DISCOVER SOLIDWORKS DESIGN TOOLS

WHICH SOLIDWORKS DESIGN SOLUTION IS RIGHT FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

Every company is unique and faces different challenges when trying to find the perfect design tool. As customer needs and expectations evolve, Dassault Systèmes SOLIDWORKS is offering more varied, cloud-focused product development solutions.

Our flagship product, SOLIDWORKS® 3D CAD, commonly known as SOLIDWORKS Desktop or just SOLIDWORKS, is the foundation on which our two hybrid cloud offers, SOLIDWORKS plus Collaborative Roles and **3D**EXPERIENCE® SOLIDWORKS, are built. SOLIDWORKS Cloud is a collection of entirely browser-based design tools. It features different workflows from the other three solutions.

The chart below lists answers to frequently asked questions about the four main SOLIDWORKS design offers. With this document, users can understand the nuances and differences between the offers, learn what they can do, and discover which product is best for their unique organization.

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Discover our offerings and which tool is best for you:

	Desktop	Desktop + Cloud	Desktop + Cloud	Cloud
	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD	**SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** plus Collaborative Roles	**3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS	**SOLIDWORKS Cloud**
WHAT is it?	Proven, industry-leading CAD solution for designers, engineers, and more	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD plus additional collaborative roles, connecting your CAD to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform for collaboration and secure data management on the cloud	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD with a built-in connection to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform for collaboration and secure data management on the cloud	Purpose-built, browser-based design and data management solution on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform
IS IT BETTER for new or existing users?	Existing users or new users who require on-premise data management	Existing SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD users	New or existing users	New users
WHAT are you looking for?	Proven on-premise CAD solution	Enhancing current CAD solution and improving collaboration and communication by adding a connection to cloud-based data and lifecycle management solutions	Proven CAD solution with a direct connection to cloud-based collboration and data and lifecycle management solutions, along with advanced surface modeling tools	Entirely browser-based, device-agnostic CAD, collaboration, and data and lifecycle management solution
WHO should use it?	Users who • Need robust, industry-leading 3D CAD functionality • Require on-premise data management • Have physical proximity without the need to collaborate in real time during the product development process	Users who • Already use SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD • Need to enhance their current CAD with cloud-based data and lifecycle management tools • Need connected, real-time collaboration tools • Need to lower IT costs by moving product data and lifecycle management to the cloud • Need a more secure way to store and share their data • Have geographically dispersed teams that need real-time collaboration capabilities	Users who • Need robust, industry-leading 3D CAD functionality with built-in cloud-based data and lifecycle management • Need connected, real-time collaboration tools • Need to lower IT costs and administration by streamlining software installation and updates • Need to lower IT costs and administration by moving product data and lifecycle management to the cloud • Need a more secure way to store and share their data • Have geographically dispersed teams that need real-time collaboration capabilities • Need advanced surface modeling tools	Users who • Need solutions to execute a cloud-first initiative • Prioritize mobility and device independence, and need 3D CAD functionality and data and lifecycle management • Need connected, real-time collaboration tools • Need to lower IT costs and administration by eliminating software installation and manual updates for CAD and data management • Need to lower IT costs and administration by moving product data and lifecycle management to the cloud • Need a more secure way to store and share their data • Have geographically dispersed teams that need real-time collaboration capabilities • Need advanced surface modeling tools

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Discover our offerings and which tool is best for you:

WHY should I buy this?

	Desktop	Desktop + Cloud	Desktop + Cloud	Cloud
	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD	**SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** plus Collaborative Roles	**3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS	**SOLIDWORKS Cloud**
	You need a proven CAD and product development solution	You need to enhance your current SOLIDWORKS solution with secure cloud data management and user access	You need a proven CAD and product development solution	You need CAD and product development tools that you can use anywhere
	Your organization is not ready to move to cloud data and life cycle management	Your organization is moving toward a hybrid office/remote work environment	You need secure data management, user access, and collaboration tools built into SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD from day one	You need to be able to access and edit your data on any device
		You need data stored in one location that can be accessed anywhere, on any device	You need data stored in one central location that can be accessed anywhere, on any device	You want to enhance your business with next-generation, browser-based tools that scale as you grow
		You need better ways to connect and collaborate with stakeholders inside and outside of your organization	You need better ways to connect and collaborate with stakeholders inside and outside of your organization	You need secure cloud data management and user access
		You are interested in scaling and enhancing your business with all the tools provided by the **3D**EXPERIENCE Works portfolio	You need to reduce IT overhead, installation, and upgrade costs	You need data stored in one central location that can be accessed anywhere, on any device
			You need to stay on the latest software release and get automatic updates	You need to eliminate IT overhead
			You need the flexibility to use SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD on multiple PCs	You need software that updates automatically without any download or installation
			Your organization is moving toward a hybrid office/remote work environment	You need to be able to connect with internal and external stakeholders in a single platform
			You want access to next-generation, browser-based design tools and advanced surface modeling	You are interested in enhancing your business with all the tools provided by the **3D**EXPERIENCE Works portfolio
			You are interested in scaling and enhancing your business with all the tools provided by the **3D**EXPERIENCE Works portfolio	

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Hardware and Installation

	Desktop	Desktop + Cloud	Desktop + Cloud	Cloud
	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD	**SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** plus Collaborative Roles	**3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS	**SOLIDWORKS Cloud**
WHAT does the CAD run on?	Certified Windows PC	Certified Windows PC	Certified Windows PC Included browser-based tools run on any device with an internet connection	Any device with an internet connection
IS IT cloud connected?	No	Yes — SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD runs locally while connected to the cloud via the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	Yes — SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD runs locally while connected to the cloud via the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform Included browser-based design tools run entirely on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and can be accessed through a browser or mobile device	Yes — Runs entirely on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and accessed through a browser or mobile device
WHAT kind of hardware do I need?	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD requires a Windows® PC with certified hardware and graphics card	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD requires a Windows PC with certified hardware and graphics card Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools can be accessed through the browser on any device with a high-speed internet connection	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD requires a Windows PC with certified hardware and graphics card Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools can be accessed through the browser on any device with a high-speed internet connection	All applications can be accessed through the browser on any device with a high-speed internet connection
WHAT are the internet requirements?	Internet required for software download and installation	For SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD, internet is required for software download and installation Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools require high-speed internet access	For SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD, internet is required for software download, installation, and operation Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools require high-speed internet access Offline mode available	High-speed internet is required
HOW is it installed?	Manually download and install the latest or previous versions of SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD on each local PC	Manually download and install SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD on each local PC Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools are accessed through secure login to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	Users log in to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and are prompted to install the latest version on their local PC Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools are accessed through a secure login to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	No installation required
WHAT versions can I install?	Any previous annual release that is compatible with your OS	Latest annual release or two previous releases	Software always updates to latest functional delivery release	No installation required. Software is always on latest functional delivery release
HOW is it updated?	Manually download and update SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD on each local PC to the latest release	Manually download and update SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD on each local PC to the latest release Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools are always up-to-date as part of the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD is automatically updated on each local PC to the latest release Data and lifecycle management and collaboration tools are always up-to-date as part of the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	Always up-to-date as part of the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform

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Frequently Asked Questions

	Desktop	Desktop + Cloud	Desktop + Cloud	Cloud
	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD	**SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** plus Collaborative Roles	**3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS	**SOLIDWORKS Cloud**
DOES it include **3D**EXPERIENCE collaborative roles?	No	Collaborative Designer for SOLIDWORKS: Connect SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform Collaborative Business Innovator: Connect with others on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform Collaborative Industry Innovator: Data and lifecycle management on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	Collaborative Business Innovator: Connect with others on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform Collaborative Industry Innovator: Data and lifecycle management on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform	Collaborative Business Innovator: Connect with others on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform Collaborative Industry Innovator: Data and lifecycle management on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform
WHAT are the file management options?	Files are saved on-premise on a local PC or network servers Local file server required	Files can be saved and managed in secure cloud data storage Optionally, files can be saved on-premise on a local PC or network servers Local file servers not required	By default, files are saved and managed in secure cloud data storage Optionally, files can be saved on-premise on a local PC or network servers Local file servers not required	All files are saved and managed in secure cloud data storage Local file servers not required
WHAT are the data management options?	On-premise product data management solutions are included in SOLIDWORKS Professional and Premium Additional on-premise product lifecycle management solutions are available	Cloud-based product data and lifecycle management tools are included Additional cloud roles for scaling product lifecycle management are available	Cloud-based product data and lifecycle management tools are included Additional cloud roles for scaling product lifecycle management are available	Cloud-based product data and lifecycle management tools are included Additional cloud roles for scaling product lifecycle management are available
ARE THERE built-in part catalogues?	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Toolbox and **3D**EXPERIENCE Marketplace	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Toolbox and **3D**EXPERIENCE Marketplace	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Toolbox and **3D**EXPERIENCE Marketplace	Yes — **3D**EXPERIENCE Marketplace
DOES IT include browser-based design tools?	No	No	3D Creator: Parametric design tools 3D Sculptor (included with **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Professional and Premium): SubD freeform surfacing tools	3D Creator: Parametric design tools 3D Sculptor: SubD freeform surfacing tools 3D SheetMetal Creator: Sheet metal design tools 3D Structure Creator: Structure design tools Manufacturing Definition Creator: 2D drawings and detailing for manufacturing 3D Render: Rendering tools

SOLIDWORKS

Frequently Asked Questions

	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD plus Collaborative Roles	3DEXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS	SOLIDWORKS Cloud
	Desktop	Desktop + Cloud	Desktop + Cloud	Cloud
CAN YOU make 2D drawings?	Yes — Create associative, production-quality, detailed 2D drawings of complex parts and large assemblies	Yes — Create associative, production-quality, detailed 2D drawings of complex parts and large assemblies	Yes — Create associative, production-quality, detailed 2D drawings of complex parts and large assemblies	Yes — Create associative 2D drawings of parts and assemblies leveraging 3D model annotations
DOES IT come with structural simulation tools?	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Simulation is included with SOLIDWORKS Premium SOLIDWORKS Simulation Standard, Professional, and Premium are available separately	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Simulation is included with SOLIDWORKS Premium SOLIDWORKS Simulation Standard, Professional, and Premium are available separately Advanced simulation tools are available in the **3D**EXPERIENCE Works portfolio	Yes — **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Simulation Designer is included with **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Premium Structural Designer, Structural Mechanics Engineer, and other advanced simulation tools are available in the **3D**EXPERIENCE Works portfolio	No — Structural Designer, Structural Mechanics Engineer, and other advanced simulation tools are available in the **3D**EXPERIENCE Works portfolio
DOES IT come with visualization and rendering tools?	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Visualize Standard is included with SOLIDWORKS Professional and Premium for rendering images	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Visualize Standard is included with SOLIDWORKS Professional and Premium for rendering images	Yes — SOLIDWORKS Visualize Professional is included with **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Professional and Premium for rendering images and animations	Yes — 3D Render is included with SOLIDWORKS Cloud for rendering images
WHAT other solutions are available to me?	All SOLIDWORKS add-ins Additional Partner Products available as part of the SOLIDWORKS Partner Program	All SOLIDWORKS add-ins Additional Partner Products available as part of the SOLIDWORKS Partner Program All **3D**EXPERIENCE Works roles	Compatible SOLIDWORKS add-ins All **3D**EXPERIENCE Works roles	All **3D**EXPERIENCE Works roles

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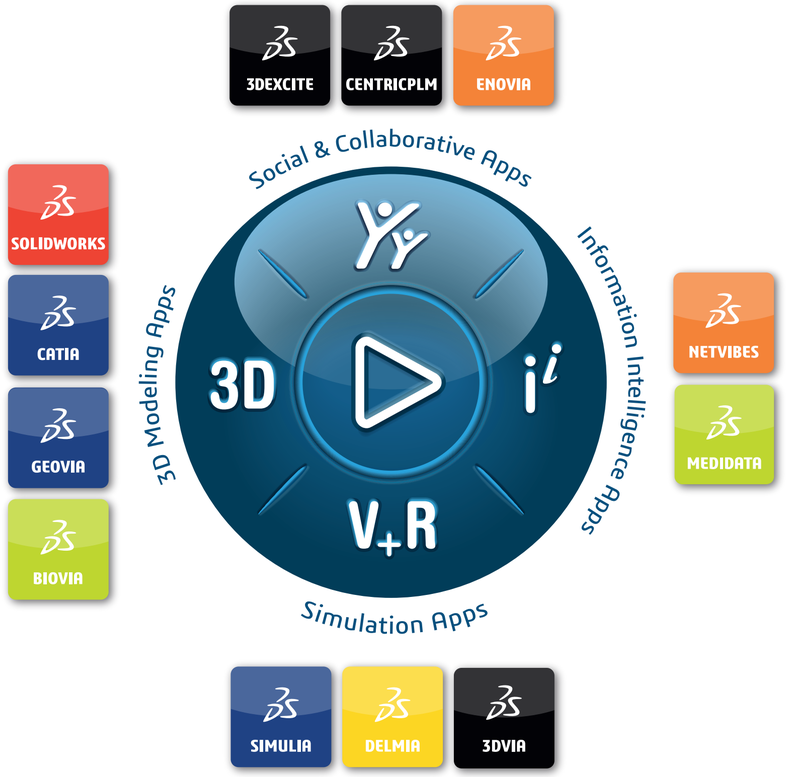
Licensing

	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD Desktop	SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD plus Collaborative Roles Desktop + Cloud	3DEXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Desktop + Cloud	SOLIDWORKS Cloud Cloud
WHAT IS the CAD license access model?	CAD is available as a perpetual license with subscription service **or** as a term license	CAD is available as a perpetual license with subscription service **or** as a term license Collaborative roles require a named user subscription license	Available as a named user subscription license	Available as a named user subscription license
ARE quarterly licenses available?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ARE standalone CAD licenses assigned to PCs?	Yes	Yes	No	No
HOW ARE CAD licenses managed on multiple PCs?	Network license is available and can be managed by an on-premise license manager Any user can access license, one concurrent user at a time	Network license is available and can be managed by an on-premise license manager Any user can access license, one concurrent user at a time Named user license is used to access collaborative roles	Named users can log in, install, and access the software on multiple PCs Named user can access the license, one concurrent user at a time	Named users can log in and access the software in a browser on any device Named user can access the license, one concurrent user at a time

Our **3D**EXPERIENCE® platform powers our brand applications, serving 11 industries, and provides a rich portfolio of industry solution experiences.

Dassault Systèmes, the **3D**EXPERIENCE Company, is a catalyst for human progress. We provide business and people with collaborative virtual environments to imagine sustainable innovations. By creating 'virtual experience twins' of the real world with our **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and applications, our customers push the boundaries of innovation, learning and production.

Dassault Systèmes' 20,000 employees are bringing value to more than 270,000 customers of all sizes, in all industries, in more than 140 countries. For more information, visit **www.3ds.com**.



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