

Questions and Answers

For any AutoCAD user who needs to turn designs into compelling imagery and presentations, Autodesk® Design Suite software combines AutoCAD® software with leading visualization, presentation, conceptual design, and sketching solutions in a single convenient, cost-effective package.

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1. General Product Information

1.1 What is Autodesk Design Suite 2012?

Autodesk Design Suite 2012 is AutoCAD 2012 software combined with leading Autodesk® visualization, presentation, conceptual design, and sketching solutions for all levels of users. Available in a convenient, cost-effective package, the suite helps customers to design more efficiently, innovate ahead of the competition, communicate with greater clarity, and accelerate the path to new business.

1.2 What are the benefits of Autodesk Design Suite 2012?

Key benefits of Autodesk Design Suite include:

- Powerful AutoCAD 2012 software combined with leading design and visual communication tools that help enable customers to:
 - Visually explore and develop ideas with concept sketching and design tools
 - Review and validate design alternatives with easy-to-use real-time presentation and rendering solutions
 - Market and sell ideas using cinematic-quality 3D visualizations and interactive presentations
- Compatibility between products, streamlining design, documentation, and visual communication:
 - Save time and minimize rework when moving data between applications with DWG™ file format support
 - Preserve materials applied in AutoCAD when creating visualizations and presentations with a common Autodesk Material Library.
 - Sketch and illustrate directly into AutoCAD
- A single package that offers discounts of up to 56 percent off the price of the individual products:
 - Take advantage of a single installer with an improved deployment experience
 - Achieve greater consistency of running the latest software release for all included products
 - For an incremental investment, get design and visualization tools that have been shown to help win competitive bids and community support, as well as reduce outsourcing costs*

*In a 2009 CGarchitect survey, 90 percent of respondents said they are more likely to win competitive bids and community support with visuals created in Autodesk 3ds Max Design software, and 50 percent said that they save nearly \$25,000/year by creating visualizations in-house.

1.3 What products are in Autodesk Design Suite 2012?

Autodesk Design Suite is available in three editions: Standard, Premium, and Ultimate. Each edition builds on the previous one with additional products for specialized workflows.

Included Software Products	Autodesk Design Suite Standard 2012	Autodesk Design Suite Premium 2012	Autodesk Design Suite Ultimate 2012
AutoCAD® 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® SketchBook® Designer 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® Showcase® 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® Mudbox™ 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® 3ds Max® Design 2012		√	√
Autodesk® Alias® Design 2012			√

1.4 When will Autodesk Design Suite 2012 be available?

Autodesk Design Suite 2012 is scheduled to ship in English on or after April 14, 2011.

1.5 I currently have Autodesk Design Suite 2011. What’s new in Autodesk Design Suite 2012?

All three editions of Autodesk Design Suite 2012 software include Autodesk Mudbox 2012 software for digital sculpting and texture painting. The suite also features the 2012 releases of each product, which deliver powerful new features and functionality – including capabilities that help streamline the workflow between the products in the suite and make them easier to use. For example, Autodesk Showcase 2012 software now supports the Autodesk Material Library, and 3ds Max Design 2012 software delivers “push-button” rendering technology.

1.6 Will there be cross grades from stand-alone products to Autodesk Design Suite 2012 available?

Yes, there are cross grades available from current and previous versions of AutoCAD, 3ds Max, 3ds Max Design, and Alias Design software to Autodesk Design Suite 2012 software. Please contact your reseller for more details. To find a reseller near you, visit www.autodesk.com/reseller.

1.7 Will there be upgrades available from Autodesk Design Suite 2011 to Autodesk Design Suite 2012?

Yes, upgrades from Autodesk Design Suite 2011 to Autodesk Design Suite 2012 follow the [Autodesk simplified upgrade pricing model](#).

1.8 How do I know which Design Suite edition is right for me?

If you are an AutoCAD user and need to create compelling imagery and presentations to help accelerate the approval process and the path to new business, you should consider Autodesk Design Suite Standard or Autodesk Design Suite Premium. If you have limited prior experience with visualization software, Autodesk Showcase in the Standard Edition is an easy way to get started. However, if you want to create cinematic-quality visualizations and animations, you should purchase a license of Autodesk Design Suite Premium, which includes Autodesk 3ds Max Design software.

For advanced designers—particularly those in industrial design—Autodesk Design Suite Ultimate 2012 is the best option. Autodesk Design Suite Ultimate includes all the products in the Premium Edition, plus Autodesk Alias Design 2012 software, which helps you capture ideas digitally, create production-quality geometry, rapidly iterate concepts, and deliver designs that address both aesthetic and functional requirements. The suite is also compatible with other third-party CAD tools, making it easy to integrate into any engineering workflow.

1.9 What is the cost of Autodesk Design Suite and how do I buy?

Savings Calculator	Autodesk Design Suite Standard	Autodesk Design Suite Premium	Autodesk Design Suite Ultimate
Price of Suite	US \$4,295 MSRP*	US \$4,995 US MSRP*	US \$5,995 MSRP*
Price if Products Licensed Individually	US \$6,230 MSRP**	US \$9,725 MSRP**	US \$13,720 MSRP**
<i>\$ Savings</i>	<i>US \$1,935</i>	<i>US \$4,730</i>	<i>US \$7,725</i>

<i>% Savings</i>	31%	49%	56%
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All three editions of Autodesk Design Suite 2012 are available through Autodesk-authorized resellers, who are certified to provide a high level of customer service, including product training, implementation services, and support. Find one near you at www.autodesk.com/reseller.

The three editions are also available through the [Autodesk online store](#).

Learn more about [how to buy](#).

2. Technology

2.1 What are the key capabilities of each of the products in Autodesk Design Suite?

AutoCAD 2012: Design and shape the world around you with the powerful, flexible features of one of the world's leading CAD tools. With new and updated tools for 3D conceptual design, model documentation, and reality capture, AutoCAD 2012 software helps you maximize productivity and quickly drive projects to completion.

Autodesk SketchBook Designer 2012: Sketch concept designs directly into AutoCAD, and tap into a hybrid paint and vector illustration workflow to explore creative design concepts and communicate ideas graphically.

Autodesk Showcase 2012: More quickly and easily transform your AutoCAD designs into compelling imagery, movies, and interactive presentations for design reviews and sales pitches. Evaluate design variations and accelerate feedback by reducing the need for physical prototypes and long rendering times.

Autodesk 3ds Max Design 2012: Perform daylight analysis and create cinematic-quality 3D visuals with animation, characters, effects, and point-and-shoot rendering. Bring your design to life before it's real for design reviews, marketing materials, or public outreach.

Autodesk Mudbox 2012: Refine your Autodesk 3ds Max Design model with Autodesk Mudbox software. Its powerful textured painting and digital sculpting toolset lets you finesse the details of your ultra-realistic models.

Alias Design 2012: With the comprehensive conceptual modeling and surfacing capabilities in Alias Design, you can capture ideas digitally, create production-quality geometry, rapidly iterate concepts, and deliver designs that address both aesthetic and functional requirements.

2.2 What are the system requirements for Autodesk Design Suite?

For a complete list of system requirements for the Autodesk Design Suite please refer to: www.autodesk.com/ads.

2.3 Is Autodesk Design Suite supported on Windows® 7?

Yes, please see the system requirements at the link above.

3. Installation, Configuration, and Licensing

3.1 Is Autodesk Design Suite available as a stand-alone and network license?

Yes, Autodesk Design Suite is available for both stand-alone and network licensing. Licensing is handled through standard Autodesk licensing processes using Autodesk Licensing Manager (ADLM). Customers who purchase multiple network licenses for suites that have common products and are only able to access a subset of prior version copies can get their full prior version entitlement by contacting their reseller or visiting <https://registeronce.autodesk.com> to have the licenses reissued.

3.2 Do all products in Autodesk Design Suite need to be used on the same workstation?

Yes, the software applications within an Autodesk Design Suite license can only be installed on a single computer. They cannot be split across multiple workstations.

3.3 How do I activate my software?

Through the activation and registration interface, you can activate your product 24 hours a day, seven days a week, over the Internet or via email. Either option takes only a few steps to complete and requires your product serial number and registration information.

3.4 What if I have more than one computer? Can I use my software on multiple machines?

Autodesk recognizes that some users may need to operate the software when they are away from their usual work location. To accommodate this need, the product activation technology allows an employee to install the software on a second computer owned by the employee's company, provided it is for use away from the employee's usual work location, the software is used only by that employee and no other, and only one of the two copies of the software is ever in use at any one time. Consult the Autodesk Software License Agreement for details about using the software on a second computer.

3.5 Where can I find more information about software activation?

More information on product activation can be found at www.autodesk.com/activation.

4. Compatibility and Interoperability

4.1 How do the products within Autodesk Design Suite work together?

The products in Autodesk Design Suite can be used together in collaborative workflows throughout the design process—from conceptualization to final presentation. DWG file format support makes it easy to move data between applications, and helps prevent time being spent on rework.

Conceptualize and Design

Sketch initial ideas directly into AutoCAD with Autodesk SketchBook Designer. Design and model your concepts using powerful, familiar AutoCAD software. And add realistic effects with the advanced modeling and freeform design tools in Autodesk 3ds Max Design software.

Review and Analyze

Conduct daylight analysis studies for sustainable design and manage design alternatives with large datasets with Autodesk 3ds Max Design software. Autodesk Showcase software lets you evaluate design variations in context using real-world materials, lighting, and environments.

Communicate and Market

Quickly and easily transform AutoCAD designs into compelling imagery, movies, and interactive presentations with Autodesk Showcase software. Use Autodesk 3ds Max Design to produce cinematic-quality visualizations, and then add textural details to your scenes with Autodesk Mudbox. Communicate ideas graphically and enhance presentations with SketchBook Designer.

Document and Edit

Document your designs and models with powerful, flexible features in AutoCAD. Use Autodesk SketchBook Designer to enhance your drawing sheets with imagery and sketches. And with Autodesk 3ds Max Design, render technical images and detail image close-ups to support your technical drawings.

5. Training and Support

5.1 How do I obtain technical support?

Direct technical support is available from both Autodesk and Autodesk Authorized Resellers.

Furthermore, Autodesk Subscription is a comprehensive software, support, and training package that helps simplify your technology upgrades and boosts your design productivity. Purchase of Autodesk Subscription includes web support from Autodesk technical experts for all your installation, configuration, and troubleshooting questions.

To learn more about Autodesk Subscription, contact your Autodesk Account Executive or your Autodesk Authorized Reseller or visit www.autodesk.com/subscription.

5.2 Is technical support available through Autodesk Subscription?

When you enroll your Autodesk Design Suite software licenses in Autodesk Subscription, you are entitled to direct technical support via the web. Your Autodesk Distributor, Autodesk Authorized Reseller, or Autodesk Retailer can provide you with Autodesk Subscription enrollment rules, terms and conditions, and program and pricing details for your location. For more information about Autodesk Subscription, visit www.autodesk.com/subscription.

5.3 How do I get training and learn more about Autodesk Design Suite?

There are multiple ways to get additional information and training on Autodesk Design Suite:

- Visit www.autodesk.com/ads for more product information, workflow demonstration videos, customer stories, and trial downloads.
- Go to the Autodesk Services and Support page on Autodesk.com for more information regarding training tools and resources, as well as to find an Autodesk Authorized Training center near you.
- Visit www.autodesk.com/community to connect with your peers and Autodesk to learn, exchange, and contribute ideas that will help make you work more productively.
- Check out product overview and demonstration videos on YouTube by searching for “Autodesk Design Suite.”
- Watch videos, engage in discussions, and learn tips & tricks on <http://wikihelp.autodesk.com>, a site focused on collaborative learning for Autodesk users.
- Contact an Autodesk Authorized Reseller.

5.4 Can I try Autodesk Design Suite before I buy it?

Yes, fully-functioning 30-day free*** trials are available for all three Autodesk Design Suite editions. Simply download them [here](#).

6. Subscription

6.1 Is subscription available for purchase with Autodesk Design Suite?

Yes, Autodesk® Subscription and Autodesk® Subscription with Gold Support are available for purchase with all editions of the Autodesk Design Suite.

Design Suite Edition	Subscription	Subscription with Gold Support
Standard	US \$645 MSRP*	US \$773 MSRP*
Premium	US \$750 MSRP*	US \$900 MSRP*
Ultimate	US \$900 MSRP*	US \$1080 MSRP*

6.2 What benefits does Subscription offer?

Autodesk Subscription allows customers to extend the value of their software investment with access to the latest releases and web services that can help improve design workflows. Additional benefits that enhance productivity include expedited technical support and flexible licensing options.

Autodesk Subscription

Software maintenance and support program that includes:

- Access to software upgrades as soon as they are released
- Flexible licensing rights to current and previous versions of software
- Exclusive Subscription Advantage Packs, web services, and additional product enhancements
- Online tracking and management of support cases
- Lower total cost of ownership

Autodesk Gold Subscription

All standard Autodesk Subscription benefits plus the following:

- Phone support for up to four authorized callers
- More aggressive initial response target
- API support

6.3 How can I access my subscription benefits?

Simply log in to the Subscription Center at www.autodesk.com/subscriptionlogin to begin accessing your Subscription services.

*The Manufacturer Retail Price (MSRP) shown is Autodesk's suggested price for the specified products and services. The MSRP does not include any allowance or provision for installation or taxes. The MSRP is displayed for reference purposes only, as the actual retail price is determined by your reseller. Other terms and conditions may apply. Autodesk reserves the right to alter the MSRP, product offerings, and specification of its products and services at any time without notice, and is not responsible for typographical, graphical, or other errors that may appear on this site.

**Value represents the total MSRP of most closely matched products, as licensed for standalone use. Applicable design suites are licensed for installation and use of each component by one user to deliver additional workflow and functionality value as compared to the standalone products.

***This product is subject to the terms and conditions of the end-user license agreement that accompanies this software.

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