



7.3.1 Editors - 3D Viewport - Sidebar - Item tab

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Item tab - Transform Panel

When you add an object to the scene then the Item tab with the Transform panel becomes visible. The content changes, dependent of the object type. And it changes with the mode.

In general you will most of the time see the same content though. Location, Rotation, Scale and Dimension.

Animate Property

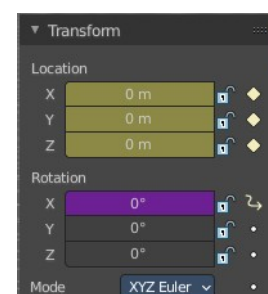
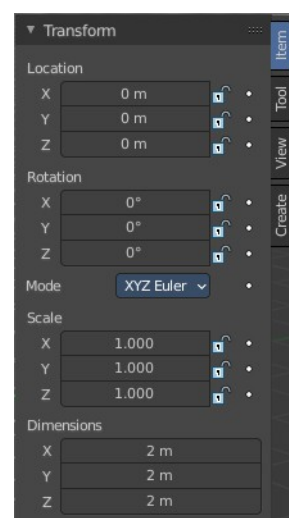
The properties with a dot button behind can be animated.

Note that you can, different from Blender, animate multiple objects at once this way.

Keyframe and Driver coloring

When a keyframe exists at the current position, then the corresponding edit box turns yellow. When a driver exists at the current position, then the corresponding edit box turns purple.

Note that you can have either a driver or a keyframe. Both is not possible.



Location

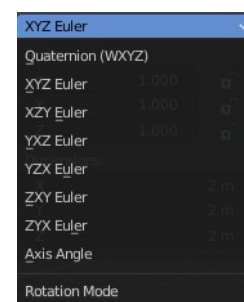
The current location of the object in its X, Y and Z axis. The lock button behind the edit boxes allows you to lock the values.

Rotation

The current rotation of the object in its X, Y and Z axis in world coordinates. The lock button behind the edit boxes allows you to lock the values.

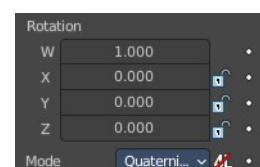
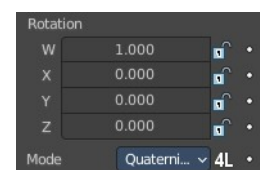
Rotation Mode

Adjust what method gets used for the rotation. Euler rotation can run into a so called Gimbal lock, which can be avoided with quaternion rotation mode. But for most cases the default XYZ Euler method should work.



Quaternion

With euler angles you will have three values available. But with a quaternion you will have four values available. And quaternions reveals a 4L button. This button shows or hides a lock behind the W value. Normally a quaternion has just three locks, one for each of the single axis. The W value is a mathematical construct from the three object axis. And you usually neither want to edit it nor to lock it therefore.



Locking the W axis will lock all axis.

Scale

The current scale of the object in its X, Y and Z axis in world coordinates. The lock button behind the edit boxes allows you to lock the values.

Scale is not dimensions. Your object can have a scale of 1 in world coordinates. But a dimension of 4.5. Note that for some operations it is required to have a scale of 1 to get some operations to work. This can be achieved with applying scale in the Object menu.

Dimensions

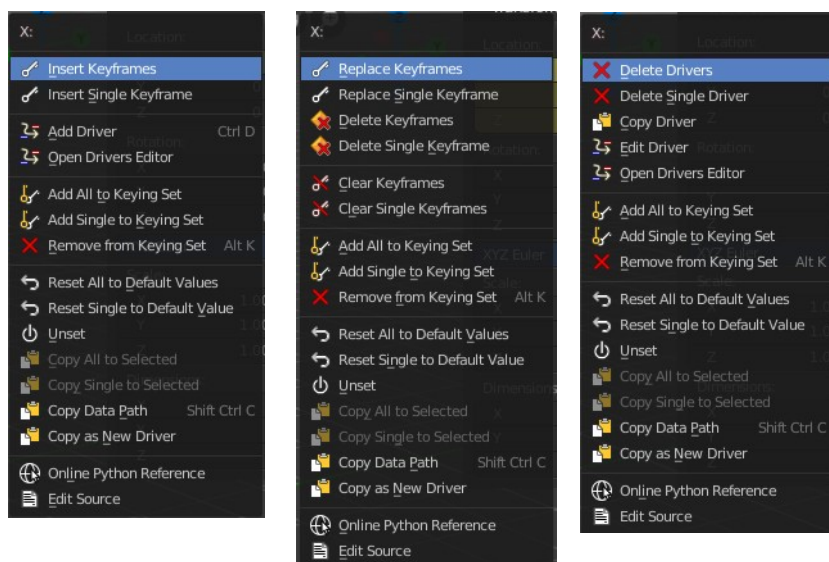
The current dimension of the object in its X, Y and Z axis in world coordinates. The lock button behind the edit boxes allows you to lock the values.

The Dimensions edit boxes are just available for primitives objects. Objects like Empties or a Camera doesn't have a dimension, but a scale factor.

Right Click menu

Location, Rotation and Scale edit boxes and the locks have a right click menu with further functionality.

When there is already a keyframe available then the right click menu looks a bit different. Same counts for adding a driver first.



Insert Keyframe

Inserts a keyframe at the current position. The keyframe type depends of where you right click. Insert Keyframe adds a keyframe for all axis.

Insert Single Keyframe

Inserts a keyframe at the current position. The keyframe type depends of where you right click. Insert Single

Keyframe adds a keyframe for just the current axis.

Add Driver

In Bforartists lots of things can be animated. Also buttons. Add Driver does exactly what it tells. It adds a driver for animation needs to the element. Drivers allows to control animation by properties like expressions, scripts or movements of other objects. Drivers are explained in the chapter 18 Editors - Drivers.

When you click the button the Driven Property panel will appear where you can change the properties for this driver. You don't need to confirm the driver creation. It is just further settings.

Driver Settings

Type

The Driver type. There are two categories of drivers. Built-in and Custom

Built-in functions (Average, Sum, Min and Max)

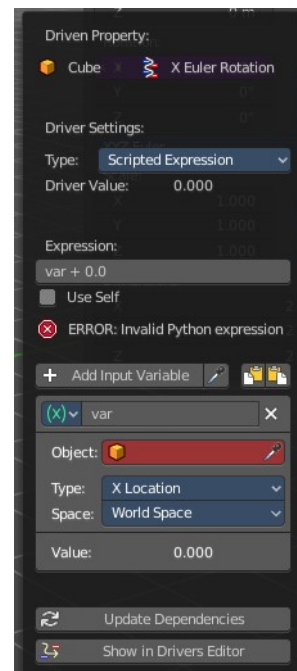
The driven property will have the value of the average, sum, lowest or highest (respectively) of the values of the referenced Driver Variables. If there is only one driver variable, these functions will yield the same result.

Custom (Scripted Expression)

An arbitrary Python expression that can refer to the Driver Variables by name.

Driver Value

The current result of the driver setup.



Expression

Expression edit box

Add a custom expression. An Expression to use for scripted expression.

The expression has access to a set of standard constants and math functions provided in the Driver Name space. For an example of adding a custom function to the name space.

When the expression is invalid then you get an error message. This error message appears also with the default values. Just ignore.

Use Self

The variable self can be used for drivers to reference their own data. This is useful for objects and bones to avoid having creating a Driver Variable pointing to itself.

Example: self.location.x applied to the Y rotation property of the same object will make the object tumble when

moving.

Note that dependencies for properties accessed via self may not be fully tracked.

Driver Variables

Driver Variables are references to properties, transformation channels, or the result of a comparison between transformations of two objects. It is displayed by a panel with all necessary settings, which gets filled in automatically when you create the driver.

Add Input variable

Add manually a new driver variable.

Picker should allow you to pick a target object. But this is dysfunctional here since the panel closes immediately when you move the mouse out of it. Please use the picker in the Driver Editor.

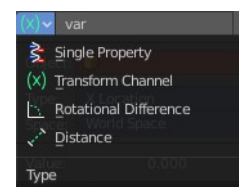
Copy and Paste buttons allows you to copy and paste Driver variable panels.



Driver Variable panel

Variable type

The content of the Driver variable panel changes, dependent of the variable type that you choose here. We came from the transform panel, so our default type here is transform channel. That's what we will explain here.



Object

Our object type.

Type

The type of the driver.

Space

The transform space in which the transform should happen.

Value

The resulting value of the driver.

Update Dependencies

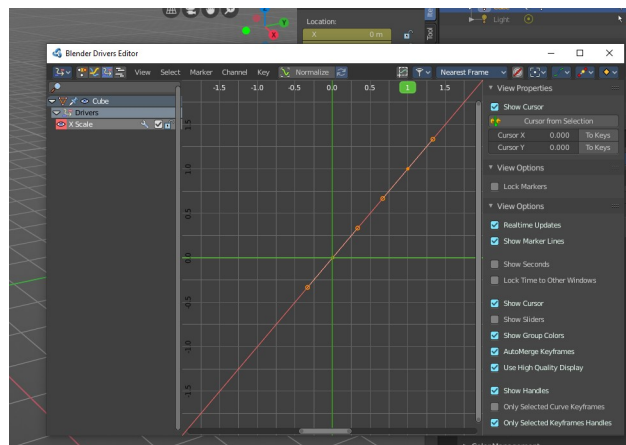
Update all dependencies.

Show in Drivers Editor

Opens the Drivers editor in a floating window. The drivers editor is explained in the chapter 18 Editors - Drivers.

Open Drivers Editor

Opens the Drivers editor in a floating window. The drivers editor is explained in the chapter 18 Editors - Drivers.



Add All to Keying Set

Add All to Keying Set adds the information of the element to the current keyframe.

Add single to Keying Set

Add to Keying Set adds the information of the element to the current keyframe.

Remove from Keying Set

Remove from Keying Set removes the information of the element from the current keyframe.

Reset All to Default Value

Resets the X Y and Z values to the default value.

Reset Single to Default Value

Resets the value for the single edit box under the mouse to the default value.

Unset

Unset is usually a RMB menu entry when you right click at an edit box. It is somehow similar to Reset to Default Value. But it clears the property instead of resetting it to the default value. Which can end in another value.

Copy All to Selected

Allows to copy the current rotation of all axis to another object.

Workflow. Select target object, hold down shift, select source object, and use Copy All to Selected.

Copy Single to Selected

Allows to copy the current rotation of the single selected axis to another object.

Workflow. Select target object, hold down shift, select source object, and use Copy All to Selected.

Copy Data Path

Copy Data Path copies the RNA data path for this property.

Copy as new Driver

Copies the current value as a new driver.

Assign Shortcut

This is just for the locks. Here you could assign a shortcut.

Online Python Reference

Developer feature. Open the Blender Python Reference.

Edit Source

Developer feature. When you have a text editor open in the current layout then you can call the UI script that contains this menu item.

Replace Keyframes

Replaces the keyframes in all axis at the current position.

Replace single Keyframe

Replaces the keyframe in the currently selected axis at the current position.

Delete Keyframes

Deletes the keyframes in all axis at the current position.

Delete Single Keyframe

Deletes the keyframe in the currently selected axis at the current position.

Clear Keyframes

Deletes all keyframes for all axis.

Clear single Keyframe

Deletes all keyframes for the currently selected axis.

Delete Drivers

Deletes the drivers for all axis.

Delete Single Driver

Deletes the drivers for just the current axis.

Copy Driver

Copies the driver.

Edit Driver

Opens the Driven Property panel where you can change the settings for this driver.

Item tab - Transform Panel in Edit Mode

Just primitive objects like mesh and curve does have an edit mode. Non primitive objects like a camera or an empty doesn't have an edit mode. With two exceptions. Text and Force Field type Curve Guide. Both are curve types.

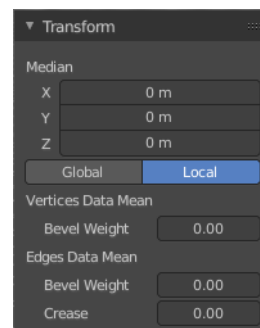
Mesh Objects

Median

Median is the position of the selected mesh part.

Global / Local

Define if the orientation of the selection is local to the selected object, or global to the world coordinates.



Vertices Data

Mean Bevel Weight

Adjust the bevel weight for the selected vertices when you have a bevel modifier at the mesh.

Edges Data

Mean Bevel Weight

Adjust the bevel weight for the selected edges when you have a bevel modifier at the mesh.

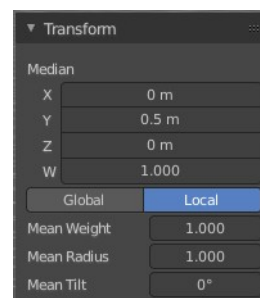
Mean Crease

Adjust the weight of the selected vertices when you have a subdivision surface modifier at the mesh.

Curve Objects / Surface Objects

Median

Median is the position of the selected mesh part



Global / Local

Define if the orientation of the selection is local to the selected object, or global to the world coordinates.

Mean Weight

Adjust the weight used by softbody. Needs softbody.

Mean Radius

Adjust the radius of the curve control points

Mean Tilt

Adjust the tilt of the curve control points.

Metaball Objects

Median

Median is the position of the selected mesh part

Global / Local

Define if the orientation of the selection is local to the selected object, or global to the world coordinates.

Radius

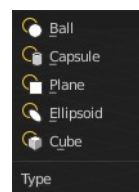
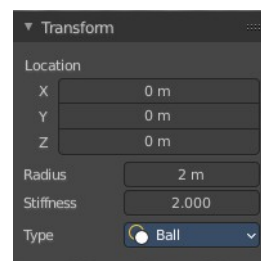
Adjust the radius of the selected meta element.

Stiffness

Adjust the stiffness of the selected meta element.

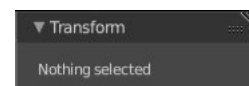
Type

Type is a drop down box. Adjust the meta element type.



Text Objects

Text objects do have an edit mode, but they don't show content in the Transform panel.



Armature objects Edit Mode

Bones do have a head and a tail. You cannot position the whole bone by numeric values, but the head and tail joints.

Head

Adjust the world position of the head joint.

Radius

This is just useful when you use Envelopes type bones. Adjust the Envelope radius of the head joint.

Tail

Adjust the world position of the tail joint.

Radius

This is just useful when you use Envelopes type bones. Adjust the Envelope radius of the tail joint.

Roll

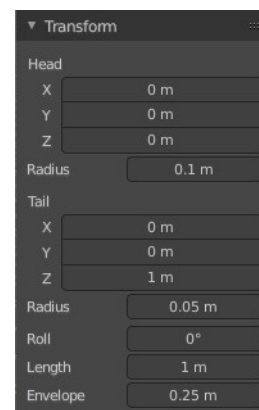
Adjust the bone roll.

Length

Adjust the length of the bone.

Envelope

This is just useful when you use Envelopes type bones. Adjust the overall Envelope size.



Lattice Objects

You need to have some vertices of the Lattice object selected to see the content.

Vertex

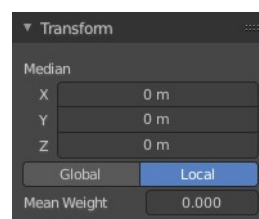
See and set the vertex positions of the lattice objects.

Global / Local

Define if the orientation of the selection is local to the selected object, or global to the world coordinates.

Mean Weight

Lattice object is a deform cage. Adjust the mean weight of the selected vertice(s).

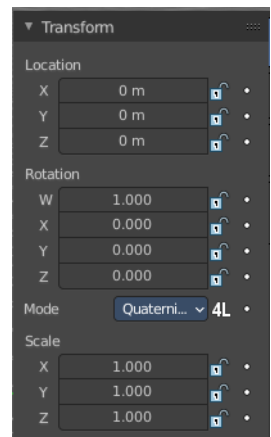


Item tab - Transform Panel in Pose Mode

Armature Objects in Pose Mode

The content in Pose mode is the same than in Object mode. We have Location, Rotation and Scale Edit Boxes. And the corresponding lock and animate buttons.

With one small difference. The rotation mode starts with Quaternions by default. And not with Euler Angles.

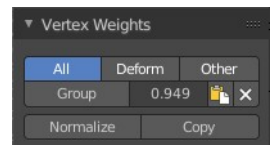


Item tab - Vertex Weights Panel

The Vertex Weights panel shows in Edit and Weight Paint mode, when you have vertices selected, and the selected vertice(s) has a weight assigned.

It allows you to modify the weight of this selected vertice(s).

In Weight paint mode you need to be in vertex selection mode and have a vertice selected. It will not show with face select mode. To select a vertice in weight paint mode hold down ctrl and click.



In Edit Mode you can select more than one vertices. In Weight Paint Mode just one vertice at a time.

Filter Vertex Groups

The first row is a setting. You can filter by all, only vertex groups that are assigned to deform bones. Or vertex groups that are assigned to non deform bones.

Group

Set as active Vertex Group.

Weight

The weight of the selected vertice(s). The range goes from 0 to 1.

Paste Weight to Selected

Copy this group's weight to other selected vertices.

Delete Weight

Deletes the weight for this selected vertice(s).

Normalize

Normalizes the weight of the selected vertice(s).

Copy

Copy active vertex to other selected vertices.