

## How To Uninstall and Remove SOLIDWORKS Products

TITLE:	How To Uninstall And Remove SOLIDWORKS Products
DATE:	September 2024
SUBJECT:	SOLIDWORKS Install
ABSTRACT:	Guide for removing and installing SOLIDWORKS software



If you are experiencing serious issues with your SOLIDWORKS software, you may need to fully uninstall the program and all associated programs and files before attempting to reload the software. This document covers how to do this complete removal of the product.

This information is subject to change without notification. Please make sure you are using the most current version of the document. If you have any questions or find that there are discrepancies between this document and the SOLIDWORKS website or documentation, please contact <u>Hawk Ridge Systems</u> technical support.

This is not a troubleshooting guide. If you have any technical issues with SOLIDWORKS, please contact <u>Hawk Ridge Systems technical support</u>.

©2024 Hawk Ridge Systems



### Contents

Before Uninstalling SOLIDWORKS	2
Deactivating Licenses	2
Creating Backups	2
Jninstalling SOLIDWORKS	3
After Uninstalling SOLIDWORKS	7
Cleaning the Registry and Folders for SOLIDWORKS	7
Appendix A –Settings Wizard	9
Appendix B – Backing up PDM Registry	9
Appendix C – Microsoft Fix-It Tool	10
Appendix D - Removing PDM	14

### **Before Uninstalling SOLIDWORKS**

Prior to uninstalling a standalone installation of SOLIDWORKS, please ensure that the licenses are deactivated, and backups of any data files and registry keys are created.

### **Deactivating Licenses**

License will need to be deactivated so that they can be reactivated on a different machine. For detailed steps on this, please see our guide for <u>Transferring/Deactivating a SOLIDWORKS Standalone License</u>.

### **Creating Backups**

It is recommended to create backups of both your current user settings and custom files before uninstalling SOLIDWORKS.

During the uninstall process, the paths that will be removed are listed, so please ensure that you have any backups of any files that may be stored in those locations. Some of the folders are hidden by default. They can be browsed to by manually typing in the folder path into Windows Explorer or <u>showing the hidden folders</u>.

Regarding registry setting backups, please reference <u>Appendix A</u> on the steps to use the Settings Wizard for saving your SOLIDWORKS user settings. and <u>Appendix B</u> for creating a PDM registry backup if it is being used.



# Uninstalling SOLIDWORKS

- 1. Make sure you are logged in as the Administrator.
- 2. Type "Control Panel" into the Windows search line to pull up the **Control Panel** and select **Uninstall a program**.
- 3. Right-click on SOLIDWORKS from the list and select Uninstall in order to launch the SOLIDWORKS Installation Manager.

- 🧁 🕆 🗖 > Control P	anel > Programs > Programs and Features			~	ර් Search Program	ns and Features	٩
Control Panel Home	Uninstall or change a program						
View installed undates	To universally a second second state from the list on data	-Kab Universall, Channes, an Danaia					
Tues Windows features on as	to uninstall a program, select it from the list and then	click Uninstall, Change, or Repair.					
off	itures on or		8:: -	0			
	organize + Uninstan Change					8 *	0
	Name	Publisher	Installed On	Size	Version		
	🔇 Citrix VM Tools	Citrix	7/27/2022	10.8 MB	9.3.0		
	S Citrix XenServer Windows Management Agent	Citrix	2/14/2022	9.03 MB	7.1.1020		
	💿 Google Chrome	Google LLC	10/24/2024		130.0.6723.59		
	💽 Microsoft Edge	Microsoft Corporation	9/17/2024		128.0.2739.79		
	Microsoft Edge WebView2 Runtime	Microsoft Corporation	9/17/2024		128.0.2739.79		
	Hicrosoft Visual C++ 2013 Redistributable (x64) - 12	Microsoft Corporation	2/15/2022	20.5 MB	12.0.30501.0		
	BMicrosoft Visual C++ 2015-2022 Redistributable (x64)	Microsoft Corporation	9/17/2024	20.6 MB	14.40.33810.0		
	Microsoft Visual C++ 2015-2022 Redistributable (x86)	Microsoft Corporation	9/17/2024	18.0 MB	14.40.33810.0		
	Microsoft Visual Studio Tools for Applications 2022	Microsoft Corporation	9/17/2024	23.4 MB	17.0.33529		
	SINVIDIA Graphics Driver 537.42	NVIDIA Corporation	8/13/2024		537.42		
	NVIDIA HD Audio Driver 1.3.40.14	NVIDIA Corporation	8/13/2024		1.3.40.14		
	🔚 NVIDIA RTX Desktop Manager 204.26	NVIDIA Corporation	8/13/2024		204.26		
	📸 Paperspace Agent	Paperspace	8/13/2024	207 MB	13.3.8888.20179		
	Razer Surround	Razer Inc.	2/15/2022	175 MB	1.05.28		
	Razer Synapse	Razer Inc.	2/15/2022	29.4 MB	2.21.24.41		
	SOLIDWORKS 2025 Pre Release 1	SolidWorks Corporation	9/17/2024		33.0.0.4040		
	Uninstall	Dassault Systemes SolidWorks C	9/17/2024	824 KB	24.31.33302.0		
	Change	Microsoft	9/17/2024	32.0 MB	8.100.26866		



4. You will be shown a list of SOLIDWORKS products that are loaded on this system. Select the programs you wish to remove.

Summary			
Summary			
You have chosen to uninstall SOLI	DWORKS products.		
Select the products that you want	to uninstall. Unselected products will remain on the compute	r.	
SOLIDWORKS 2025 PR1			
eDrawings 2025 PR1			
SOLIDWORKS File Utilities 20	25 PR1		
SOLIDWORKS Flow Simulatio	n 2025 PR1		
SOLIDWORKS Plastics 2025 P	R1		
SOLIDWORKS Composer 202	5 PR1		
SOLIDWORKS Inspection 202	5 PR1		
SOLIDWORKS Visualize 2025	SOLIDWORKS Visualize 2025 PR1		
SOLIDWORKS CAM 2025 PR1			
		A	
✓ Advanced Options		Change Ø	
Uninstall Method:	Standard Uninstall - Program Files and Folders		



5. If you wish to do a complete clean-uninstall (removal of all files including registry files), then click on the Change link next to the Advanced Options. There, you will be able to select Registry Entries to remove serial numbers and custom settings, Data Files and Folders to remove custom files such as Toolbox and Download Files and Folders to remove downloaded install files.

Note that the files and folders to be removed will be listed as well.

Once you have selected what you want to remove, click **Back to Summary**.

J JOLID WORKS	2				
Advanced Options					
Select the types of items to remove from this computer. Unselected ite	ms will remain on the computer.				
Program Files and Folders					
Program files and folders are removed by the standard uninstall.					
Registry Entries					
This will remove serial numbers and custom settings from the registry.					
Data Files and Folders This will delete custom files stored in the data folders, such as Toolbox. It will not delete any files or folder from other locations, other computers, or network locations.					
					Download Files and Folders
This will delete download files and folders from the original download location. It will not delete renamed or moved files and folder.					
Files and folders that will be removed:					
Program Files and Folder: C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\SOLIDWORKS CAM\ C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\SOLIDWORKS Visualize\ C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\SOLIDWORKS Inspection\	Û				
C-Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Coro\SOLIDWORKS Composed	*				



6. Click the **Remove Items** icon at the bottom of the screen to continue. (If you are using a standalone license and you have not deactivated your licenses already, a dialog will appear to allow you to deactivate currently activated licenses on the computer. The selected products will now be removed from the system.)



7. Press **OK** to continue.

If the uninstall fails, please see <u>Appendix C</u> for using the Microsoft Fix-It Tool to remove the software.



## After Uninstalling SOLIDWORKS

At this point, the SOLIDWORKS products have been removed from your machine. However, many folders, files, and registry keys may remain on your system. Using the advanced uninstall option in SOLIDWORKS should remove these files, but it is possible that some may have been missed. If you also wish to remove PDM registry keys, then you may check and see that those were removed by also checking the list in <u>Appendix D</u>.

If these items were the cause of your software issue, reinstalling the product without removing these will not fix the issue. This section covers how to check and safely remove all remaining items from your system.

Cleaning the Registry and Folders for SOLIDWORKS

The computer registry is where much of the information for all your programs are stored. This is accessed in the **Registry Editor** program.

1. Type "regedit" into the Windows search line and open the **Registry Editor** program from the search results.



Select **File**->**Export**, if you wish to back the registry to avoid any accidents on the following steps. It is not possible to undo a folder deletion in the registry, so that is why a backup is recommended.

If the registry keys need to be reimported later on, go into the Windows registry editor. Then go to **File**->**Import** and import the .reg files.

Re	gistry Editor	-	
File	Edit View	Favorites	Help
	Import		
	Export		

Important: You must be very careful to only delete the items specifically called out in this document. Any other items removed from this area may cause your system or other programs to not function correctly.



2. Continue by deleting the following registry key folders.

If you choose to only back up your PDM, then follow the steps in <u>Appendix B</u> of this document first, then return to this step.

Program Files and Folders:

- C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\SOLIDWORKS Composer\
- C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\SOLIDWORKS Explorer\
- C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\eDrawings\
- C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp\SOLIDWORKS\
- C:\Program Files\Common Files\SOLIDWORKS Shared
- C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\SOLIDWORKS Shared

#### **Registry Entries:**

- HKCU\Software\Dassault Systemes (Composer)
- HKCU\Software\SolidWorks
- HKCU\Software\SOLIDWORKS 20xx
- HKLM\Software\SolidWorks
- HKLM\Software\Wow6432Node\SolidWorks
- HKCU\Software\SRAC
- HKLM\Software\SRAC
- HKCU\Software\eDrawings
- HKLM\Software\eDrawings

Data Files and Folders:

- C:\SOLIDWORKS Data
- C:\ProgramData\SolidWorks
- C:\ProgramData\Dassault Systemes
- C:\ProgramData\DassaultSystemes



## Appendix A – Settings Wizard

Toolbar locations, command changes, keyboard shortcut hotkeys, and system options (including file locations) are saved in the registry. These registry settings can be saved by using the <u>Settings Wizard</u>.

For more detailed steps about saving and restoring settings, please see our <u>Save, Restore, or Reset</u> <u>SOLIDWORKS Settings</u> article.

## Appendix B – Backing up PDM Registry

Follow the instructions below to export and backup the PDM registry key folders before deleting the SOLIDWORKS registry folders.

- 1. Type "regedit" into the Windows search line and open the **Registry Editor** program.
- Right-click the registry key HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\SOLIDWORKS\Applications\PDMWorks Enterprise and select Export to save the Enterprise registry key.reg file.

AddInsStartup Applications	-
PDMWorks Enterpri	Expand
	New 🕨
	Find
	Delete
	Rename
	Export
	Permissions
	Copy Key Name

Continue saving .reg files for the following registry keys:

### HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\SOLIDWORKS\Applications\PDMWorks Enterprise

### HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Wow6432Node\SOLIDWORKS\Applications\PDMWorks Enterprise

## HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\SOLIDWORKS\Applications\PDMWork s Enterprise

www.hawkridgesys.com



## Appendix C – Microsoft Fix-It Tool

The Microsoft fix-it tool is only used for troubleshooting failed uninstallations. You should attempt to uninstall SOLIDWORKS through the SOLIDWORKS installation manager first, prior to using the fix-it tool.

The Microsoft Fix-it tool is designed to remove only the programs within the Windows Installer Registry. Because of this files, folders, data folders, templates, and SOLIDWORKS registry information will not be removed. If your regular uninstallation failed through the installation manager, it is possible to use the fix-it tool to remove necessary components to reinstall a newer version of SOLIDWORKS.

Again, this is recommended as a last resort if you cannot uninstall SOLIDWORKS due to an error and troubleshooting with support has not worked.

1. Download the Microsoft Fix-it tool

Download



2. Click **Next** on the bottom right of the Fix-it program.



3. Select **Uninstalling**.



4. Scroll through the list of programs and choose SOLIDWORKS and click **Next**.

Program Install and Uninstall troubleshooter	
Select the program you want to uninstall.	
If you do not see your program, select Not Listed	
SOLIDWORKS 2025 Pre Release 1	^
SOLIDWORKS CAM 2025 Pre Release 1	
SOLIDWORKS Composer 2025 Pre Release 1	
SOLIDWORKS Edrawings 2025 Pre Release 1	
SOLIDWORKS Flow Simulation 2025 Pre Release 1	
SOLIDWORKS Inspection 2025 Pre Release 1	
SOLIDWORKS Login Manager	
SOLIDWORKS Plastics 2025 Pre Release 1	



5. Select **Yes**, try uninstall.

Regram Install and Uninstall troubleshooter
SOLIDWORKS 2025 Pre Release 1 - Uninstall and cleanup?
Click cancel to exit the troubleshooter
→ Yes, try uninstall
$\rightarrow$ No, try other fixes
Cancel

This can take several minutes to finish. It is possible that after the program has finished running SOLIDWORKS can still appear inside your programs. If this happens uninstall SOLIDWORKS through the clean uninstall process previously outlined in the article and it will be removed.

If the Microsoft Fix-it tool is successful in removing SOLIDWORKS from your programs and features, then you will need to clean the registry and various other files and folders. Reference the <u>After Uninstalling</u> <u>SOLIDWORKS</u> section for these steps.



## Appendix D – Removing PDM

If performing this operation on a system where the archive or database server is installed, then your existing file vaults will become unusable while the registry key folders are removed. If you are uninstalling a PDM archive or database server, then please email us at <u>support@hawkridgesys.com</u> or call us at 877-266-4469 (US) or 866-587-6803 (Canada).

The computer registry is where all the information for all of your programs is stored. You must be very careful to only delete the items expressly called out in this document. Any other items removed from this area may cause your system, or other programs, to not function correctly.

- 1. Go to the **Control Panel** and choose **Uninstall a program**.
  - Programs and Features × ← → → ↑ 🛱 > Control Panel > Programs > Programs and Features ・ じ Search Programs and Features 
    の Control Panel Home Uninstall or change a program View installed updates To uninstall a program, select it from the list and then click Uninstall, Change, or Repair. Turn Windows features on or Organize • Uninstall Change Repair E · 0 Installed On Size Name Publisher Version 1.09 GB 462.59 NVIDIA Graphics Driver 462.59 NVIDIA Corporation 6/23/2021 7.93 MB 1.3.38.60 NVIDIA HD Audio Driver 1.3.38.60 **NVIDIA** Corporation 6/23/2021 NVIDIA Corporation NVIDIA RTX Desktop Manager 201.66 6/23/2021 59.4 MB 201.66 12.0 MB 2.36.0 NVIDIA WMI 2.36.0 NVIDIA Corporation 6/23/2021 Paperspace Agent 10/10/2022 131 MB 11.13.8292.30705 Paperspace Razer Surround Razer Inc. 11/2/2016 175 MB 1.05.25 30.2 MB 2.20.15.1031 CRazer Synapse 11/2/2016 Razer Inc. Salt Minion 2016.3.0 SaltStack, Inc 11/2/2016 2016.3.0 SOLIDWORKS PDM Server 2023 Pre Release 1 Dassault Systemes SolidWorks C... 10/11/2022 102 MB 31.00.4075 SOLIDWORKS SolidNetWork License Mana 10/11/2022 84.9 MB 31.00.4062 stemes SolidWorks C... Windows Driver Package - Citrix Systems Ir Change ms Inc. 11/2/2016 01/28/2015 7.2.0.51 Windows Driver Package - Citrix Systems Ir ms Inc. 11/2/2016 04/28/2015 7.2.0.17 Repair Windows Driver Package - Citrix Systems Inc. (Activity System 11/2/2016 11/03/2014 7.2.0.56 www.ms Inc. Windows Driver Package - Citrix Systems, Inc. (xeniface) Sy... Citrix Systems, Inc. 11/2/2016 03/25/2014 7.2.0.14 11/2/2016 06/20/2014 7.2.0.40 Windows Driver Package - Citrix Systems, Inc. (xenvbd) SC... Citrix Systems, Inc. WPTx64 9/8/2022 57.6 MB 8 100 26866 Microsoft Dassault Systemes SolidWorks Corp Product version: 31.00.4075 Support link: http://www.solidworks.com Help link: http://www.solidworks...Update information: http://www.solidworks.com
- 2. Find SOLIDWORKS PDM in the list and select it. Press Uninstall.

3. Go into the **Registry Editor** program. Then delete the following keys:

HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\SOLIDWORKS\Applications\PDMWorks Enterprise

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\SOLIDWORKS\Applications\PDMWorks Enterprise

 Delete any registry entries left under HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SharedDlls that reference PDM DLLs and executables. Note that the data value indicates how many times a DLL is being shared between different applications.



5. Go through all keys under the following registry key and ensure PDM is not listed (look for Display Name):

### HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\

6. Delete the following folders

### C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Enterprise PDM

#### C:\Users\Username\AppData\Local\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS Enterprise PDM.

For further assistance, please contact our support team at <u>support@hawkridgesys.com</u>, or 877-266-4469 (US) or 866-587-6803 (Canada).