



Vista Support in Autodesk 2008 Products

What Autodesk applications run on Microsoft® Windows Vista today? Find details on Vista support in Autodesk 2008 products, including AutoCAD®, Revit® Architecture, Autodesk® Inventor™, and Autodesk® 3ds Max® applications.

Thanks to the close collaboration between Autodesk and Microsoft, many applications in Autodesk's 2008 product line are compatible with Windows Vista™.

Learn more about the compatibility of specific Autodesk 2008 products with the Microsoft Windows Vista operating system:

AutoCAD®

Because both 32-bit and 64-bit versions of AutoCAD 2008 are compatible with Windows Vista, AutoCAD 2008 users will have the same experience whether you choose to stay with your Windows XP OS or adopt Windows Vista. All product features, workflows, and implementation processes are identical.

However, AutoCAD 2008 does take advantage of some new Vista capabilities. Specifically, Windows Vista offers thumbnail previews for DWG™ and DWF™ files in Windows Explorer; displays AutoCAD properties in the detail tab of Windows Explorer; and provides search tools that look for text strings in the drawing properties, text, and MTEXT of DWG files. In addition, running AutoCAD 2008 64-bit on Windows Vista can speed your work.

AutoCAD 2008 also delivers exceptional graphics performance because it uses Direct3D®, Microsoft's graphics API. In contrast, CAD software from other providers, particularly those that rely on the OpenGL graphics API may experience graphics degradation when run on Windows Vista.

AutoCAD 2007 software users can download AutoCAD 2007 Service Pack 2 to run AutoCAD 2007 on Windows Vista.

Download Service Pack 2 AutoCAD 2007 :

<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=9444984&linkID=9240618>

AutoCAD® Electrical 2008

AutoCAD Electrical 2008 is Windows Vista compatible. Whether you choose to stay with your Windows XP OS or adopt Windows Vista, you will have the same experience. Autodesk's benchmark testing shows neither a degradation nor enhancement of performance when AutoCAD Electrical 2008 is run on Windows Vista versus Windows XP—and all workflows, features, and functionality of AutoCAD Electrical 2008 are the same.

However, AutoCAD Electrical 2008 does take advantage of some new Vista capabilities. Specifically, Windows Vista offers thumbnail previews for DWG and DWF files in Windows Explorer; displays AutoCAD Electrical properties in the detail tab of Windows Explorer; and provides search tools that look for text strings in the drawing properties, text, and MTEXT of DWG files.

AutoCAD Electrical 2007 software users can download AutoCAD Electrical 2007 Service Pack 2 to run AutoCAD Electrical 2007 on Windows Vista. Versions of AutoCAD Electrical earlier than 2007 are not Vista compatible.

Download Service Pack 2 AutoCAD Electrical 2007 :

<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=9578331&linkID=9240738>

AutoCAD LT®

Customers with the 32-bit version of AutoCAD LT 2008 can upgrade to Windows Vista assured that you will have the same experience on Windows Vista that you did on Windows XP. All product features, workflows, and implementation process are the same—whether you run AutoCAD LT 2008 32-bit on Windows Vista or Windows XP.

AutoCAD LT 2008 32-bit does take advantage of some new Vista capabilities. Specifically, Windows Vista offers thumbnail previews for DWG and DWF files in Windows Explorer; displays AutoCAD LT properties in the detail tab of Windows Explorer; and provides search tools that look for text strings in the drawing properties, text, and MTEXT of DWG files.

In addition, AutoCAD LT 2008 delivers exceptional graphics performance because it uses Direct3D, Microsoft's graphics API. In contrast, CAD software from other providers, particularly those that rely on the OpenGL graphics API, may experience graphics degradation when run on Windows Vista.

Download AutoCAD LT 2007 Service Pack 2 to run AutoCAD LT 2007 on Windows Vista.

Download Service Pack 2 AutoCAD LT 2007 :

<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=9445066&linkID=9240818>

AutoCAD® Mechanical 2008

Whether AutoCAD Mechanical 2008 users choose to stay with their Windows XP OS or adopt Windows Vista, they will have the same experience.

AutoCAD Mechanical 2007 users can download AutoCAD Mechanical 2007 Service Pack 2 to run AutoCAD Electrical 2007 on Windows Vista. Versions of AutoCAD Mechanical earlier than 2007 are not Vista compatible.

Download Service Pack 2 AutoCAD Mechanical 2007 :

<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=9611624&linkID=9240898>

If you do migrate to Windows Vista or purchase new hardware with the OS preinstalled, AutoCAD Mechanical 2008 will work the same way that it does on Windows XP, with the exception of certain security features incorporated into Windows Vista by Microsoft. For example, the user account control (UAC) in Vista will prevent non-administrator users from accessing certain portions of the Vista OS, such as the program files directory. Since the standard parts library used in AutoCAD Mechanical is saved into the program folder's folder structure, one of the following options will need to be followed to customize the content:

Login to the system as a system administrator to make changes to the library.

Have an administrator grant the standard user permissions to the folder location required (c:\program files\autodesk\acadm).

Copy the mechanical libraries from c:\program files\autodesk\acadm\gef\gbd to a folder on the system that is accessible by the user, such as My Documents. Then configure AutoCAD Mechanical to use this location by changing the default path in the database configuration file of the AM: Standard Parts tab of options to reflect the path of the copied data, or follow Step 4.

Disable the UAC from the user accounts section of the control panel.

Mais informações sobre UAC no Vista

<http://technet2.microsoft.com/WindowsVista/en/library/00d04415-2b2f-422c-b70e-b18ff918c2811033.mspx?mfr=true>

According to Autodesk's benchmark testing, you should expect neither performance degradation nor enhancement when you run AutoCAD Mechanical 2008 on Windows Vista. Other than those issues associated with the UAC, all workflows, features, and functionality of AutoCAD Mechanical 2008 are the same, whether you run the software on Windows XP or Windows Vista.

However, AutoCAD Mechanical 2008 does take advantage of some new Vista capabilities. Specifically, Windows Vista offers thumbnail previews for DWG and DWF files in Windows Explorer; displays AutoCAD Mechanical properties in the detail tab of Windows Explorer; and provides search tools that look for text strings in the drawing properties, text, and MTEXT of DWG files.

Autodesk® Inventor™

Autodesk Inventor 2008 software is fully Windows Vista compliant. Whether you choose to run Autodesk Inventor on Windows XP or Windows Vista, you should experience the same great performance and workflows.

Autodesk Inventor 2008 users can download Autodesk Inventor 2008 Service Pack 1 to run AutoCAD Inventor 2008 on Windows Vista. Previous versions of Autodesk Inventor are not compatible with Windows Vista.

Download Service Pack 1 Autodesk inventor 2008 :

<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=9852114&linkID=9242019>

In addition to being Vista compatible, Autodesk Inventor 2008 provides full support for Microsoft Direct3D. Autodesk has adopted Direct3D technology to meet the needs of 3D applications, including Autodesk Inventor and Autodesk 3ds Max 9. Autodesk is committed to Direct3D because it provides the best technology platform for 3D CAD and for the creation of digital prototypes. While the alternative open, multiplatform OpenGL graphics standard has served the industry for many years, it is no longer the dominant player. It has been eclipsed by a combination of the advances in cost performance at the low end of the graphics market and Microsoft's adoption of Direct3D as the standard graphics API on the Windows platform.

Direct3D offers many advantages. Hardware manufacturers must conform strictly to the Direct3D specification when they implement standard graphics features. Compliance with this specification is enforced through the Windows Hardware Quality Labs (WHQL) driver certification process. The rigorous test specification requires that graphics hardware and drivers demonstrate 100 percent implementation of the Direct3D specification. As a result, Direct3D-compliant graphics cards ensure a high-quality graphics experience, without the need for applications to include special profiles or case code. You thus receive increased stability and reliability.

For Autodesk Inventor customers, Direct3D lowers the cost of entry—so more users can adopt the Inventor application for their design, engineering, and manufacturing workflows—and allows existing users to leverage their previous investment in graphics cards.

With support for Direct3D introduced in Inventor 11, Autodesk had a full year of product experience with Direct3D before the release of Windows Vista. We have found that by leveraging Direct3D, Inventor implementation on Windows Vista shows some small but significant performance gains compared with Windows XP.

Finally, Autodesk has worked closely with the Microsoft Direct3D team to make sure that Direct3D is well designed for CAD applications. Direct3D 10, the latest release of Direct3D, is included with Windows Vista and offers a wide variety of powerful new features, many of which were driven by the needs of high-end CAD and visualization applications. Leveraging the Direct3D 10 next-generation platform, Autodesk will continue to build user interface enhancements that deliver accurate and compelling visual results.

See also: Known Issues with Inventor 2008 and Windows Vista.

Windows Vista does not support the following versions of Autodesk Inventor Series and Autodesk Inventor Professional:

- Autodesk Inventor Series 11
- Autodesk Inventor Series 10
- Autodesk Inventor Series 9
- Autodesk Inventor Professional 11
- Autodesk Inventor Professional 10
- Autodesk Inventor Professional 9

Known Issues with Inventor 2008 and Windows Vista

Issue

You want to know more about the issues involved with using Autodesk Inventor 2008 on the Windows Vista operating system.

Solution

The known issues involved with using Autodesk Inventor 2008 on Windows Vista are listed below.

General:

OpenGL hardware acceleration is not supported.

Some codecs cannot be used when generating AVI files.

The Add-in Manager may not function if you change the status of Add-ins. You must turn off the User Access Control (UAC) and log on as an administrator.

The Autodesk CAD Manager Tools cannot be used immediately after they have been installed. You must first install the Autodesk CAD application.

You cannot select "Change" in Uninstall or change a program while the UAC is on.

Inventor cannot be uninstalled if the UAC is on.

The DWG file icons used for template files are not displayed correctly for non-administrator users.

The files located in the Program Files folder can be edited using folder virtualization, but any changes you make to these files cannot be seen by other user accounts.

Assembly:

Microsoft RLE and Microsoft Windows Media Video 9 codecs cannot be used to record Drive Constraint animations.

Cable & Harness:

When the User Access Control is turned on, the Push method used to create nailboards may fail to locate the drawing templates.

The DWG import wizard viewer "Selective import" control is empty. You may notice in the DWGIN wizard's viewer page that the "Selective import" control is empty (this control lists the layers in a DWG file).

Preview may be missing (in the open dialog box) for dwg files created using DWGOUT in Vista.

Options under Selective import may be missing in the DWGIN wizard.

Inventor may not exit after a DWF publish using the API.

Inventor DWG/AutoCAD DWG are not filtered properly in the Open dialog box.

DWG TrueConnect:

Save as DWG to IDW may result in a DWG file rather than an IDW file and vice versa.

Interoperability:

IGES/STEP translation report cannot be edited or viewed in Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Inventor Studio:

Large numbers in editable parameter fields may appear truncated.

Multi-sheet Plot:

You may experience difficulty when multi-selecting files using the Ctrl and/or Shift keys in the file selection pane of MS Plot.

If a second printer is added in addition to the default printer, Multi Sheet Plot does not print to that second printer, but only to the default printer.

Stress Analysis:

Inventor and Stress Analysis may become unstable if the Stress Analysis add-in is unloaded and reloaded while Inventor is open.

You must restart the system before using Stress Analysis even if no restart prompt is presented during the installation process.

Task scheduler:

Tasks that are rescheduled do not run on the rescheduled time but run according to the originally scheduled time.

The invisible Inventor process that Task Scheduler starts may experience hangs.

For more information about Autodesk Inventor 2008 issues and support, use the following link:

<http://www.autodesk.com/inventor-graphic-cards>

Questions & Answers About Vista Products

1. Which Autodesk products will support Vista?

Almost all of Autodesk's 2008 applications will support Vista. Exceptions to 2008 compatibility include AutoCAD® Utility Design, Autodesk MapGuide® Enterprise, and Autodesk Streamline® software, which will not support Vista. We expect to provide Windows Vista support for the Autodesk® Inventor™ 2008 software family in a future service pack release.

The 2008 version of AutoCAD, now available, is compatible with both the 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Windows Vista Home Basic, Home Premium, Ultimate, Business, and Enterprise. AutoCAD LT 2008, also currently available, is compatible with 32-bit versions of Windows Vista.

2. What about 2007 or previous products?

Autodesk is currently working on future Windows Vista support for 2007 versions of Autodesk® Design Review, Autodesk® Buzzsaw®, and Autodesk® Constructware® software and services. Autodesk now offers service pack updates for AutoCAD 2007 and AutoCAD LT® 2007, featuring 32-bit support for Windows Vista. Outside of these efforts, Autodesk currently plans no retrofits for 2007 or older applications.

3. Why hasn't Autodesk developed Vista retrofits for all of its other previous products?

Microsoft's development of Vista represents a major change in the Windows OS. Given the level of modifications required for products to fully exploit the benefits of Vista—well as the number of applications Autodesk offers—we felt it was most critical to focus our efforts on maximizing the quality of our 2008 offerings. We believe that customers who select our 2008 products will be pleased with the performance they experience in Vista.

4. Does support for XP end with 2007 products?

No. Autodesk 2008 applications provide full support for both XP and Vista.

5. Do Autodesk's Vista offerings run on both 32- and 64-bit systems?

The 2008 versions of AutoCAD, Autodesk® Maya®, and Autodesk® 3ds Max® software are offered in native 64-bit forms to enable the full advantages of greater memory capacity. Our other native 32-bit products can run within 64-bit systems. Autodesk Revit® products will support memory of up to 4 GB, and we expect to provide full 64-bit addressing support in a future release.

6. Are the 2008 products available now?

US and regional availability for 2008 products will vary and may change. Some products are available now. Time frames are based on Autodesk's fiscal year – which runs from February 1 to January 31.

Para baixar o "Autodesk and Windows Vista White Paper (pdf - 843Kb)" - <http://images.autodesk.com/adsk/files/vista.pdf>

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