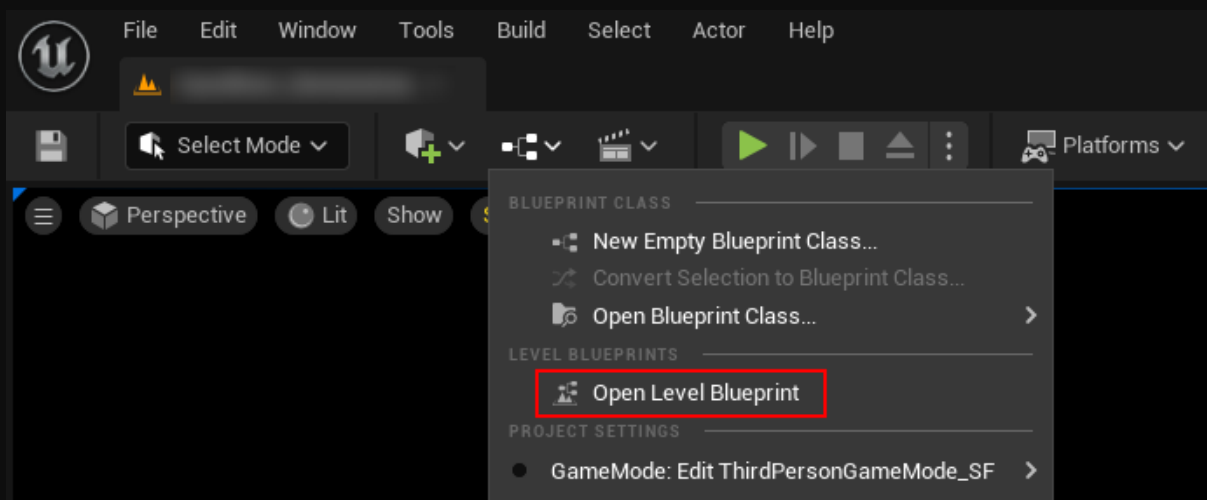


## Disable HUD Menu (startup fade & rendering problems)

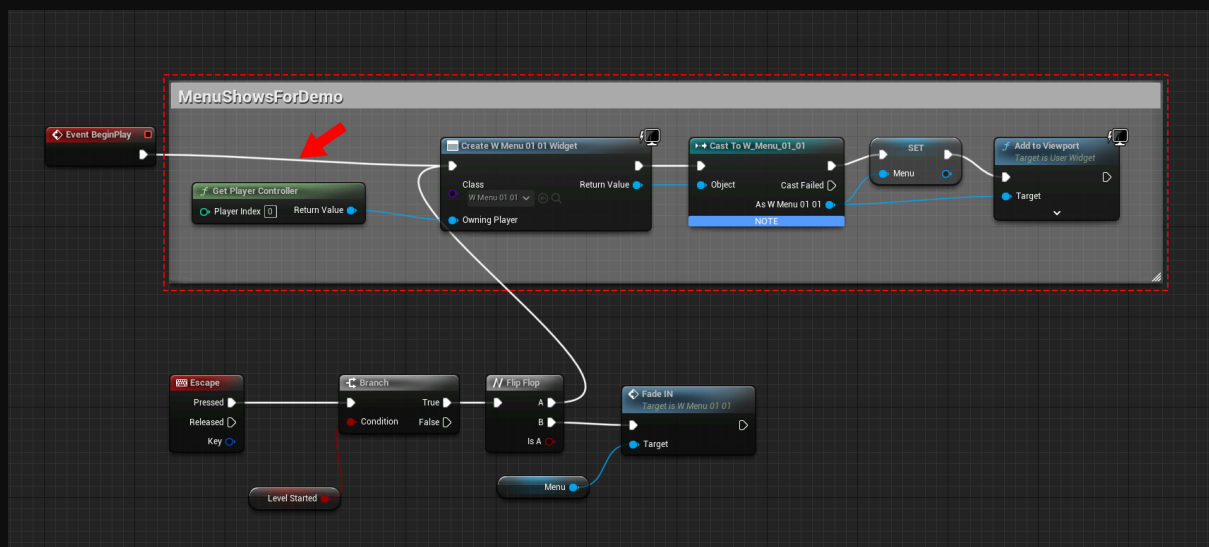
We have included a user interface menu & fade board when GameMode is launched. All files related to the menu are located in this directory:

\Content\ProjectName\Demo\Maps\Menu\

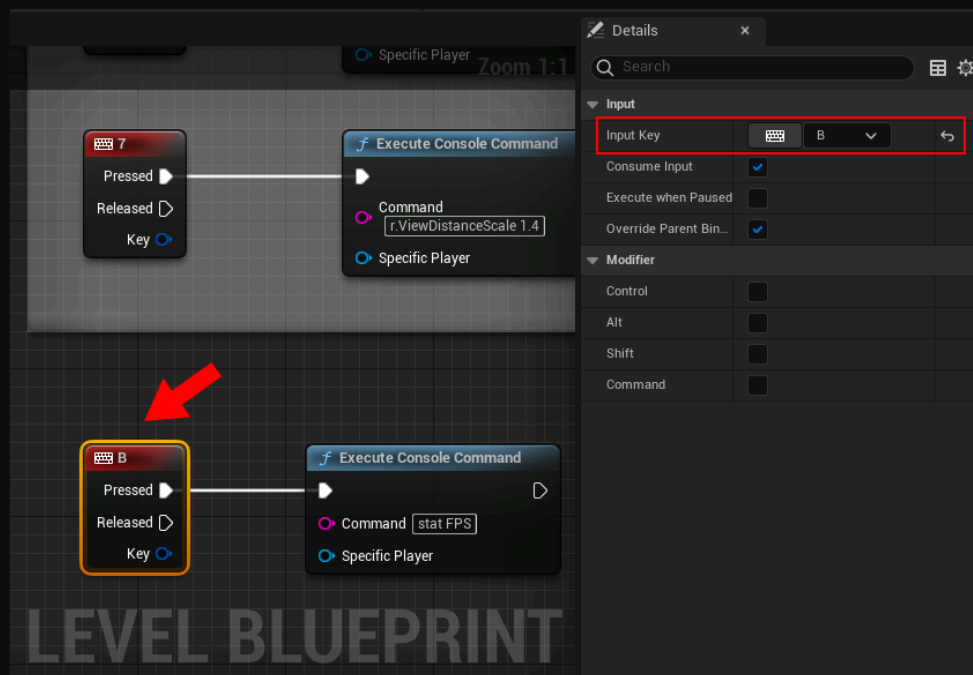
If you want to disable default menu, go to Level Blueprint settings:



The displayed menu is controlled by a selected graph. You can edit it or simply disconnect the indicated node:



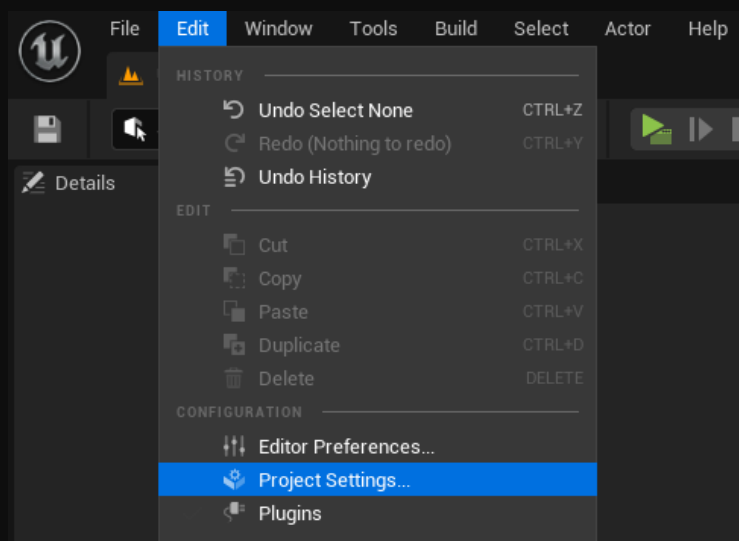
However, if you'd like to customize user menu, you can edit the keys assigned to individual functions:

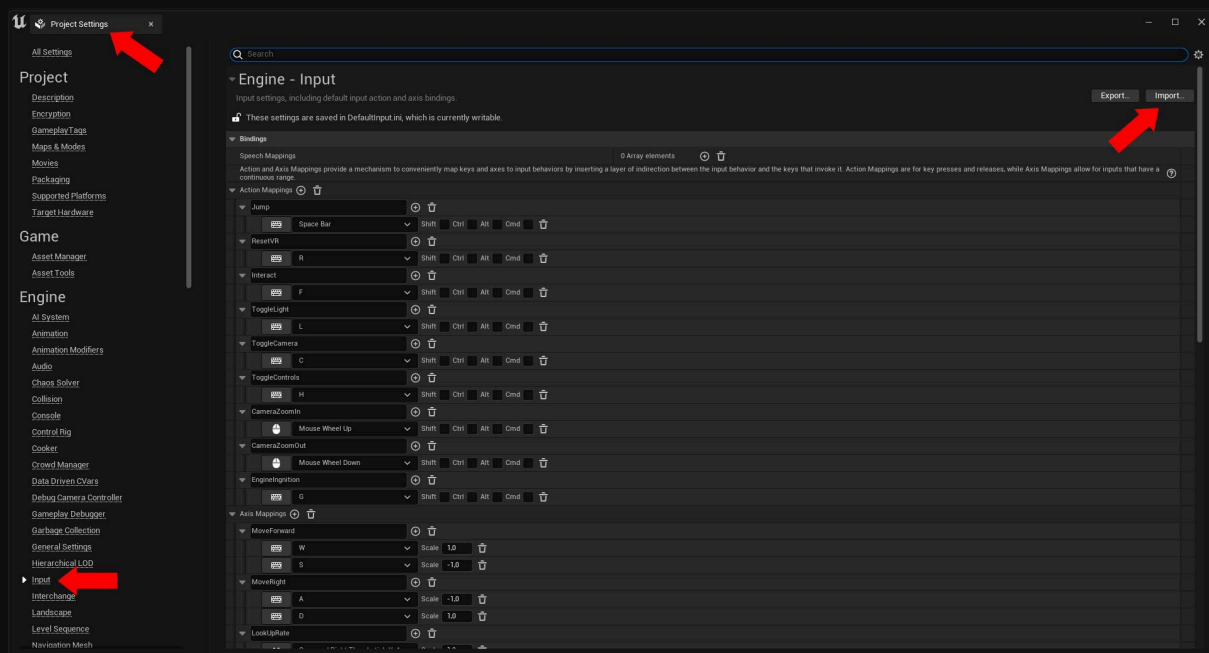


## Main parts

## Inputs

If you add a pack to the Blank project you should definite Engine input or import it, simply download it from our drive - [Loader input](#)

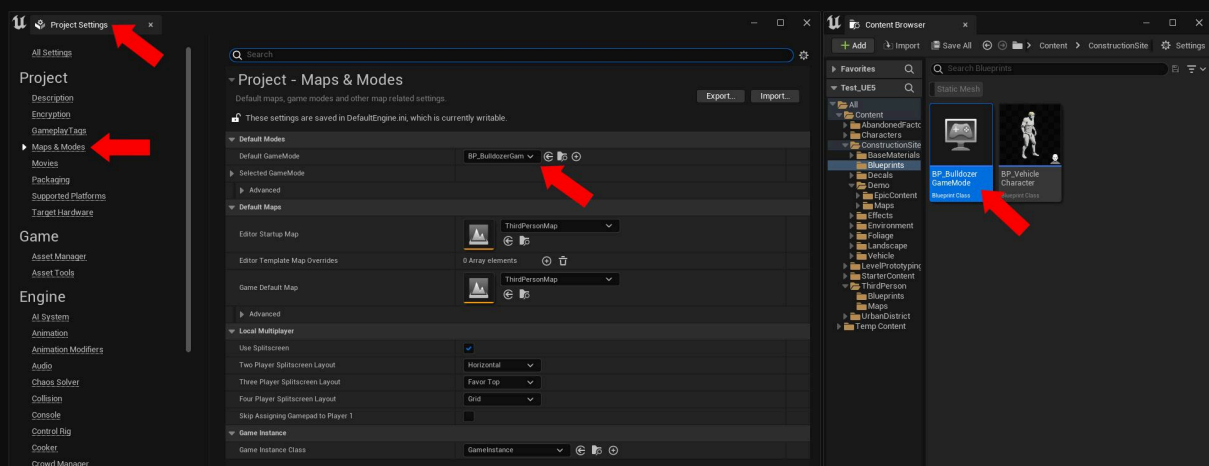




[Link to Import Input file.](#)

## GameMode

The pack is based on a modified **Third Person** template, after adding it to your project you need to change **Default GameMode** in **Project Settings** to our **BP\_BulldozerGameMode**.



.../ConstructionSite/Blueprints/BP\_BulldozerGameMode

*DefaultPawnClass is set to BP\_VehicleCharacter*

## Character

.../ConstructionSite/Blueprints/BP\_VehicleCharacter

*This is the default character that is used with Bulldozer vehicle. Mainly it handles:*

- entering vehicle,
- possessing/unpossessing player (with fade),

and additionally it implements functionalities such as:

- player flashlight,
- player camera change TPP/FPP,
- movement input,
- toggling HUD (help display).

## Bulldozer Blueprint

.../ConstructionSite/Blueprints/Vehicle/Bulldozer\_01/BP\_Bulldozer\_01\_01

*This is the main vehicle that player can drive around.*

*This blueprint derives from **WheeledVehiclePawn** which is a base class for vehicles in Chaos physics engine. Bulldozer driving behavior is done just by tweaking values in the **VehicleMovementComponent**, e.g. in the **MechanicalSetup** or **VehicleSetup** sections (in Details panel).*

*Player inputs are handled in the **Event Graph**:*

- steering,
- accelerating,
- breaking,
- reversing,
- handbrake,
- manipulating loader arm,
- manipulating loader bucket.

*Additional vehicle functionalities:*

- toggle lights,
- wheel FX (mud),
- loader bucket debris (rubble) FX,
- handle fade on player enter/exit,
- and other minor FX effects.

*In a Bulldozer blueprint there is also a **CameraSwitcher** component. It handles vehicle camera changes. On **BeginPlay** three cameras are set and when the player presses the **ToggleCamera** input button, the camera is changed.*

*Camera rotation and zoom is handled in **Camera rotation** and **Camera zoom in/out** sections in blueprint Event Graph. **Wheel Camera** is static that is why it is not present in these sections.*

## Wheels

.../ConstructionSite/Blueprints/Vehicle/Bulldozer\_01/Blueprints/BP\_BulldozerFrontWheel\_01\_01

.../ConstructionSite/Blueprints/Vehicle/Bulldozer\_01/Blueprints/BP\_BulldozerRearWheel\_01\_01

*Basic wheel setup for the vehicle. Most important values:*

- *wheel radius/width,*
- *brake torque/hand brake torque*

## Animation Blueprint

.../ConstructionSite/Blueprints/Vehicle/Bulldozer\_01/Blueprints/AB\_Bulldozer\_01\_01

*Base animation blueprint for bulldozer vehicle. Additionally to wheel setup this blueprint handles animations:*

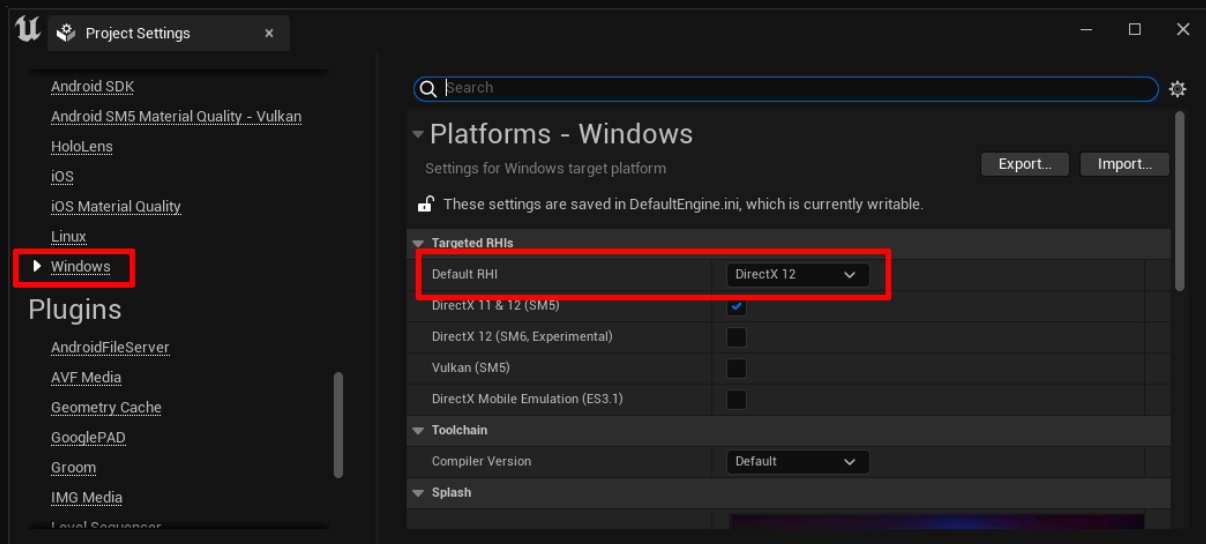
- *hydraulics setup for loader arm and bucket,*
- *secondary animations:*
  - *steering wheel,*
  - *speed/RPM gauges,*
  - *loader manipulation levers.*

## Landscape Tessellation with Virtual Heightfield Mesh

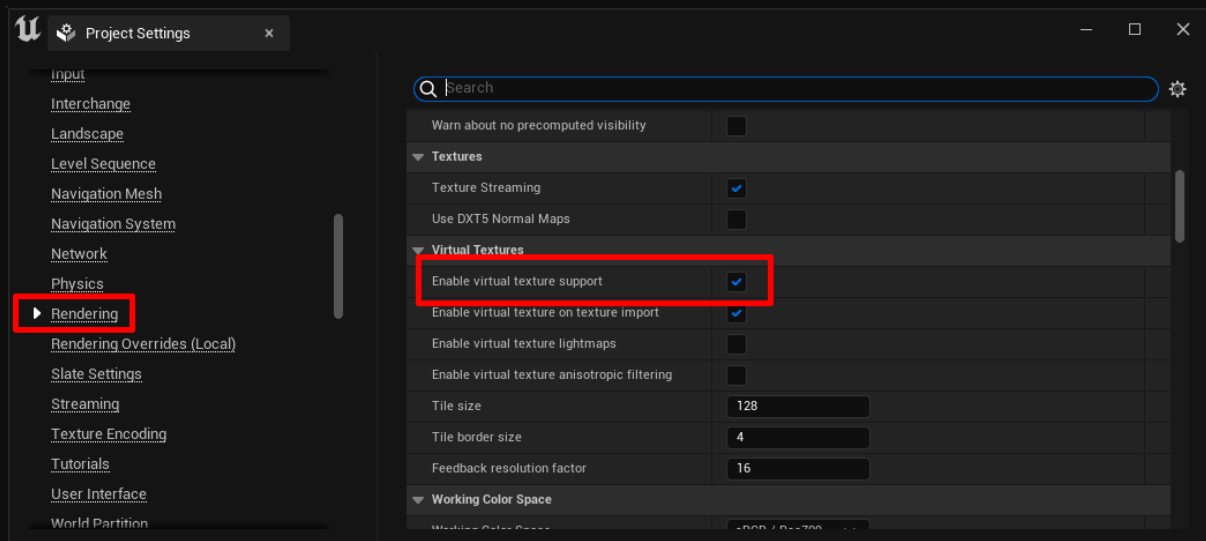
Unreal Engine 5 has no tessellation option. To use landscape with height map detail, Virtual Heightfield Mesh should be used.

Follow these steps for **each** Landscape actor at level:

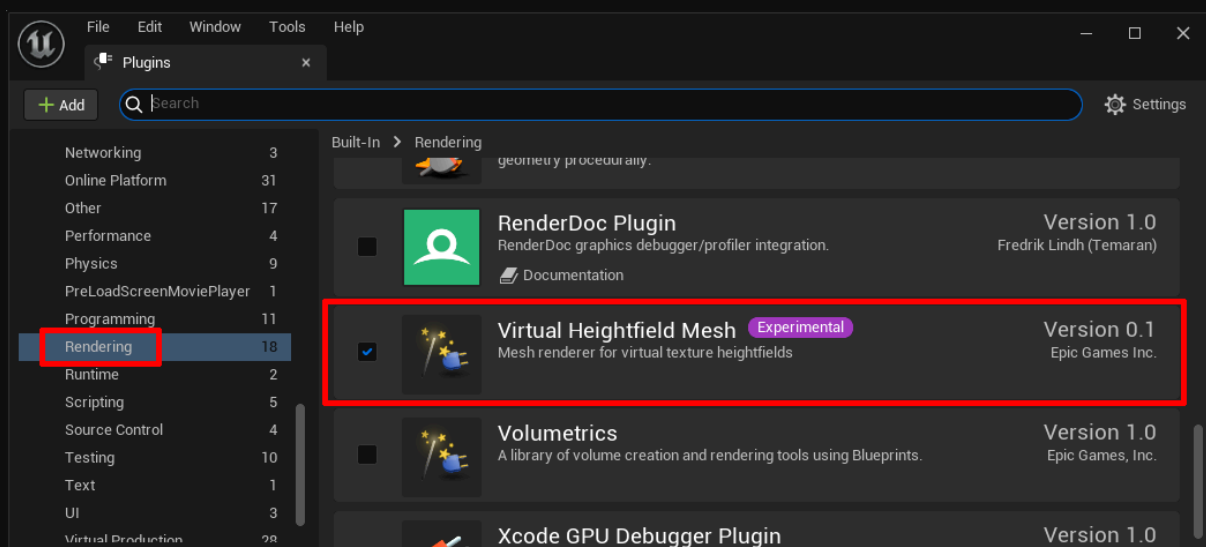
1. Make sure you have **DirectX 12 set as default RHI** in your project settings (Windows tab). New projects created in Unreal Engine 5 use DirectX 12 by default.



2. Enable Virtual Texture support in the Rendering tab in your project settings.



3. Enable the Virtual Heightfield Mesh plugin.

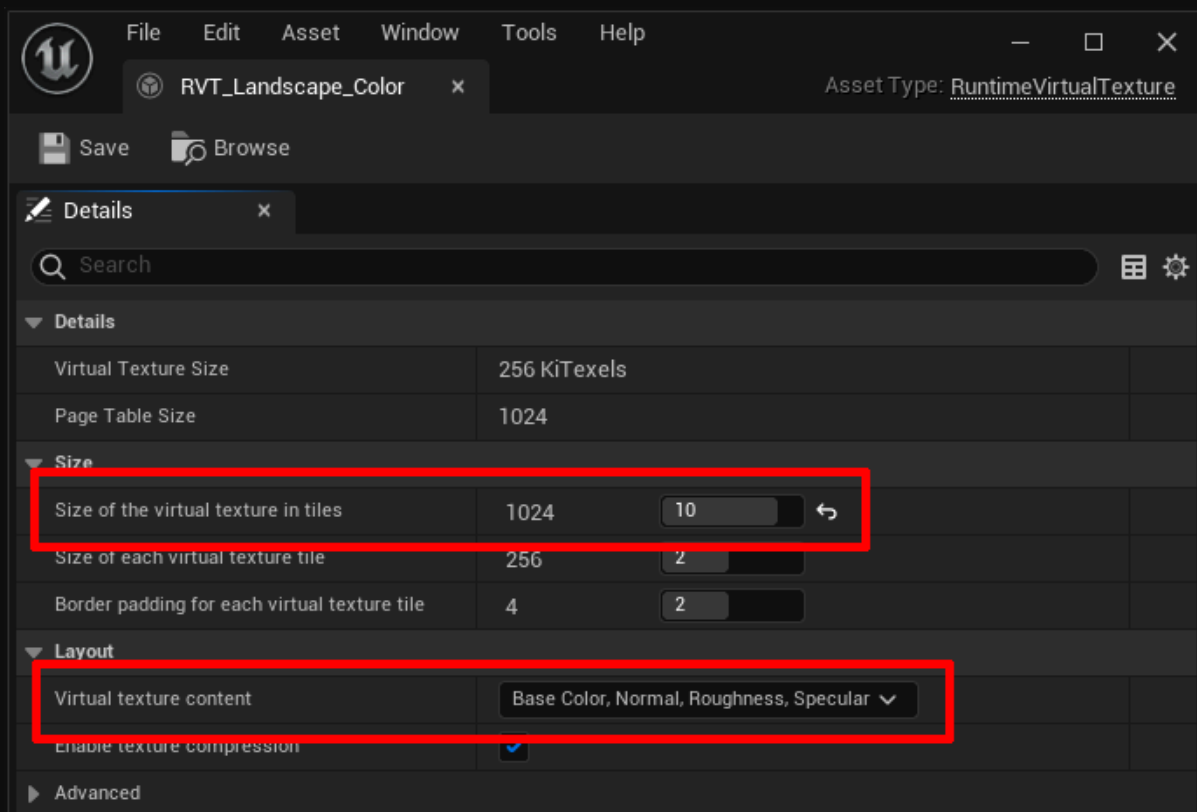
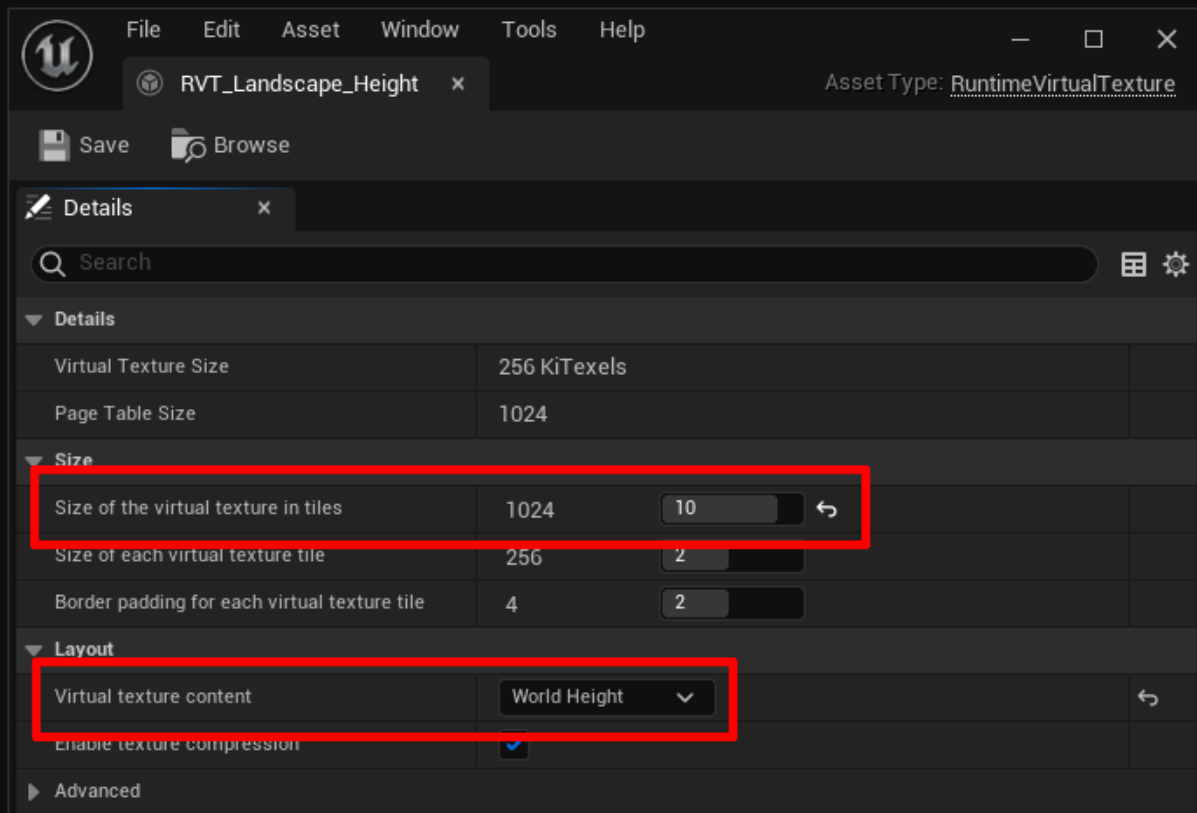


After that demo map **ConstructionSite\_02\_Demo\_P** will be run properly. If you want this functionality on your own map follow next steps:

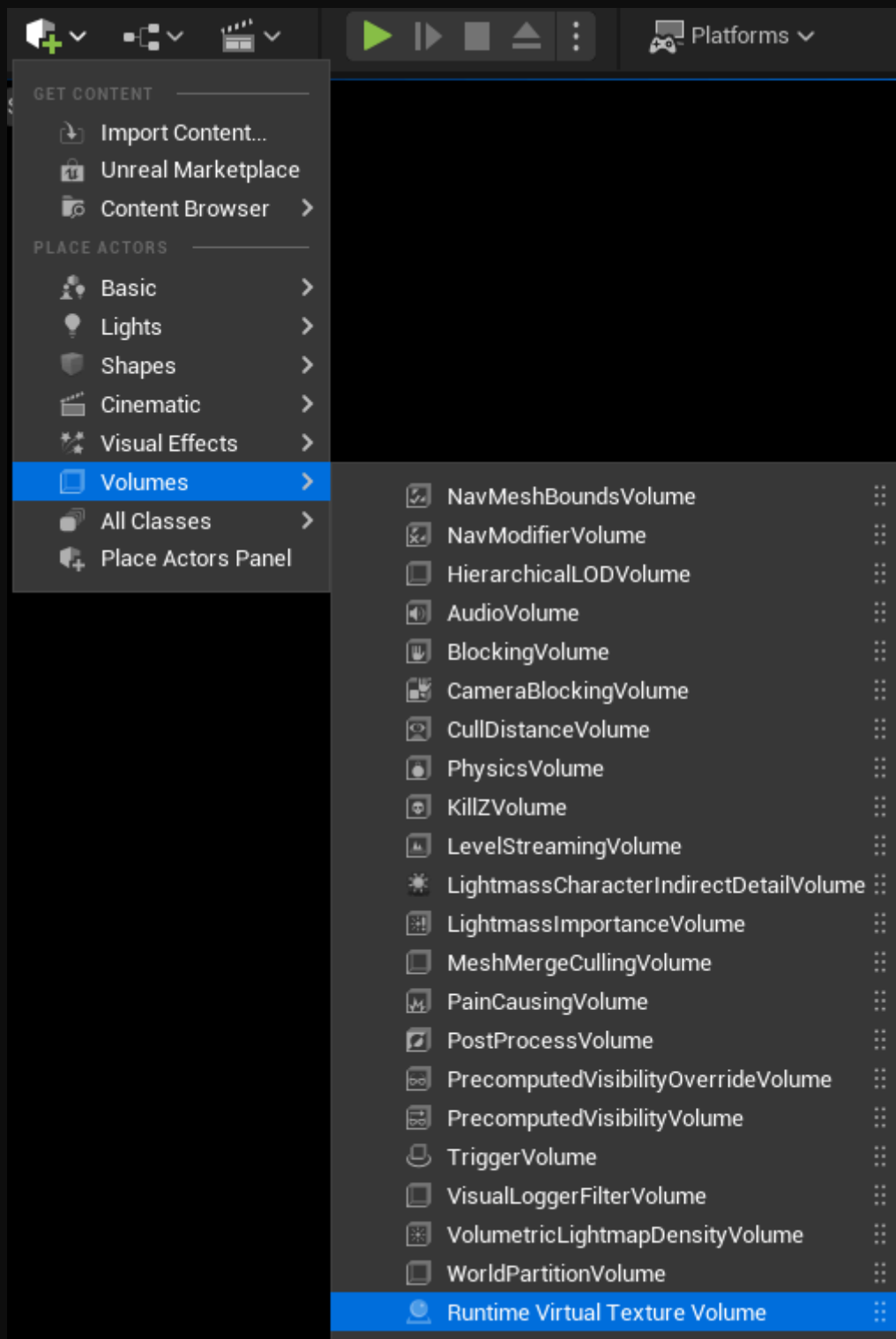
[illegible]

A screenshot of the Blender 2.80 'CREATE ADVANCED ASSET' menu. The menu is dark gray with white text. The 'Textures' option is highlighted with a blue background. To the right of the main menu, a list of texture types is displayed, each with a small icon and a red underline. The 'Runtime Virtual Texture' option is highlighted with a blue background.

- Open **RVT\_Landscape\_Height/RVT\_Landscape\_Color** and set them as shown in the pictures.

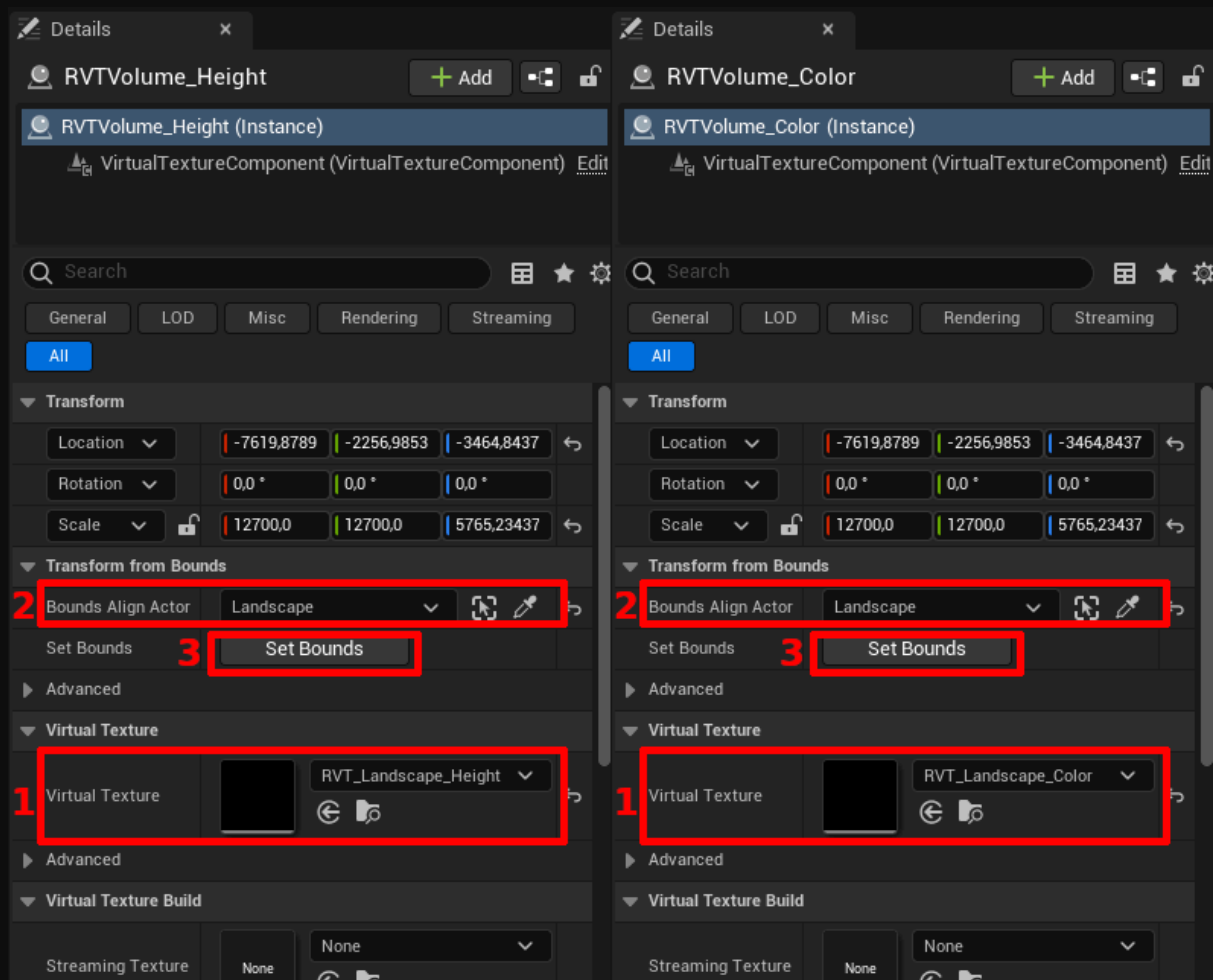


8. Add to level two **Runtime Virtual Texture Volume** from Volumes menu. Name the first volume **RVTVolume\_Height** and name the second **RVTVolume\_Color**.

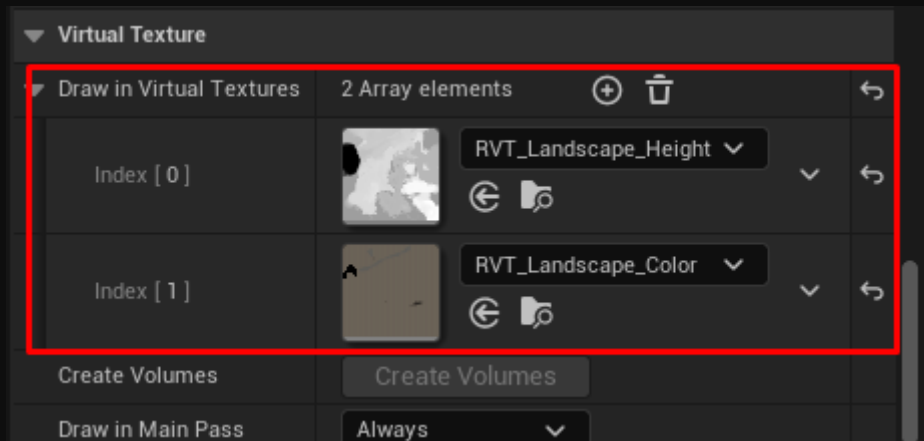


9. Select the **RVTVolume\_Height**, assign the **RVT\_Landscape\_Height** texture to **Virtual Texture** property (1), assign the landscape actor from level to **Bounds Align Actor** (2) and click **Set Bounds** button (3).

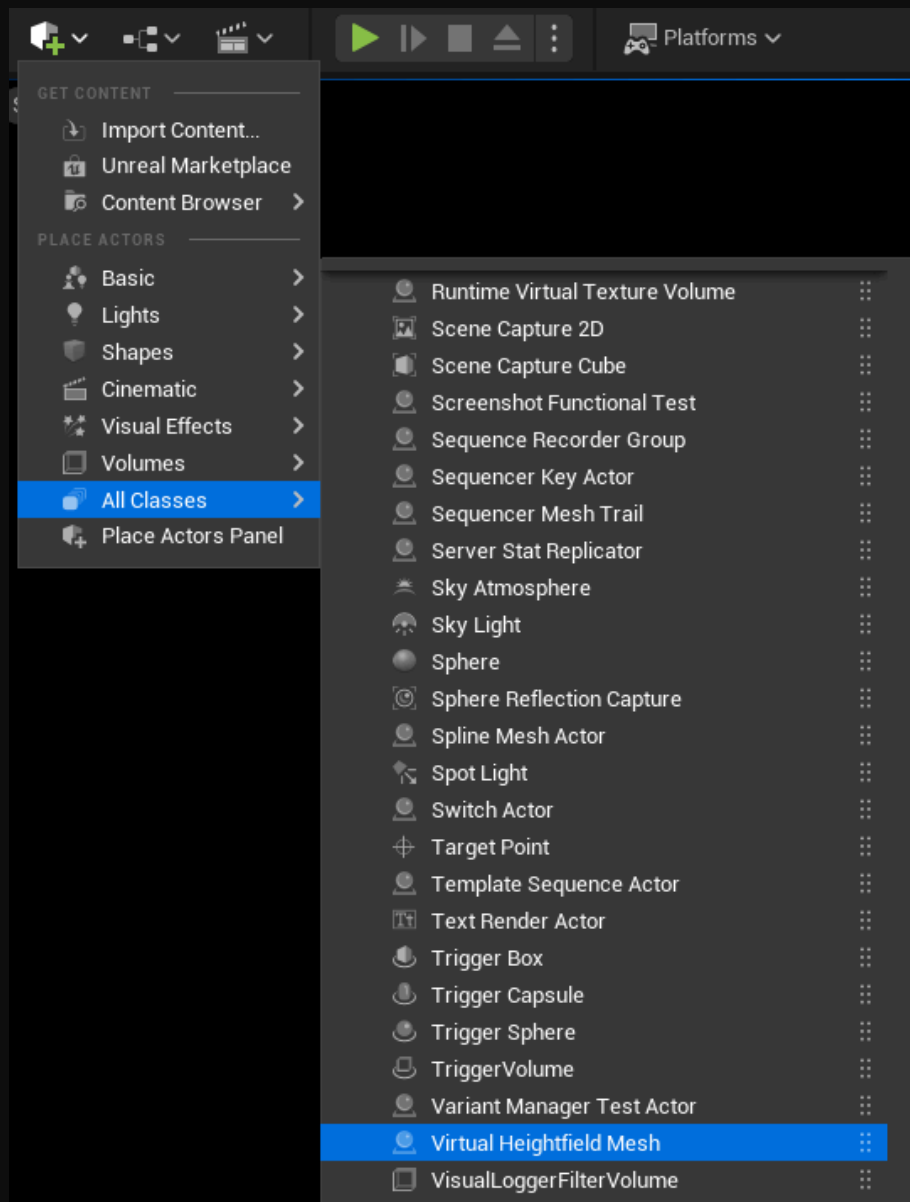
Then select the **RVTVolume\_Color**, assign the **RVT\_Landscape\_Color** texture to **Virtual Texture** property (1), assign the landscape actor from level to **Bounds Align Actor** (2) and click the **Set Bounds** button (3).



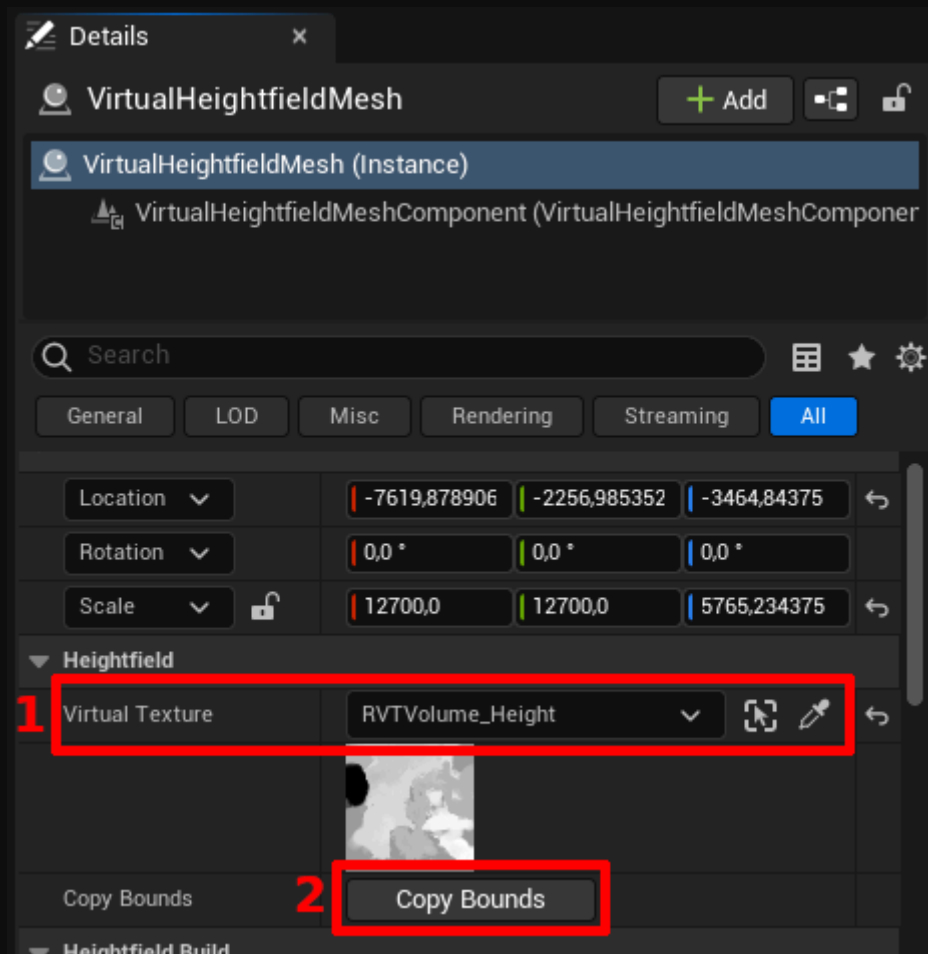
10. Select the landscape actor at level and assign **VT\_Landscape\_Height** and **RVT\_Landscape\_Color** textures to **Draw in Virtual Textures** under the Virtual Texture tab like in the picture.



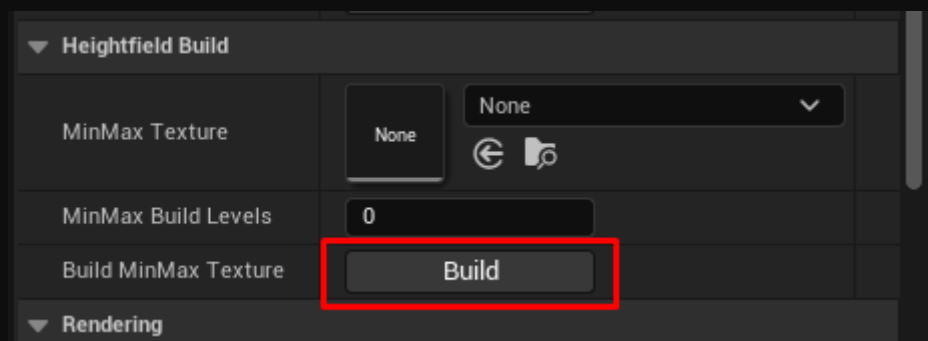
11. Add to level the **Virtual Heightfield Mesh** from All Classes.



12. Select the **Virtual Heightfield Mesh**, assign **RVTVolume\_Height** volume to **Virtual Texture (1)** and click the **Copy Bounds** button (2).

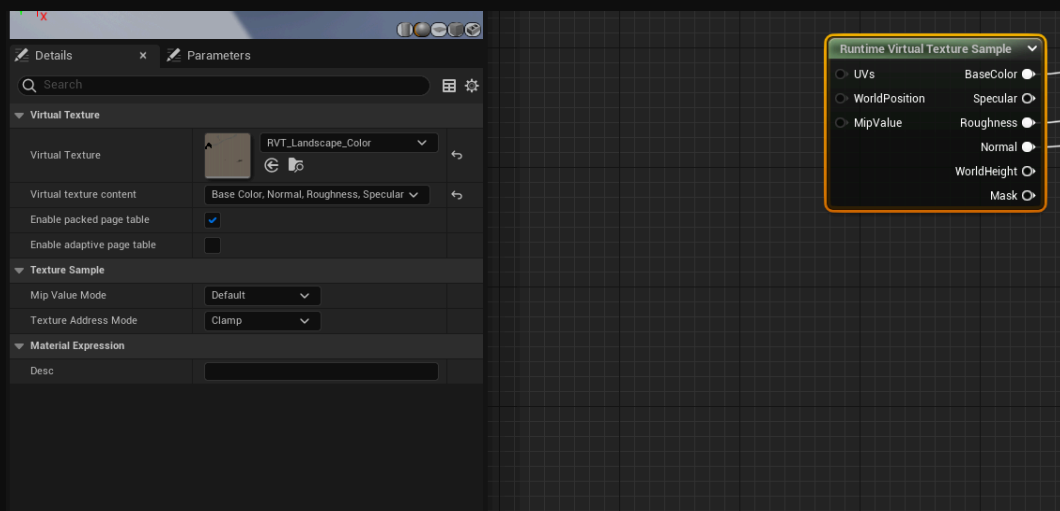
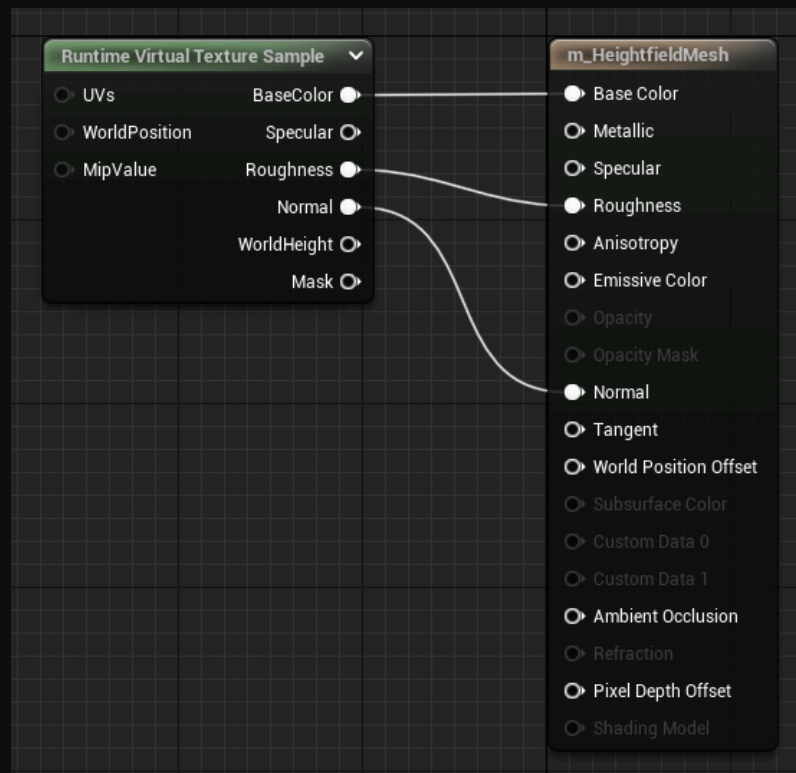


13. Build MinMax Texture by clicking the **Build** button under Heightfield Build. Name and save this texture in the project. This may take some time up to 30 minutes. When the build is over, don't forget to save the texture.

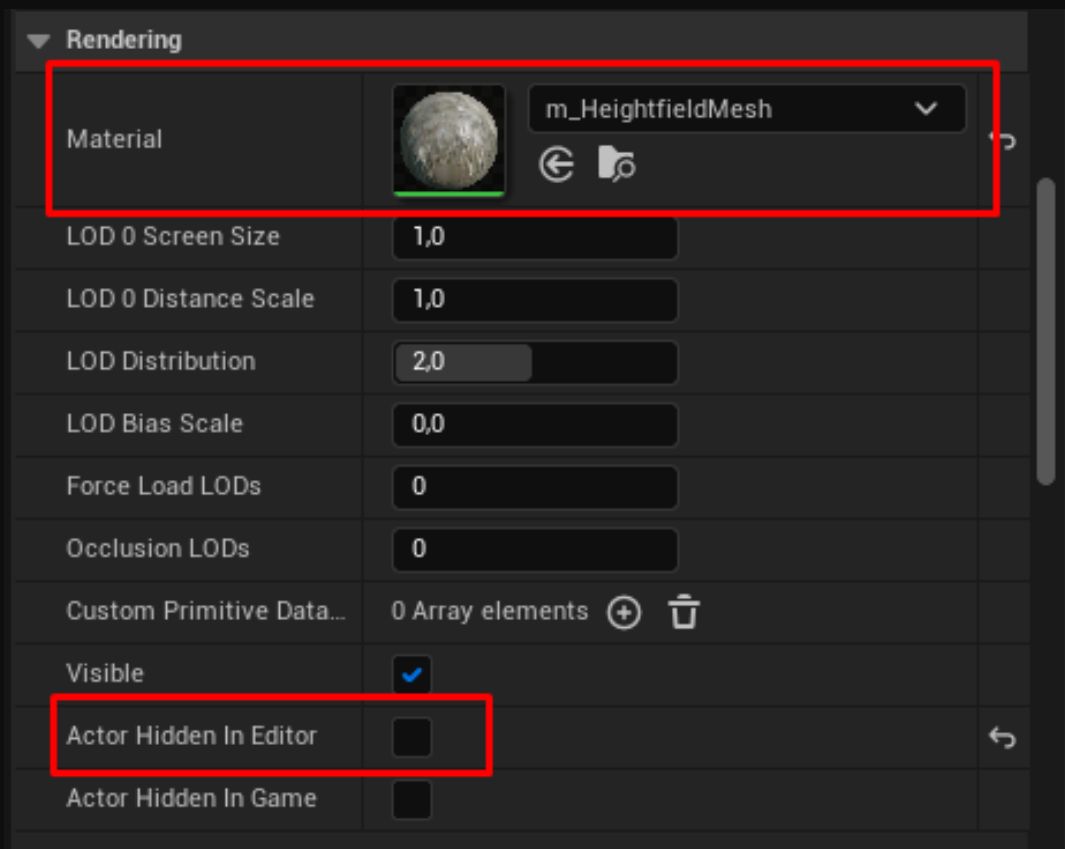


14. Create a new material for the **Virtual Heightfield Mesh** and setup like in the picture.

In the **Runtime Virtual Texture Sample** node assign the **RVT\_Landscape\_Color** texture from the content.



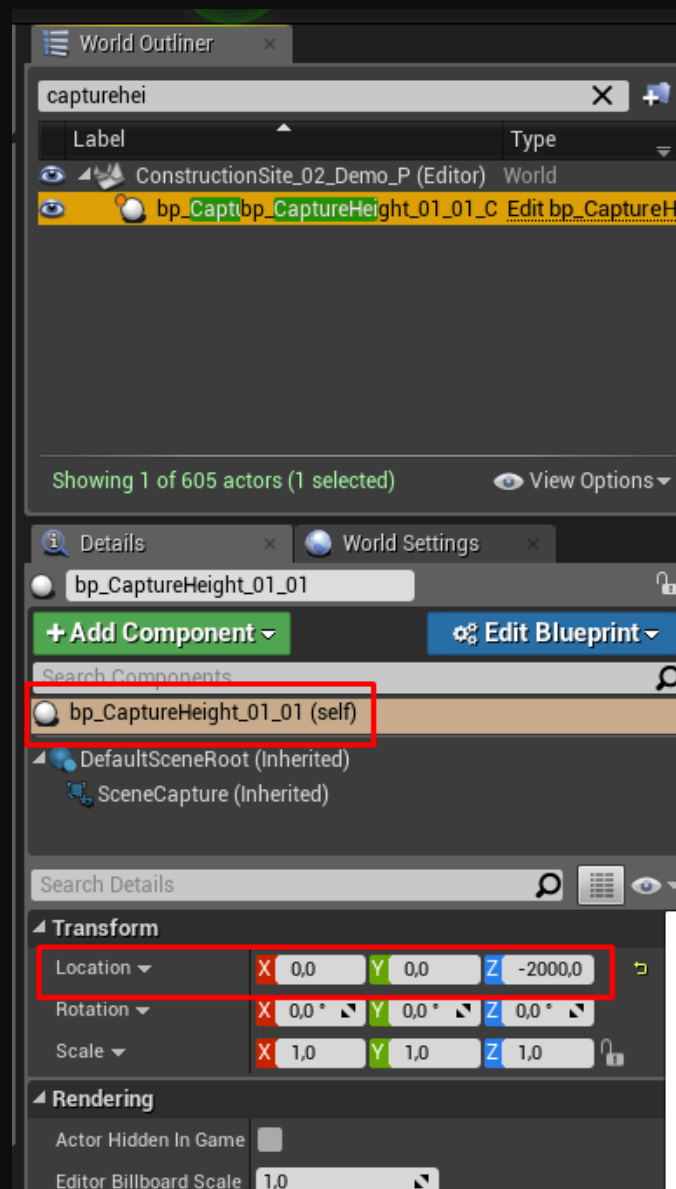
15. Select again the **Virtual Heightfield Mesh** and assign created new material. Then disabled **Actor Hidden in Editor**. And hide original landscape.



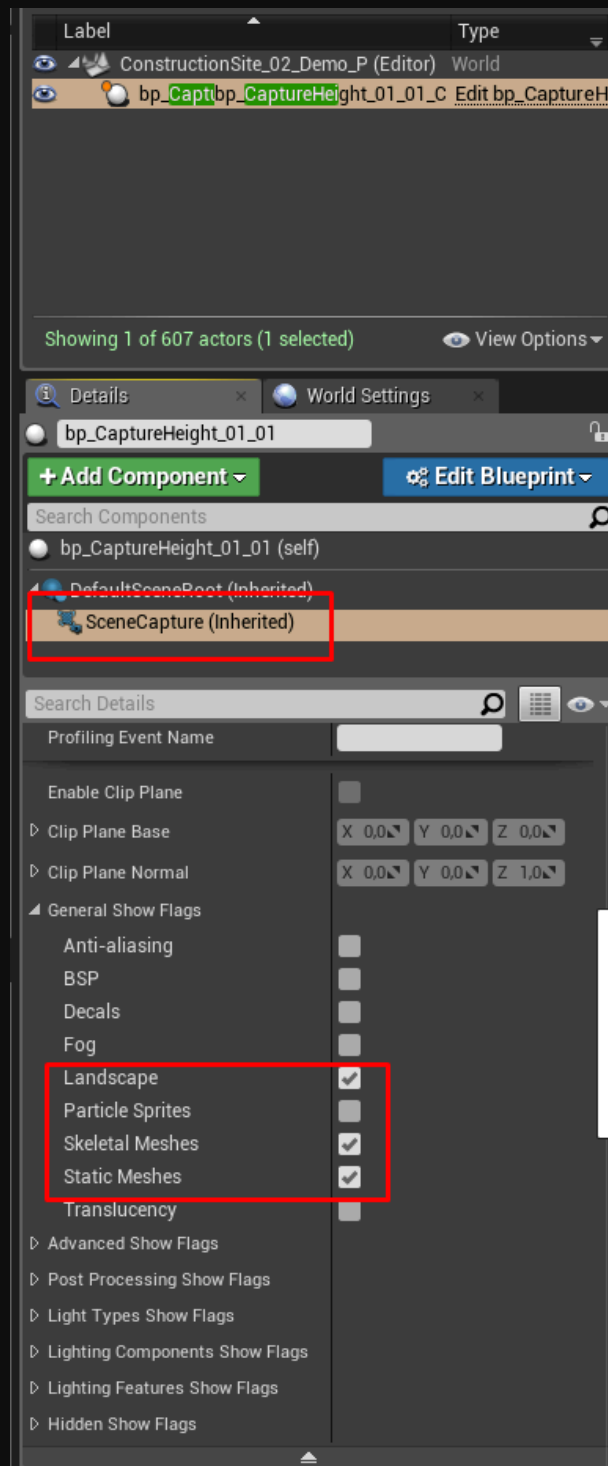
16. Now you have a high detail landscape in the Unreal Engine 5. Repeat these steps for each landscape actor on the level.

# Landscape Deformation with Virtual Heightfield Mesh

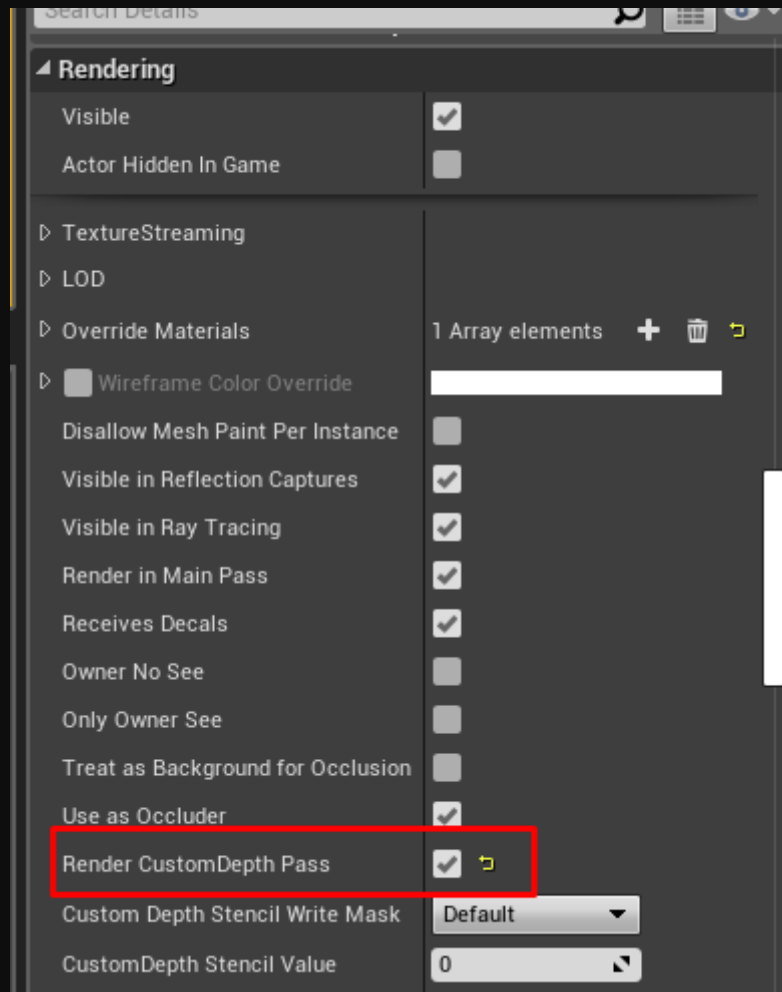
1. Landscape needs to use Virtual Heightfield Mesh
2. Put on level actor bp\_CaptureHeight\_01\_01 (under the landscape for example -2000 Z (like in the Demo scene))



3. Be sure Scene Capture component in this blueprint have proper flag turn on (Landscape, Skeletal Meshes and/or static meshes)



4. On every mesh which you want it react with landscape you should turn on CustomDepth Pass(rendering section).

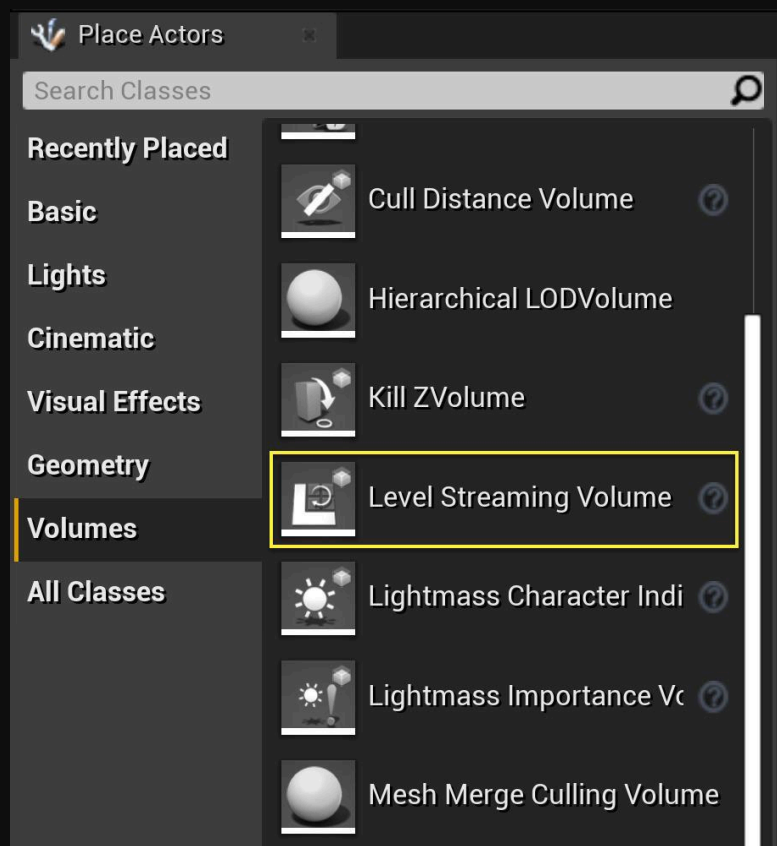


# Optimization

We optimize our scenes to achieve the best performance and experiences. We use Level Streaming Volumes and Cull Distance Volumes for this purpose.

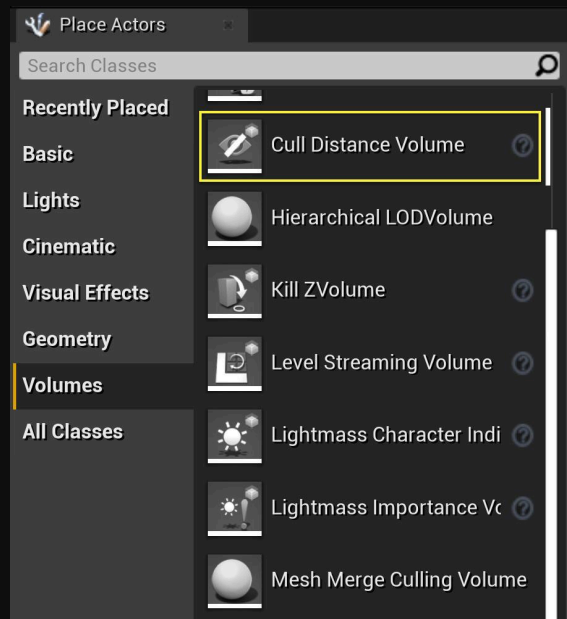
## Level Streaming Volumes

are a feature in Unreal Engine that allow for the dynamic loading and unloading of map data during gameplay. This solution is especially useful for large environments where the entire map cannot be loaded into memory at once. By dividing the map into smaller areas, known as streaming volumes, only the portions of the map that are currently visible to the player are loaded into memory. This can greatly reduce system resource usage and improve performance by reducing the amount of data that needs to be processed at any given time.



## Cull Distance Volumes

are a useful optimization tool that defines what distance to draw (or make visible) any Actor within the volume. These volumes store any number of size and distance combinations called Cull Distance Pairs. These are mapped to the bounds of an Actor (along its longest dimension) and then assigned to that Actor instance in the level.



Check how to properly use these solutions in the official UE documentation:

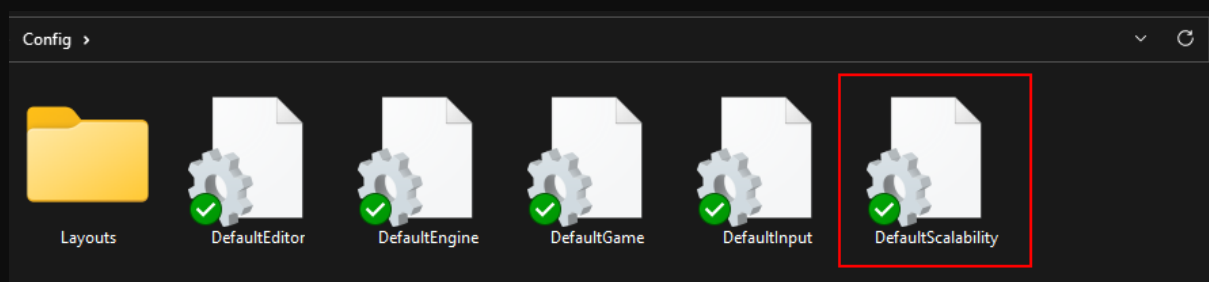
[Level Streaming Volumes](#)

[Cull Distance Volumes](#)

## Scalability Settings

The Scalability settings allow you to adjust the quality of various features, especially the visual appearance in order to maintain the best performance. We place our custom settings and modifications in the DefaultScalability.ini file.

If you want to make your own changes, go to: ProjectName > Config > DefaultScalability.ini



You can read more about the Scalability Settings in the official [Unreal Engine Documentation](#)

# Performance

SPECIFICATION UE ver. 5.1	QUALITY SETTINGS		
	LOW	HIGH	ULTRA
RTX 3060 FULL HD AMD Ryzen 7 5700X 8-Core 32 GB RAM SSD STORAGE	150 FPS	140 FPS	110 FPS

## Thanks!

Again if you will have any problems, let us know! :)

Scans Factory Team