

2021 Network Server Installation Guide

TITLE:	Network Server Installation Guide
DATE:	September 2020
SUBJECT:	SolidNetWork Server Install
ABSTRACT:	Comprehensive guide on installing a 2021 SOLIDWORKS SolidNetWork License server



This guide is written for SOLIDWORKS 2021. If you are using an earlier version of SOLIDWORKS, please download our earlier installation documents.

A SolidNetWork installation allows a company to install more seats of SOLIDWORKS than the number of licenses they have. The licenses are metered out by a server computer to make sure that only the number of licenses purchased is running at any given time.

The license manager software must reside on a server that all SOLIDWORKS users have access to over a network connection.

This is not a troubleshooting guide. If you have any technical issues with SOLIDWORKS, please contact [Hawk Ridge Systems technical support](#).

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Before Installation

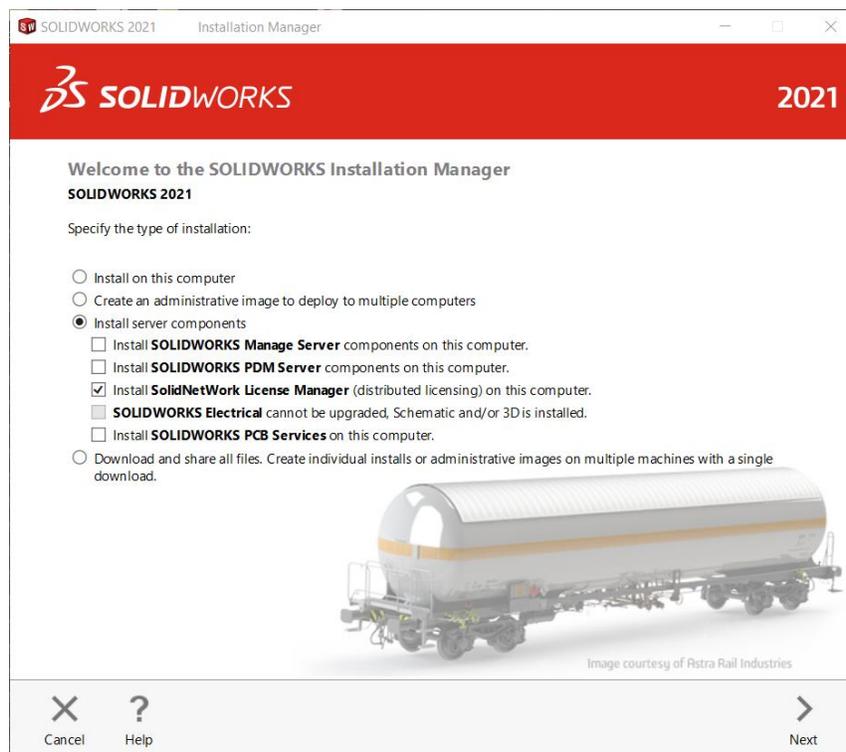
Hawk Ridge Systems highly recommends taking a moment before installing SOLIDWORKS and checking that you are ready to load your new software.

1. First, check links to ensure [minimum system requirements](#) and that your [video card](#) is compatible.
2. Next, please confirm that the hard drive has enough space to end up with at least 15% free space, after the full installation has completed so your new software will work as expected. Back-up any older SOLIDWORKS data such as any working files, custom toolbox items, saved template files, design library, or other related data files. You can also save your settings with the [Copy Settings Wizard](#). SOLIDWORKS CAD is year specific, IE: not forward compatible, meaning older versions of SOLIDWORKS cannot open files from newer versions.
3. Login to your computer with full administrative rights.
4. Turn down the User Account Control setting (found in the Control Panel). To do this, press your Windows button, either on the screen or on the keyboard. Then type "UAC" followed by the enter key. The window that follows shows a vertical scroll bar. Make the setting "Never Notify" for the installation (requires restarting the computer to take effect) and change it back after installing, if you prefer.
5. Disable all anti-virus and anti-spyware tools.

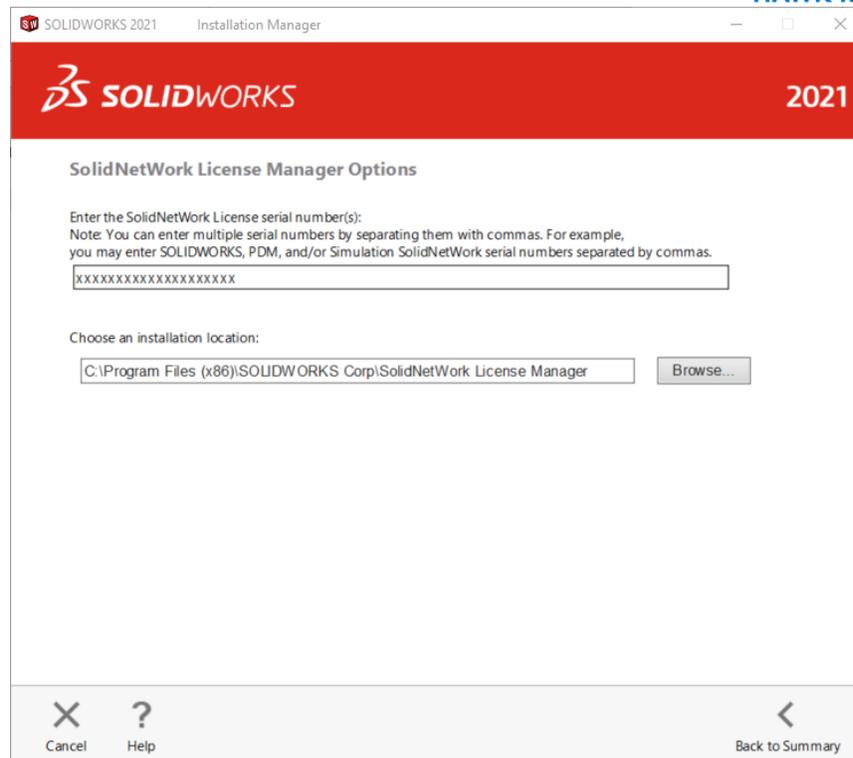
Basic Install

The SolidNetWork License Manager is installed from the SOLIDWORKS installation download or disc. It uses the same installation manager as other SOLIDWORKS products. You will need to download the SOLIDWORKS Installation Manager to download and install SOLIDWORKS. Beginning with SOLIDWORKS 2021, DVD distribution media is provided only on [request](#).

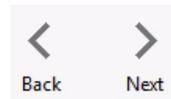
1. Please go to the [SOLIDWORKS download page](#) and choose the SOLIDWORKS year version that you would like to install. (Please note that you will need to login before you can get to that website.) Follow the instructions to download and start the executable. Also, if you have one, you can put in the SOLIDWORKS installation disc and start the Setup.exe.
2. The **Welcome** page of the installation manager will ask you to specify the type of installation you would like to perform. Select the **Install server components** radio button. Select the **Install SolidNetWork License Manager** checkbox.



3. Press the **Next** button to continue.
4. The **SNL Server Options** page is where you will need to enter your SOLIDWORKS serial number; if you have multiple serial numbers, you can enter them by separating them with commas. This page also shows the location where the license manager will be loaded. If you wish to change this default installation location, you can press the **Browse** button to search for another local folder on the server in which to load the software.



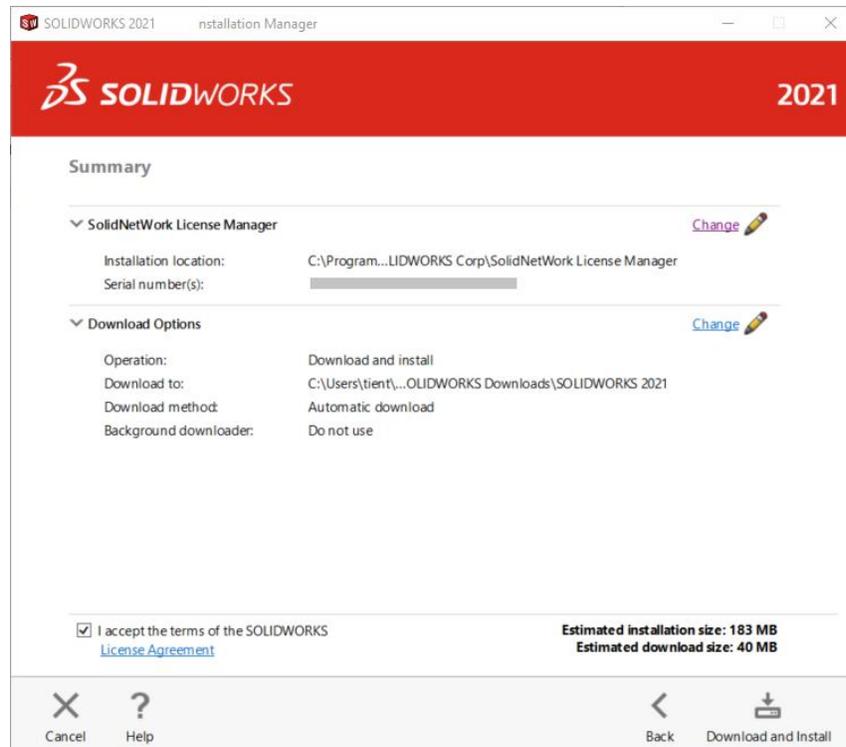
5. Press the **Next** button to continue.



6. The **Summary** page will appear and show your basic installation information. Under the SolidNetWork License Manager information, the serial number and location specified on the previous page are shown. If you wish to edit these, you can press the **Change** link on this line and return to the server options page. You can also edit the Download Options if you would like by pressing the **Change** button.



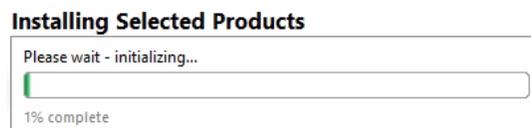
7. If you wish to edit your Download Options or Install Locations, you can press the arrow symbol (>) in front of the desired item. Press the **CHANGE** button on any of these summary items to customize them.



8. Press the **Install** or **Download and Install** button to continue.



9. Your installation will begin at this point.



10. When the installation is finished, you will be asked if you would like to participate in the Customer Experience Program. This will periodically send fault and user information to Dassault Systems SOLIDWORKS Corporation to improve product performance. You can answer **Yes**, **No**, or **Remind me later** to this option.

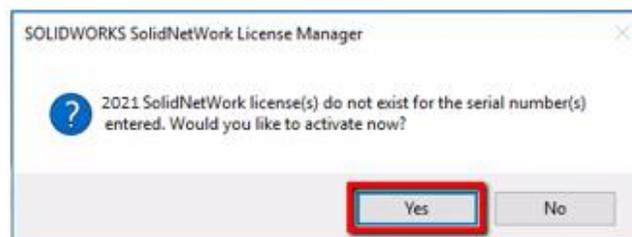
11. Press the **Finish** button to complete the installation.

The SolidNetWork License Manager is now loaded on your server but you will **now need to activate your licenses** to properly give clients access to using SOLIDWORKS.

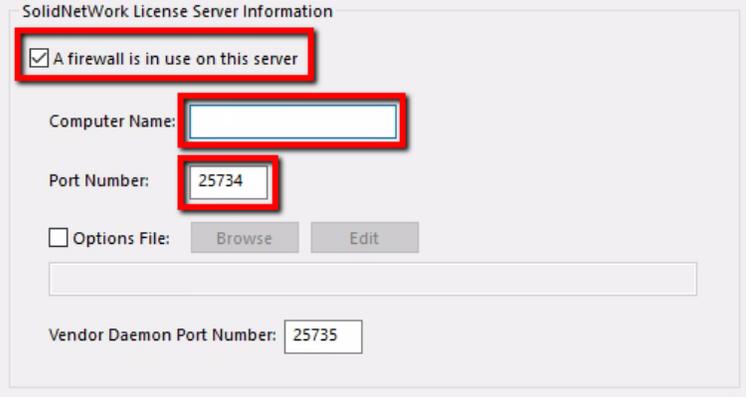
Activating Your Server

If you do not have internet access, see the [e-mail activation](#) section of this document.

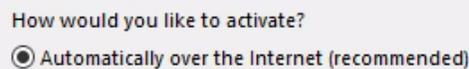
1. Go to **Start, All Programs, SOLIDWORKS 2021, SOLIDWORKS Tools, SolidNetWork License Manager Server.**
2. You will be asked if you would like to activate your licenses. Press the **Yes** button to continue.



3. The **SNL Server Information** page will ask for your computer name and port numbers. We suggest using the default ports unless it is currently in use. Also, most servers now have firewalls that will block the ports needed for networking. Turn on the option **A firewall is in use on this server** to lock these ports for use. Note: This is recommended for a computer without a firewall as well to lock the software to these two ports only.



4. Click the **Next** button to continue.
5. Choose to activate **Automatically over the internet.**



6. Click the **Next** button to continue.

- You will now connect to SOLIDWORKS over the internet and the product will be registered and activated. (Do not press the pictured Cancel button unless necessary.)



- Your SOLIDWORKS is now activated.

Result

Activation/Reactivation Succeeded.

Currently activated products

Product	#Licenses	Version	Expires
SOLIDWORKS PDM Professio...	3	27.0	permanent
SOLIDWORKS PDM Professio...	3	27.0	permanent
SOLIDWORKS Professional	10	27.0	permanent
SOLIDWORKS Manage Profes...	5	27.0	permanent
SOLIDWORKS Manage Profes...	5	27.0	permanent
SOLIDWORKS Manage Profes...	5	27.0	permanent

Refresh

Join the SOLIDWORKS Community

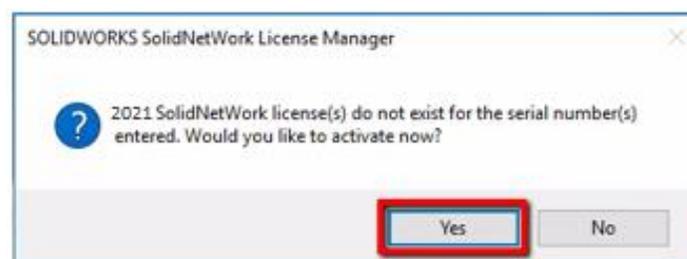
Find answers. Stay connected. [Join now!](#)

- Press the **Finish** button to complete.

SOLIDWORKS is now properly registered and activated. You can now load and run the SOLIDWORKS client machines that have access to this server.

E-mail Activation

- Go to **Start, All Programs, SOLIDWORKS 2021, SOLIDWORKS Tools, SolidNetWork License Manager Server.**
- You will be asked if you would like to activate your licenses. Press the **Yes** button to continue.





- The **SNL Server Information** page will ask for your computer name and port numbers. We suggest using the default ports unless it is currently in use. Most servers will have firewalls that will block the ports needed for networking; check on the **A firewall is in use on this server** to lock these ports for use. Note: This is recommended for a computer without a firewall as well to lock the software to these two ports only.

SolidNetWork License Server Information

A firewall is in use on this server

Computer Name:

Port Number:

Options File:

Vendor Daemon Port Number:

- Click the **Next** button to continue.
- Choose to activate **Manually via email**.

How would you like to activate?

Automatically over the Internet (recommended)

Manually via e-mail

- Click the **Next** button to continue.
- On the next page, press the Save button to create an activation request file.

Warning! Once you've saved this file, do not exit out of the activation window until you have completed the process and read in the response e-mail from SOLIDWORKS or you will not be able to run SolidNetWork License Manager.

SOLIDWORKS Product Activation

Manual Activation

1) Press Save to create a request file:

2) Email the request file to the following address to get a response file:
activation@solidworks.com

3) Press Open to load a response file:

Once you have read a response file press Next to continue. You may also press Cancel and rerun this wizard at a later time if necessary.



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8. Browse to a location on your computer to store this .TXT file and press the Save button. Copy this text file on to a disk or removable storage device and move it to a machine with internet access.
9. Send this file as an attachment to an e-mail and send it to activation@solidworks.com.
10. SOLIDWORKS will send a return e-mail with a different text file attached. Save this text file to a disk or removable storage space and move it to the machine awaiting activation.
11. In the activation wizard, press the Open button on the e-mail activation page.
12. Browse to the response file and press the Open button.
13. The next page will show you that your activation is complete.
14. Press the **Finish** button to complete.

SOLIDWORKS is now properly registered and activated. You can now load and run the SOLIDWORKS client machines that have access to this server.