

# Installing Autodesk 2012 Products: Activation and Post-Installation Tasks Transcript

## Activation and Registration

The first time you launch one of the Autodesk 2012 products after installation – I'll choose to launch AutoCAD 2012 – you will be prompted to activate the product. You can either activate your product at that time or choose the “Try” button and then activate it later. Until you register and activate one of the products, you're operating in trial mode and the activation dialog will be displayed each time you launch the product for a period of 30 days.

If, after 30 days of running your Autodesk 2012 products in trial mode, you have not yet activated the product, you will no longer be able to run the product without activation. Once you register and activate your Autodesk product, the activation dialog will no longer be displayed.

To begin the activation process, click the “Activate” button.

You then need to acknowledge that you have read the Autodesk Privacy Policy. This Privacy Policy covers how Autodesk treats all personal information collected or received from customers. After you review the Privacy Policy return to the installer, check the box, and click the “Continue” button.

The next step is to log into the Autodesk service using your user ID and password. If you previously registered other Autodesk products, you would've needed to create a user ID and password. If you haven't created one before, you can choose the option, “Create User ID Now” to do so. I'll continue logging in with my existing user ID and password.

From this screen I can select the account that I want to use to activate this product. Depending on how you registered products in the past, you could have multiple accounts to choose from. I'll choose the one account and click “Next”.

Now the activation process is complete and my Autodesk Design Suite Ultimate 2012 package has been activated. Even though I launched AutoCAD 2012 to begin the activation process, all products in the suite are now activated. Once

you've activated one suite product, you activate all the other installed products from that suite.

Now that the Design Suite has been activated, I'll click the "Finish" button and continue with the initial launch of AutoCAD 2012.

## **Autodesk Material Libraries**

Due to its size and infrequent usage by most AutoCAD customers, the 2012 Medium Resolution Image Library—the largest of the three libraries—was not included in the installer for many of the Autodesk 2012 products.

If the medium image library is not installed on your system, you will be notified when using the RENDER or RENDERCROP commands. Either of these commands will display a dialog giving you the option to automatically download and install the library or taking you to a page on Autodesk.com where you can manually download and install the library.

If you choose the "Get more information" option you'll be directed to the "Data & Downloads" section of the AutoCAD Services and Support page. From here, choose "Updates and Service Packs" and then choose the option under AutoCAD 2012 titled, "Autodesk Material Library Medium Resolution Image Library". From this page, you can select the zip file and manually download and install the library on your system.

The other option is to choose the option to "Install the medium images library." This option will automatically begin downloading the library in the background – you can get more details by selecting the link in the notification bubble. Once downloaded, the medium image material library will automatically extract and install itself the next time you close AutoCAD.

After installation, the library will be available to all Autodesk 2012 products that require it.

In the Autodesk suites there are multiple products that support the medium image library. Because none of the Media and Entertainment products support the in-product download method, the medium image library WILL be included in installers containing those products and can be installed as part of the suite.

## **Installing the VBA Enabler**

If you're using AutoCAD 2012, or an AutoCAD-based vertical product, you may need to install the VBA enabler.

First, I'll issue a command that relies on VBA like, VBAIDE. If VBA is not installed on your system, you see a message indicating as much and providing you the link to a location on Autodesk.com where you can download the VBA enabler module.

From this page, locate the appropriate release year—in this case, 2012—and operating system type—32-bit or 64-bit—and download the module. I'll the AutoCAD 2012 VBA module for 64-bit, and choose either the Save or Run buttons. While the module is downloading, I'll close the product in preparation for installation.

Once downloaded, run the self-extracting executable and click the "Install" button to extract the contents of the module to your local drive. When the extraction finishes, it will automatically launch the installer for the 2012 VBA enabler. Choose "Install", and then "Install" again to begin installation.

When installation is complete, click "Finish" to close the installer. You can then launch AutoCAD, or your AutoCAD-based vertical product, to verify that VBA is now enabled on your system.

## **Uninstalling Autodesk 2012 Products**

Now let's take a quick look at the process of uninstalling Autodesk 2012 products.

Open the control panel and select "uninstall a program". In this list, you'll see all of the Autodesk 2012 products that were installed as well as tools and utilities and plug-ins that may be used by those products.

The first thing to note is that each Autodesk product is listed separately and must be uninstalled separately. Even though you may have installed all of the products in a suite as one atomic installation operation, each individual product must be un-

stalled separately. There is no single operation to uninstall all products that were installed in a suite.

If you're going to uninstall a product, you should uninstall the related peripheral applications before uninstalling the main application. For example: if you're going to uninstall 3DS Max Design, you should first uninstall the FBX plug-in for 3DS Max Design. Uninstall this and any other related plug-ins and then uninstall the main application. This also applies to modules such as the VBA enabler or subscription advantage packs. You would repeat this process for every Autodesk application being uninstalled.

When uninstalling the Autodesk material libraries it's important to remember that these libraries are shared across all Autodesk 2012 products. For this reason you should not uninstall the Autodesk material libraries unless you have also uninstalled all Autodesk 2012 products from the system.

When uninstalling the material libraries, it's best to uninstall from largest to smallest. Begin by uninstalling the medium resolution image library, assuming that library is installed on your system, followed by the base resolution image library, and then the Autodesk material library. Again, these are shared libraries so don't remove them as long as there is another Autodesk 2012 product installed on the system.

If what you need to do is add or remove features from an Autodesk product, highlight the product in the list and select "uninstall/change". This will open that product's installer in a maintenance mode where you can choose "Add or Remove Features". From this screen you can then go through the list and remove features that were previously installed or add features that were not originally installed. Once done, select "Update" and the installer will apply your changes to the existing installation.

To repair or reinstall a product installation, follow the same steps and choose the "Repair or Reinstall" option. These options are good ones to use when something has gone wrong with your installation, for example, if you've accidentally altered or removed some files that are required by the Autodesk product and it isn't performing as expected or you are receiving error messages when trying to run commands that used to work.

The “Repair” option restores registry information and missing program files, putting the application back in a default state. This is a good first option when having product issues as it can often restore the state of the product in less time than doing a full reinstall.

If repairing the installation doesn't work, you can choose to do a reinstall. This option will repair the registry and reinstall all files relating to the Autodesk product installation. Use this option when the repair option does not resolve the problem.

Finally, if you want to remove an installed product from your system, choose the “Uninstall” option. When you uninstall a product, all components are removed from the system with the exception of the material libraries as previously described.

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Reference Video Series:

[2012:Activation and Post-Installation Tasks for Autodesk products and suites](#)