

Questions and Answers

For designers and engineers responsible for creating compelling products, Autodesk Product Design Suite, with Autodesk Inventor, delivers a complete set of design, visualization, and simulation workflow for Digital Prototyping.

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1. General Product Information

1.1 What is Product Design Suite 2012?

Autodesk Product Design Suite 2012 is a comprehensive set of design, visualization, and simulation software. It provides a variety of tools so that the designers and engineers who are responsible for creating compelling products have the flexibility to more easily respond to the design challenges that arise due to changing business requirements. Granting greater access to compatible tools for sketching, surfacing, modeling, drawing, simulating, tooling, rendering, animating, and data management, users are empowered to create spectacular products. From early concepts to detailed engineering and simulation the Autodesk Product Design Suite is the ideal Digital Prototyping solution for your entire product design workflow.

1.2 What are the benefits of Product Design Suite?

Key benefits of Autodesk Product Design Suite include:

The power of Autodesk Inventor, the industry’s best 3D design tool, combined with leading visual communication tools that help you to:

- Create accurate digital prototypes that simulate the real-world performance of your product before it's built
- 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

Compatibility between products, streamlining design, engineering, collaboration, documentation:

- Save time and minimize rework when moving data between applications
- Reuse existing 2D and 3D data effectively using improved workflows provided by the suite
- Preserve materials applied in Inventor when creating visualizations and presentations with a common Autodesk Material Library

Product Design Suite offers compelling, cost-effective value by delivering a compatible set of design and engineering tools in one economical and convenient purchase:

- Take advantage of a single installer with an improved deployment experience
- Achieve greater consistency of running the latest software release for all products
- Reduce purchasing complexity and lower total cost of ownership

1.3 What products are in the Product Design Suites?

Included Software Products	Autodesk Product Design Suite Standard 2012	Autodesk Product Design Suite Premium 2012	Autodesk Product Design Suite Ultimate 2012
Autodesk® Inventor® Professional 2012			√
Autodesk® Alias® Design 2012			√
Autodesk® Inventor® 2012		√	
Autodesk® 3ds Max® 2012		√	√
AutoCAD® Mechanical 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® Vault 2012	√	√	√

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Autodesk® SketchBook® Designer 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® Showcase® 2012	√	√	√
Autodesk® Mudbox™ 2012	√	√	√

1.4 When will the Product Design Suite be available?

The Product Design Suite 2012 is scheduled to ship on or after April 14, 2011.

1.5 Will there be cross grades from standalone products to the Product Design Suite available?

There are a variety of cross grades available to go from a standalone product to the Product Design Suite. Please contact your reseller for more details. To find a reseller near you, click here www.autodesk.com/reseller.

1.6 Will there be cross grades available for purchase to the Product Design Suite Ultimate?

Cross grades to Product Design Suite Ultimate will be available. Please contact your reseller for more details. To find a reseller near you, click here www.autodesk.com/reseller.

1.7 How do I know which Product Design Suite is right for me?

The Product Design Suite is available in three different editions, providing the flexibility for designers and engineers to choose the one that suits their needs best. To choose which edition is right for you, please visit www.autodesk.com/productdesignsuite for more detailed information.

1.8 What is the cost of the Product Design Suites and how do I buy?

Savings Calculator	Autodesk Product Design Suite Standard	Autodesk Product Design Suite Premium	Autodesk Product Design Suite Ultimate
Price of Suite*	US \$5,495 MSRP	US \$6,495 MSRP	US \$9,995 MSRP
Price if Products Purchased Individually*	US \$ 6,730 MSRP	US \$ 14,720 MSRP	US \$ 21,515 MSRP
\$ Savings**	US \$1,235	US \$8,225	US \$11,520
% Savings**	18%	56%	54%

All editions of the Autodesk Product Design Suite are sold through Autodesk -authorized value-added resellers. Our resellers are certified to provide the highest level of customer service, including product training, implementation services and support. Click here to find one near you: www.autodesk.com/reseller.

2. Technology

2.1 What are the key capabilities of the Product Design Suites?

The Product Design Suite contains key capabilities that address the entire product design workflow from conceptual design to detailed engineering and simulation. For more information on the key capabilities of Product Design Suite please visit www.autodesk.com/productdesignsuite.

2.2 What are the system requirements for Product Design Suite?

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

2.3 Is Product Design Suite supported on Windows 7?

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

3. Installation, Configuration, and Licensing

3.1 Is the Product Design Suite available as a standalone and network license?

Yes, Autodesk Product 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 the Product Design Suite need to be used on the same workstation?

Yes, the software applications within an Autodesk Product 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 the Product Design Suites work together?

There are many workflows where data created in one product can be used in an adjacent product. The most substantial include:

- Opening Alias Design data directly into Inventor, using Inventor Fusion to modify solid and surface data from any CAD source.
- Inventor providing native DWG output so that it can be read and reviewed in AutoCAD
- AutoCAD/M and Showcase opening Inventor data for use in the creation of presentations.
- All products may use Autodesk Vault to safely store, share and retrieve the correct data throughout the entire project workflow.

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 simplifies 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 Product 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 Product Design Suite?

There are multiple ways you can get additional information and training on Product Design Suite:

- Please visit the Autodesk [Services and Support](#) page on Autodesk.com for more information regarding training tools and resources as well as finding an Autodesk Authorized Training center near you.
- Visit www.autodesk.com/community to connect with your peers as well as with Autodesk to learn, exchange and contribute to make you more effective as designers.
- Check out the product overview and demonstration videos on YouTube, search using "Autodesk Product Design Suite" as the keyword.
- Watch videos, engage in discussions and learn tips and tricks on <http://wikihelp.autodesk.com>, a site focused on collaborative learning community for users.

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

Yes, a fully functioning version of Autodesk Product Design Suite is available as a free 30-day trial. To request a trial please contact your local reseller. To find a reseller near you click here www.autodesk.com/reseller.

6. Subscription

6.1 Is Subscription available for purchase with Product Design Suite?

Autodesk Subscription, Autodesk Gold Subscription are available for purchase with all editions of the Autodesk Product Design Suite.

Product Design Suite Edition	Subscription	Gold Subscription
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? What about gold support?

Autodesk Subscription allows customers to extend the value of their software investment with access to the latest releases 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 released during the Subscription term.
- 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 <http://www.autodesk.com/subscriptionlogin> to begin accessing your Subscription benefits.

*The Manufacturer Retail Price (MSRP) shown is Autodesk's suggested price for the specified product and services in the United States. 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 total MSRP of most closely matched products, as licensed for stand-alone 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 stand-alone individual products.

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