

How To Install SolidNetWork License Manager Server

TITLE:	How To Install SolidNetWork License Manager Server
DATE:	September 2025
SUBJECT:	Installing SolidNetWork License Manager Server
ABSTRACT:	Guide to Installing SNL Server Components



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 CAD users have access to over a network connection, and must be the same year, or newer, than the licenses it distributes.

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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Contents

Before Installation	2
Basic Install.....	2
Activating Your Server	5
E-mail Activation.....	8

Before Installation

Hawk Ridge Systems recommends taking a moment before installing SOLIDWORKS to verify that you are ready to install by going through the points in the [Before Installing SOLIDWORKS Products](#) article.

Basic Install

The SolidNetWork License Manager is installed from the SOLIDWORKS installation downloads page; it uses the same installation manager as other SOLIDWORKS products. You will need to download the SOLIDWORKS Installation Manager to install the SOLIDWORKS License Manager Server.

Download the SOLIDWORKS Installation Manager by navigating to the [SOLIDWORKS download page](#), log in with your 3DEXPERIENCE ID, and choose the SOLIDWORKS year version that you would like to install.

If you are unable to access the downloads after logging in with your 3DEXPERIENCE ID, please see the guide here: [How to Access SOLIDWORKS Subscription Service Benefits and create a 3DEXPERIENCE ID? – Hawk Ridge Systems.](#)

1. From the downloaded file set, run the setup.exe file as administrator to launch the installation manager. You may receive a warning claiming that “a Windows reboot is pending from a previous installation.” Select “OK” in this dialogue to proceed.



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2. The Welcome page of the installation manager, select the **Install server components** radio button, then select the **Install SolidNetWork License Manager** checkbox, then press Next.



Welcome to the SOLIDWORKS Installation Manager

Specify the type of installation:


- Modify your installation
- Repair your installation
- Create an administrative image to deploy to multiple computers
- Install server components**
 - Install **SOLIDWORKS Manage Server** components on this computer.
 - Install **SOLIDWORKS PDM Server** components on this computer.
 - Install SolidNetWork License Manager** (distributed licensing) on this computer.
 - Install **SOLIDWORKS Electrical** (share data) on this computer.
- Download and share all files. Create individual installs or administrative images on multiple machines with a single download.




Image courtesy of Square Robot, Inc.




3. The Summary page will appear and show your installation location and download options. Pressing the Change button on these fields will allow you to edit the information.



Summary

▼ SolidNetWork License Manager [Change](#) 





Installation location: C:\Program...LIDWORKS Corp\SolidNetWork License Manager

▼ Download Options [Change](#) 

Operation: Download and install
Download to: C:\Solidworks... Download Media\SOLIDWORKS
Download method: Automatic download
Background downloader: Future service packs

I accept the terms of the SOLIDWORKS [License Agreement](#)

Estimated installation size: 382 MB
Estimated download size: 0 KB

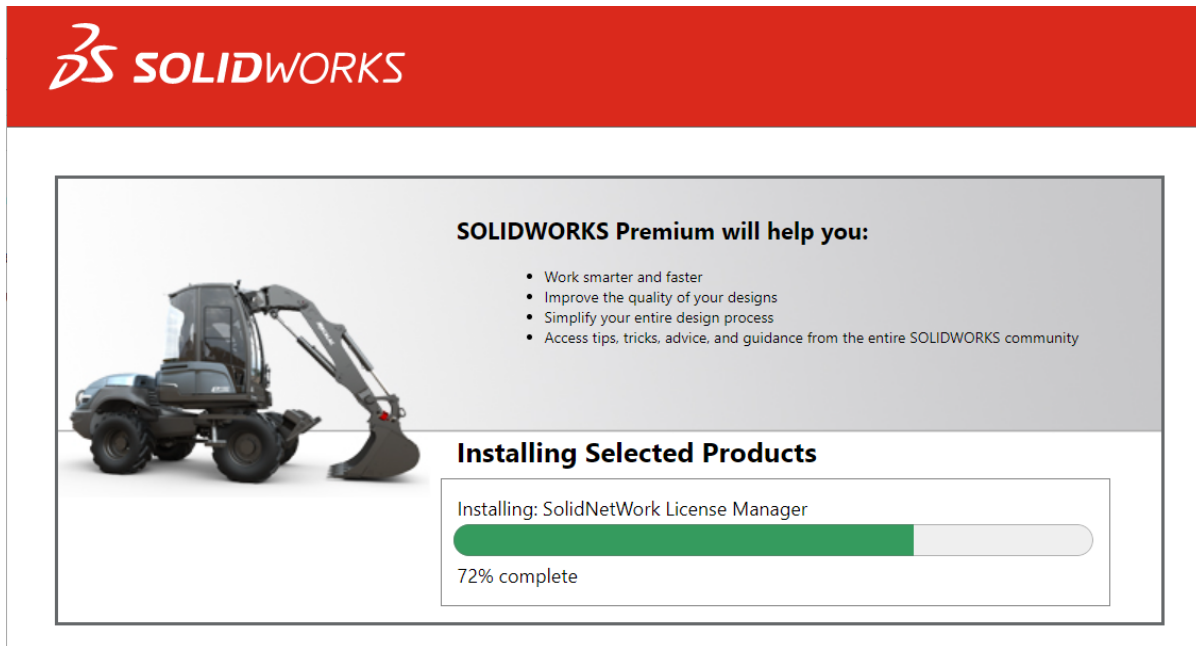
   

Cancel Help Back Download and Install



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4. Check the box to accept the license agreement, then press the Install (or Download and Install) button to begin the installation.



5. When the installation completes, press the Finish button.
6. Now that the SolidNetWork License Manager is now loaded on your server, you will need to activate your licenses on the server.

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 20XX > SOLIDWORKS Tools, SolidNetWork License Manager Server 20XX
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 the server computer name and port number. We suggest using the default ports unless it is currently in use.

Please note that most servers 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. This is also recommended for a computer without a firewall to lock the software to these two ports only.

Once the server name and port number have been entered, click the Next button to continue.

SolidNetWork License Server Information

SolidNetWork License Server Information

A firewall is in use on this server

Computer Name:

Port Number:

Options File:

Vendor Daemon Port Number:



4. Click 'Add' on the activation window to input your company's network serial numbers; each additional entry should be on a new line.


The screenshot shows the 'SOLIDWORKS Product Activation' dialog box. The title bar includes the SolidWorks logo and the text 'SOLIDWORKS Product Activation'. The main heading is 'Activate/Deactivate Your SOLIDWORKS Product'. Below this, a paragraph explains that a license key must be requested from SolidWorks and that the Activation Wizard will help collect the necessary information. There is a 'Serial#:' label followed by a large empty text box. To the right of this box are four buttons: 'Add' (highlighted with a blue border), 'Select All', 'Deselect All', and 'Remove'. Below the text box, the question 'How would you like to activate?' is followed by two radio button options: 'Automatically over the Internet (recommended)' (which is selected) and 'Manually via e-mail'. Underneath, the section 'Contact Information (Required):' contains an 'E-mail:' label and an empty text box. At the bottom of the dialog, there is a footer area with five buttons: 'About...', '< Back', 'Next >', 'Cancel', and 'Help'. A privacy notice at the bottom states: 'We respect your privacy. To learn about how DS SolidWorks Corporation protects your privacy, please review our [Privacy Policy](#).'

5. Select 'Automatically over the internet (recommended)' and enter your E-mail.









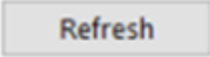
6. Click the 'Next' button to activate your licenses. A confirmation window indicating the status of the activation will be displayed.

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



Join the SOLIDWORKS Community

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

The SOLIDWORKS License Manager Server 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

1. Go to Start, All Programs, SOLIDWORKS 20XX, 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. Most servers will have firewalls that will block the ports needed for networking; check on the "A firewall is in use on this server" option 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

SolidNetWork License Server Information

A firewall is in use on this server

Computer Name:

Port Number:

Options File:

Vendor Daemon Port Number:

4. Click the Next button to continue.
5. Click Add, and place in your serial numbers. If you have multiple serial numbers, start a new line for each entry (Shown in previous section).

6. Choose to activate Manually via email.

How would you like to activate?

Automatically over the Internet (recommended)

Manually via e-mail

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

Warning! Once you have 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.

Manual Activation

- 1) Press Save to create a request file:

Save...

- 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:

Open...

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.

9. Browse to a location on your computer to store this .TXT file and press the Save button. Copy this text file onto a disk or removable storage device and move it to a machine with internet access.



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10. Send this file as an attachment to an e-mail and send it to activation@solidworks.com.
11. 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.
12. In the activation wizard, press the Open button on the e-mail activation page.
13. Browse to the response file and press the Open button.
14. The next page will show you that your activation is complete.
15. 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.

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