

# MediaWebPortal 1.1.1

12 april

# 2010

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MediaWebPortal is a standalone portal which should be able to run in any browser on any OS. Navigation is done by mouse, mousewheel, remote, keyboard or with numeric keys indicated. Can be used for easy access of the internet with your HTPC's remote.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

MediaWebPortal was brought to live while looking for a more accessible way of navigating the internet on your HTPC. As the name suggests it's a portal webpage and since I use it from within [MediaPortal](#) I came up with this name.

The main purpose of MediaWebPortal is to provide an accessible way to access your favourite websites.

## 2. PREREQUISITES

The portal should be able to run in any web browser on any OS, provided that the first has decent JavaScript support.

## 3. INSTALLATION

This chapter covers a step by step installation guide.

- 1) Download the latest MediaWebPortal release
- 2) Unzip the contents of the download to any permanent and accessible location
- 3) Open the folder you have unzipped the contents too and double click "index.html". This should launch MediaWebPortal in your default browser. Now is the time to see if everything works like it should.

### 3.1 MEDIAPORTAL SETUP

This chapter covers the recommended way of setting up MediaPortal with MediaWebPortal.

- 1) Download the latest release of the [Multishortcut](#) plugin
- 2) Unzip the language folder of the multishortcut download to %PROGRAMDATA%\Team MediaPortal\
- 3) Unzip the "MediaPortal" directory of the multishortcut download to your MediaPortal installation directory,
- 4) Go to your MediaPortal installation directory and navigate to "/plugins/windows"
- 5) Rename the file "*MultiShortcut00.dll*" to a name you would like the new shortcut be displayed as, in MediaPortal config. For example I named mine "*internet.dll*"
- 6) Run "*DLLFix.exe*" and press any key when done.
- 7) Open up MediaPortal configuration and go to the plugins section
- 8) Right click the newly created plugin (which should have the name you provided in step 5) and choose Configuration
- 9) In the screen that follows you should provide the following information;
  - a. **Exefile**  
The location of the executable of your webbrowser. For example "C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\firefox.exe"
  - b. **Arguments**  
If you want to provide any arguments to the browser you went with step a) then do this here. For example Firefox can take website URLs as an argument in order to launch something different then your homepage upon load.
- 10) Before exiting and saving MP configuration be sure to take notice of the Plugin ID, write this down somewhere if you find that necessary
- 11) Now you will need to create a button in your skin using the pluginID as the hyperlink. I will not go into any MediaPortal skinning specifics, the answers to this can be found somewhere else and goes beyond the scope of this document.

## 3.2 FIREFOX SETUP

In this chapter I have provided an overview with some helpful Firefox addons and tips for HTPC use.

- [AutoHide](#)  
Hides the tabbar etc automaticaly (customizable) when in fullscreen. Also adds a commandline switch to firefox to make it start fullscreen (-fullscreen)
- [Google Search keys](#)  
Makes searchresults numerically accessible, great addition for searching behind your HTPC
- [Mouseless Browsing](#)
- [NewTabUrl](#)  
I use this one to fire up MediaWebPortal when I hit ctrl+t (new tab)
- [Download statusbar](#)  
Cleaner look and no popping up download window

For Firefox users that want to use numeric navigation and have it open in a new tab instead of a window, you can try the following;

- 1) Open your browser and direct it to "about:config" (ignoring the reminder)
- 2) Paste the following in the filter field "browser.link.open\_newwindow.restriction"
- 3) Double click the entry and set the value to "0"
- 4) Restart Firefox
- 5) [For more on the subject...](#)

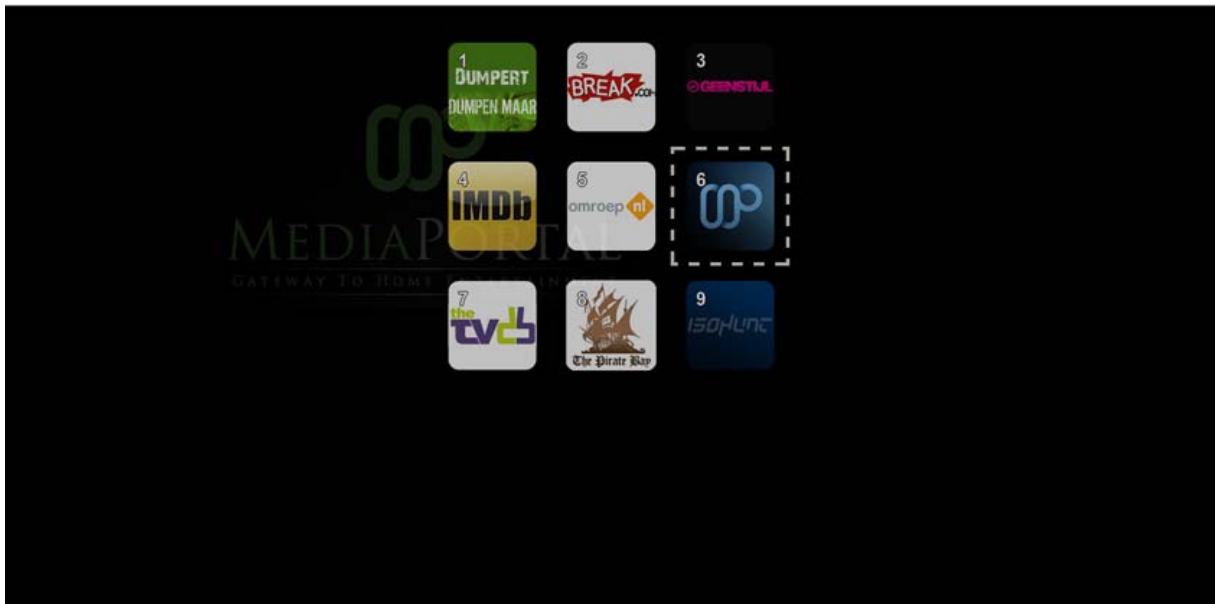
## 3.3 CONFIGURATION

To set up MediaWebPortal with the links you want you need to edit the "*config.js*" file. Open it in a plain text editor (so not something like word. Notepad is good) to edit this file. In this file you will find a number of javascript variables defined, below follows an explanation of those variables.

- 1) **var rows**  
Used to define the amount of items on a row.
- 2) **var keyTimeout**  
This decides when numeric key navigation should be triggered. The value defaults to 1000 (milliseconds, 1 second). When the keyTimeout expires the received input will be used to determine the link to open.
- 3) **var itemWidth**  
Can be left to default. Used to determine the width of the wrapper div.
- 4) **var links**  
This is the array of links that you will need to specify. Do not edit the lines that have a "= new Array()" statement in them. You can specify what is shown on the portal page by editing 3 variables for each thumb;
  - a. **name**  
Used for the title tag of the link (hover of the thumb to activate a mousetip, firefox only not sure ?!)
  - b. **image**  
The image that should be displayed as the thumb. only PNG images are supported. The script looks for all images in the folder "img" relative from the location where main.js resid. With a JPEG image that is called "bg\_" + links[0]['image'] + ".jpg" you can specify a backdrop for the selected image.
  - c. **link**  
The link it should open upon activation.

## 4. USAGE

Since an image says more than a thousand words, see below for a feeling of MediaWebPortal



The dashed border outlines the currently selected image. By pressing enter the selected website will be launched in a new window. With the arrow keys on your keyboard (which should also work with your remote) you can select different items.

The second way of navigating this portal is by pressing the assigned numbers to each thumblink. When looking at the above image you could press the number “8” (either on numpad or main keylayout) to open The Pirate Bay.

Finally you can navigate the web as your used too, by mouse. A nice addition is that the mousewheel is supported as well.

## GOOGLE

Since the 1.1 release it is now possible to bring up a google search dialog by pressing the zero key (either numpad or main keyboard layout). Pressing zero once more will make the overlay disappear.

Since 1.1.1 the escape key has been added as a key to toggle google.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

When you are experiencing problems with the functionality of MediaWebPortal or other problems in general, please review these steps and provide some feedback, with these questions in mind, in the associated [MP forum thread](#).

- 1) Double click MediaWebPortal’s “index.html”. Does the problem persist?
- 2) When launching google.com instead of MediaWebPortal (when applicable, with the multishortcut way from within MP) does the problem also occur?
- 3) Do you run any browser plugins that might capture button presses?

## 6. KNOWN ISSUES

- This plugin currently does not work with the [Webbrowser plugin, created by Edsche](#). The only supported methods of running this browser is by using either Multishortcut, as described in this document, or by using the [Firefoxintegrator plugin](#).
- When running MediaWebPortal by using a path to a local system resource (read to the provided index.html) instead of using a webserver to host it might cause certain issues.  
A known issue regards Firefox's popup blocker which can not be configured to allow popups. This causes numeric navigation to fail.
- At least Opera 10.51 is experiencing a rendering issue after pressing zero (main keyboard layout or numpad) which will resolve itself after navigating