

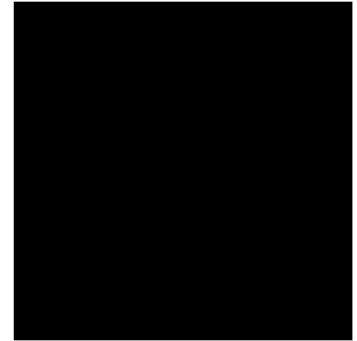


How To Get Started on Macromedia's Flash player for the Pocket PC

:: By: **Henry Kong** :: March 6, 2001 ::

The introduction of [Macromedia's Flash player for the Pocket PC](#) flash plug-in is yet another step in improving the already capable Pocket Internet Explorer. There are currently several websites that are offering Pocket PC Flash-specific substance. These sites are listed at the [LudiPocket website](#). [Editor's Note: Unfortunately, the listing seems to have been removed]. Here is a sampling of the selection, complete with sound animation and all good stuff.

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Above is a really nice unit converter from [FlashEnabled](#) that works as well as it looks. [FlashEnabled](#) should be the first page you go for Flash stuff for the Pocket PC. The even nicer HP Scientific Calculator is also downloaded

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Site Info

Interested in getting this news on your Pocket PC?

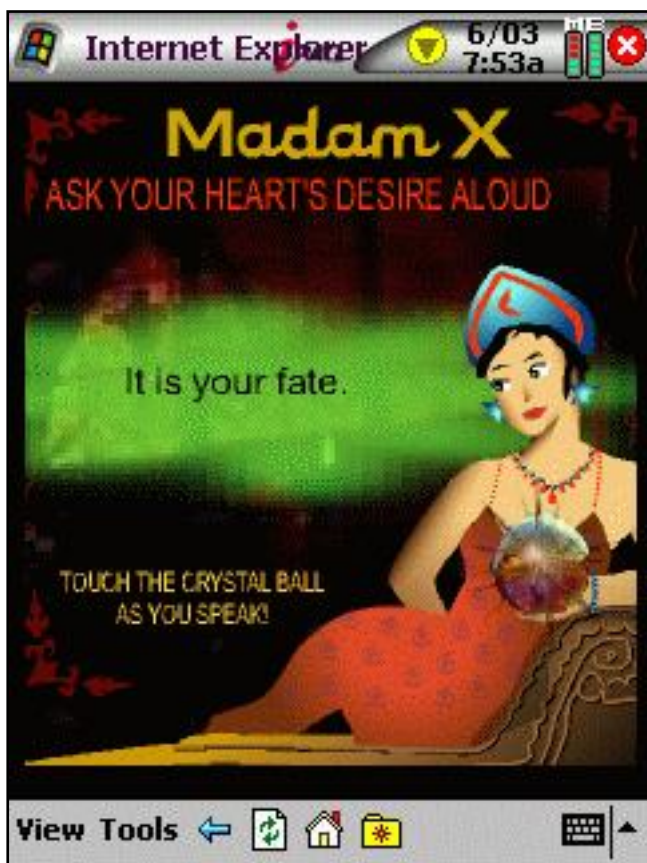
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from this great website. It would work better in my humble opinion if the calculator did not need to scroll and the colours were, well, a little brighter. Is this art?



From the good guys at [Organic](#), we get the very charming fortune teller, Madam X. She has just the right answer to whatever your question may be! Among the early crop of Pocket PC Flash offerings, we not only get applications, fun stuff but a smattering of games as well. Pictured above is a screenshot of a TicTacToe game called FourSight by [SmashingIdeas](#). They also offer TakeOver, Black Jack and a yet-to-be released game, Star Command. If the elegance of these three games are anything to judge by, Star Command is going to be super!

As good as the new Pocket PC Flash is, it is riddled with shortcomings. First, the version is 4, not the current 5. This is a tremendous setback as all new files that you encounter on most websites are in version 5.

Second, the Pocket PC Flash does not work like their Mac or PC cousins. Instead of running .exe and .fla files, only .swf files are read. Also the Pocket PC .swf files cannot run on its own and requires an accompanying html file to get 'em going.

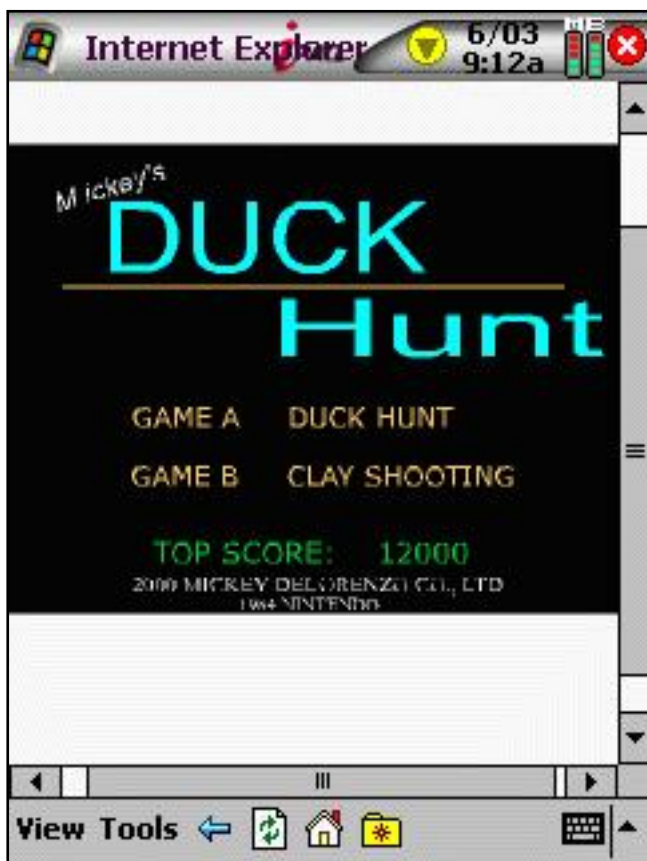
Thirdly while most current Flash files use MP3 for sound the Pocket PC flash does not support it leaving most direct conversion with the sound of silence. Who knows, but we can all hope that this feature will be supported during the official release.

Having said all that, the Pocket PC Flash is still a great breakthrough and creative Pocket PC users have come up fast and furious with some utilities that work around these setbacks. These are especially useful if we are to go deep into cyber space and seek beyond the few new Pocket PC-specific sites, to the thousands that abound. Here are two free ones that I find most helpful.

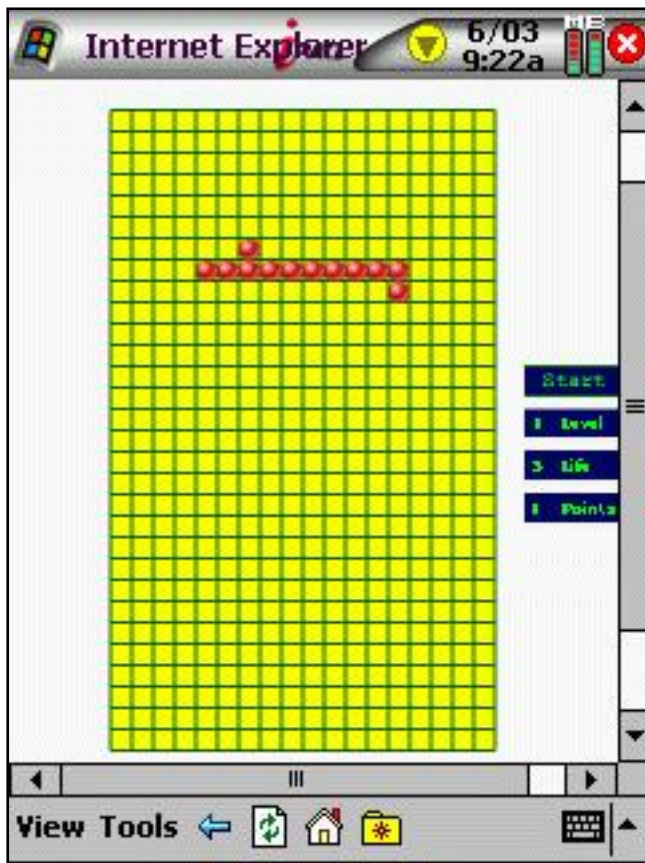
First get the wonderful easy-to-use [Flash projector \(.exe to .swf converter\)](#). Simply install the program and copy the Flash projectors into the **C:\My Documents** folder. Clicking on the program will list all the available files. Choose the ones that you want to convert (one at a time).

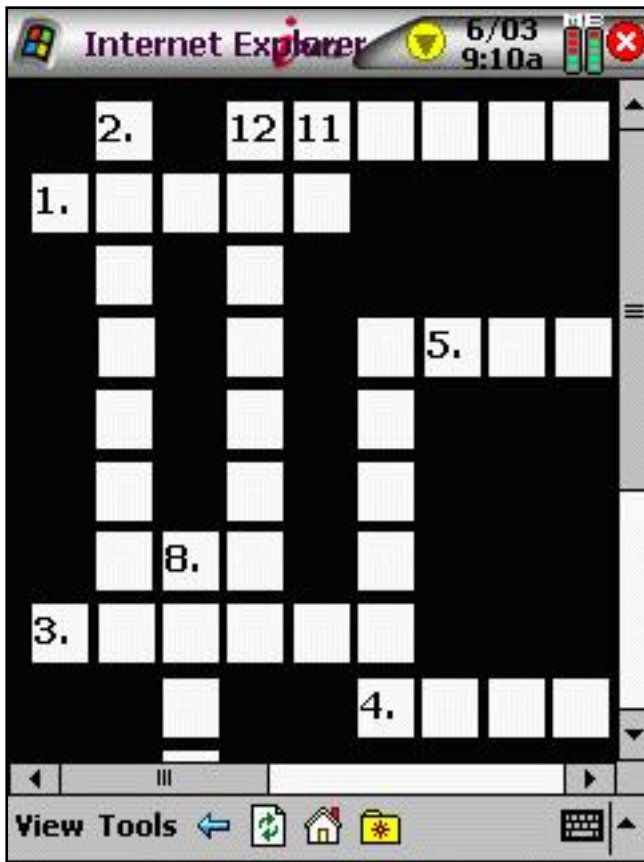
Next, install the capable [Flash Browser](#) on your Pocket PC. This nifty utility will not only read .swf files from the "my documents" folder in either the RAM or Storage Card, but also automatically writes a html file for it as

well. With these two utilities, we are on our way to download tons of Flash 4 games from the web. Displayed below are just a few from one website, [FlashKit](#). Pity I wasn't able to enable sound.

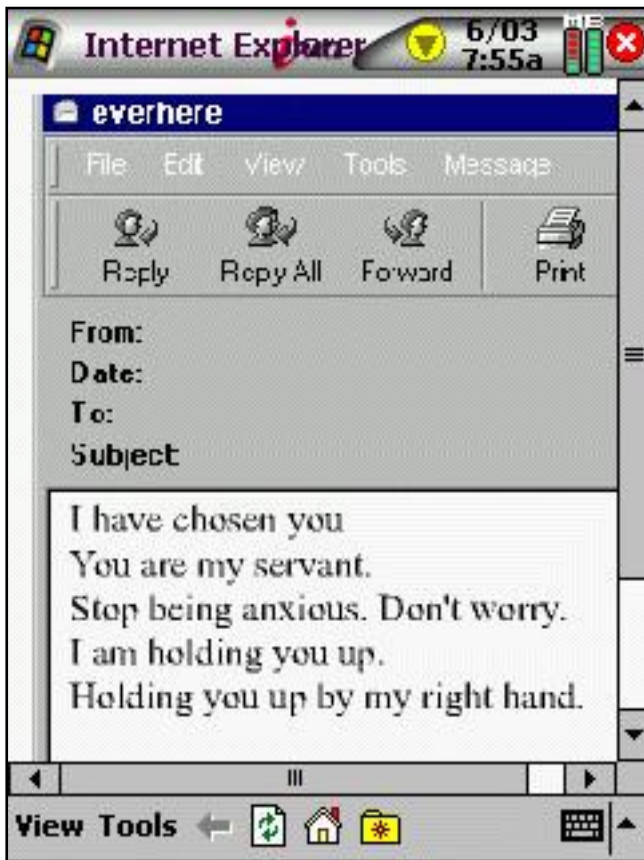
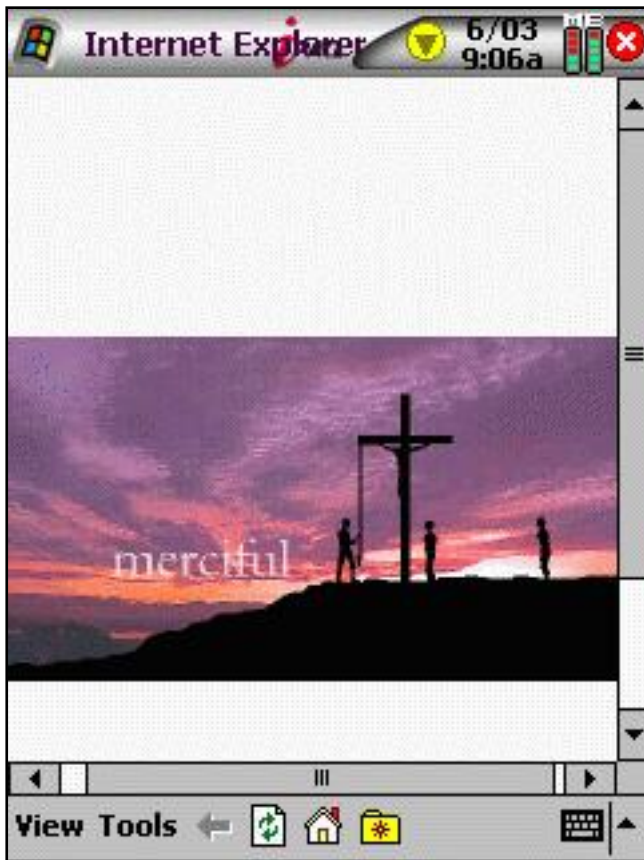


While I wasn't able to get the [PocketNES](#) emulator to run Duck Hunt, there's a splendid Flash version, complete with Clay Shooting as well. Best of all, the stylus can be used to hit these moving objects, animal or inanimate.





Another two nice games (and there are hundreds of 'em ready for your download) are Snake Byte and Crossword. Snake works well with the [iPAQ's](#) joypad and it is extremely easy to enter words on the Crossword using the stylus.



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While roaming the web, I logged on to this great site, [HeartLight](#), by my good buddy Frank, from which I was able to download a few files. Boy, was I surprised to find the sound intact on that well designed animated scene of

the Cross. The 'email from heaven' is another great animated spirit-lifter.

Many thanks to [Henry Kong](#) for this article. Be sure to check out his [excellent website](#) on the 3 C's: Computer, Church & Cuisine. Don't miss his [Windows CE section](#) for plenty more Pocket PC related stuff!