

Questions and Answers

mental ray® Standalone software is a high-performance rendering engine for generating images, from stylized to photorealistic. Although mental ray rendering technology is featured in certain Autodesk applications: Autodesk® Maya® 2011, Autodesk® 3ds Max® 2011, Autodesk® 3ds Max® Design 2011, Autodesk® Softimage® 2011 software, the standalone version is best suited for large-volume rendering projects.

Contents

1. General Product Information.....	2
1.1 What is mental ray?	2
1.2 What is the latest version of mental ray Standalone available?	2
1.3 When will mental ray Standalone 2011 be available?	2
1.4 What is new in mental ray Standalone 2011?	2
1.5 How can I purchase a license of mental ray Standalone?	2
2. Technology	2
2.1 What operating systems will mental ray 2011 support*?.....	2
2.2 Can I have both mental ray Standalone 32-bit and 64-bit in the same render farm?	3
2.3 Does the mental ray Standalone 2011 license unlock both 32-bit and 64-bit versions of mental ray?	3
2.4 What is the difference between the 32-bit and 64-bit versions of mental ray Standalone? ...	3
2.5 Is mental ray Standalone 2011 compatible with Maya 2011, 3ds Max 2011, 3ds Max Design 2011 and Softimage 2011?	3

1. General Product Information

1.1 What is mental ray?

mental ray Standalone is an offline rendering product. It works independently of Maya, 3ds Max, 3ds Max Design and Softimage software through a command-line interface, or acts as the foundation of distributed rendering solution when used with Maya, 3ds Max, 3ds Max Design or Softimage. mental ray Standalone is used primarily when additional rendering capabilities are required beyond the built-in mental ray capabilities of these Autodesk applications. mental ray is typically used in an internal render farm setup and can be used to supplement and accelerate interactive rendering (for example, Maya software's interactive photorealistic rendering).

1.2 What is the latest version of mental ray Standalone available?

mental ray Standalone 2011 for Maya 2011, 3ds Max 2011, 3ds Max Design 2011 and Softimage 2011 is the latest version. For mental ray compatibility with earlier versions of Autodesk products please see the compatibility table.

1.3 When will mental ray Standalone 2011 be available?

mental ray Standalone 2011 is scheduled to ship on or after April 7, 2010.

1.4 What is new in mental ray Standalone 2011?

mental ray Standalone 2011 software delivers new features and enhancements designed to help studios produce higher-volume, higher-quality renderings for today's complex film, television, and design visualization productions in less time. Now available as a single executable that works with Maya 2011, 3ds Max 2011, 3ds Max Design 2011, and Softimage 2011, mental ray Standalone 2011 provides extra flexibility in a mixed application pipeline. With accelerated performance and improved memory handling; higher quality final gathering and texture filtering; a new physically accurate interactive rendering mode; and optimized stereoscopic rendering, mental ray Standalone 2011 represents significant advancements in high-performance rendering.

1.5 How can I purchase a license of mental ray Standalone?

mental ray 2011 can be purchased through a local Autodesk software reseller. To locate a reseller, visit www.autodesk.com/reseller.

2. Technology

2.1 What operating systems will mental 2011 support*?

32-bit

- Microsoft® Windows® 7 Professional operating system
- Microsoft® Windows® Vista Professional operating system (SP1)
- Microsoft® Windows® XP operating system (SP2)

64-bit

- Microsoft Windows 7 Professional x64 Edition
- Microsoft Windows Vista Professional (SP1)
- Microsoft Windows XP x64 Edition (SP2)
- Apple® Mac OS® X 10.6.2 operating system
- Fedora® Core 11 operating system (64-bit only)
- Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® 5.4 operating system

mental ray Standalone 2011 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

2.2 Can I have both mental ray Standalone 32-bit and 64-bit in the same render farm?

Yes, this is possible.

2.3 Does the mental ray Standalone 2011 license unlock both 32-bit and 64-bit versions of mental ray?

Yes. The license for this latest version of mental ray unlocks both the 32-bit and 64-bit versions. mental ray Standalone customers with an active Autodesk® Subscription contract will receive access to mental ray Standalone 2011 and will have the option to use either the 32-bit or 64-bit version of mental ray Standalone 2011.

2.4 What is the difference between the 32-bit and 64-bit versions of mental ray Standalone?

The main difference between the 32-bit and the 64-bit versions is that the 64-bit version has the ability to handle larger and more complex scenes, thanks to a much larger memory addressing capacity.

2.5 Is mental ray Standalone 2011 compatible with Maya 2011, 3ds Max 2011, 3ds Max Design 2011 and Softimage 2011?

Yes. mental ray Standalone 2011 is a single executable that will work with Maya 2011, 3ds Max 2011, 3ds Max Design 2011 software, and Softimage 2011 software.

** Autodesk is not responsible for errors or failures of Autodesk software arising from the installation of updates, extensions or new releases issued by third party hardware or software vendors for the certified software or hardware identified in this document (or for any other third party software or hardware that you may use in connection with Autodesk products).*

Autodesk, Maya, Softimage and 3ds Max are registered trademarks of Autodesk, Inc., and/or its subsidiaries and/or affiliates in the USA and other countries. mental ray is a registered trademark of mental images GmbH licensed for use by Autodesk, Inc. All other brand names, product names, or trademarks belong to their respective holders. Autodesk reserves the right to alter product and services offerings, and specifications and pricing at any time without notice, and is not responsible for typographical or graphical errors that may appear in this document.

© 2010 Autodesk, Inc. All rights reserved.