How To Install PDM Standard Server

TITLE:	How To Install PDM Standard Server
DATE:	September 2026
SUBJECT:	PDM Standard Server Installation
ABSTRACT:	Comprehensive guide on installing the SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard Server



This guide is written for administrators of SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard. The goal of this guide is to detail the steps necessary for an administrator to successfully install the server components of the PDM Standard installation. Please see the installation guide for the PDM Client for information about installing that component.

SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard is used to securely store and manage files. The server components of PDM Standard run as services.

This is not a troubleshooting guide. If you have any technical issues with SOLIDWORKS, please search the Hawk Ridge Systems Help Center, or 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. First, ensure that your system meets the minimum system requirements for the products you are installing.

Below are the primary operating system and software requirements for SOLIDWORKS PDM Server components.

	SOLIDWORKS 2025	SOLIDWORKS 2026	SOLIDWORKS 2027
Server Products (e.g. SOLIDWORKS PDM, SNL Manager)			
Windows Server 2025	✓ (SW2025 SP3)	✓	✓
Windows Server 2022	✓	✓	✓
Windows Server 2019	✓	✗	✗

	SOLIDWORKS 2025	SOLIDWORKS 2026	SOLIDWORKS 2027
MS SQL			
SQL 2025	✗	✓	✓
SQL 2022	✓	✓	✓
SQL 2019	✓ SQL 2019 CU22 required	✓ SQL 2019 CU22 required	✗

Below are the basic hardware requirements for a SOLIDWORKS PDM server.

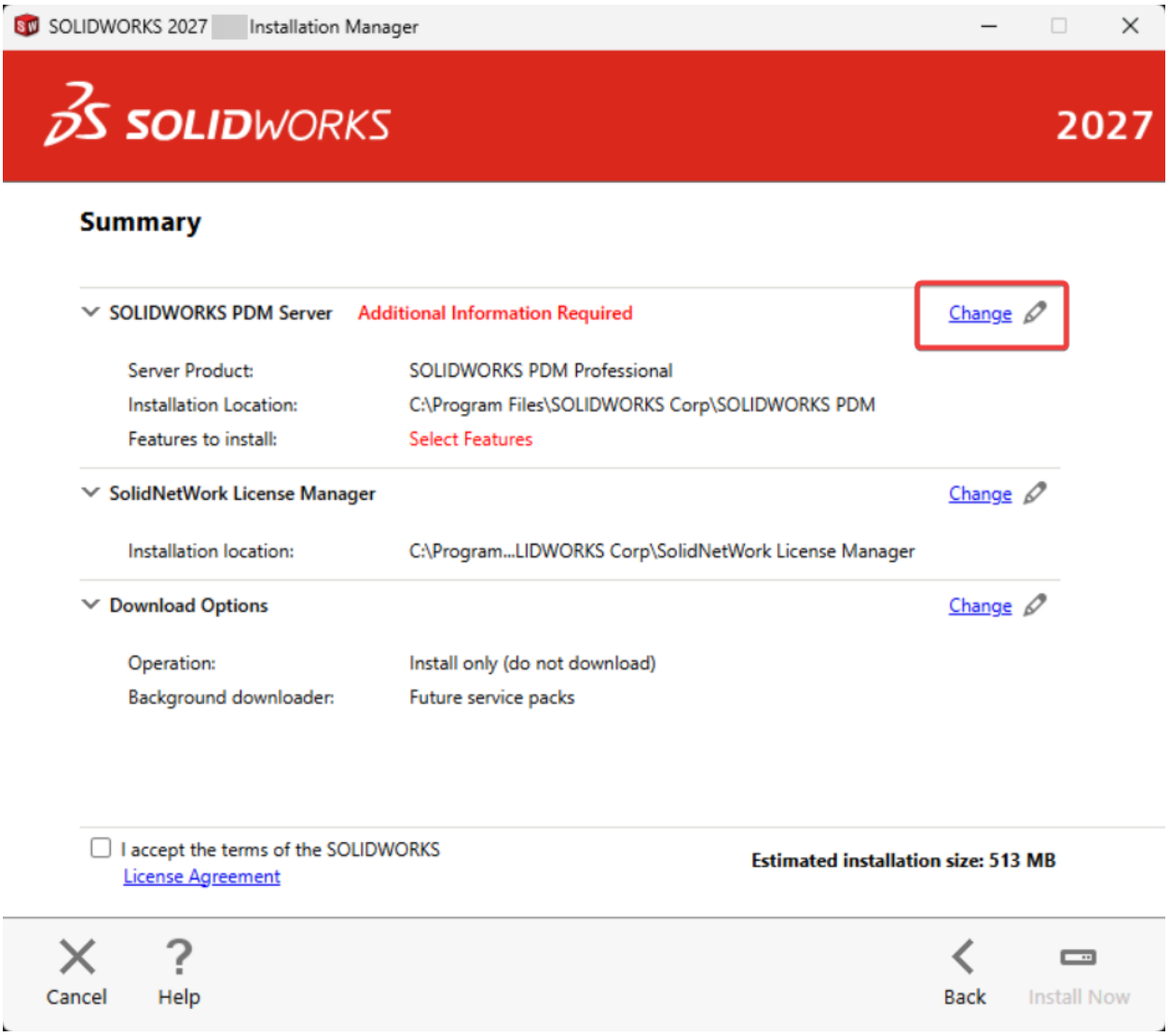
	SOLIDWORKS 2025	SOLIDWORKS 2026	SOLIDWORKS 2027
Hardware			
Processor	x86_64 (Intel 64 or AMD64)		
RAM	16 GB (32 GB recommended) PDM Contributor/Viewer or Electrical Schematic: 8 GB (16 GB recommended)		
Graphics / GPU	Certified cards and drivers		
Drives	SSD drives recommended for optimal performance		

SOLIDWORKS also supports a small number of virtual environments for the PDM Server components.

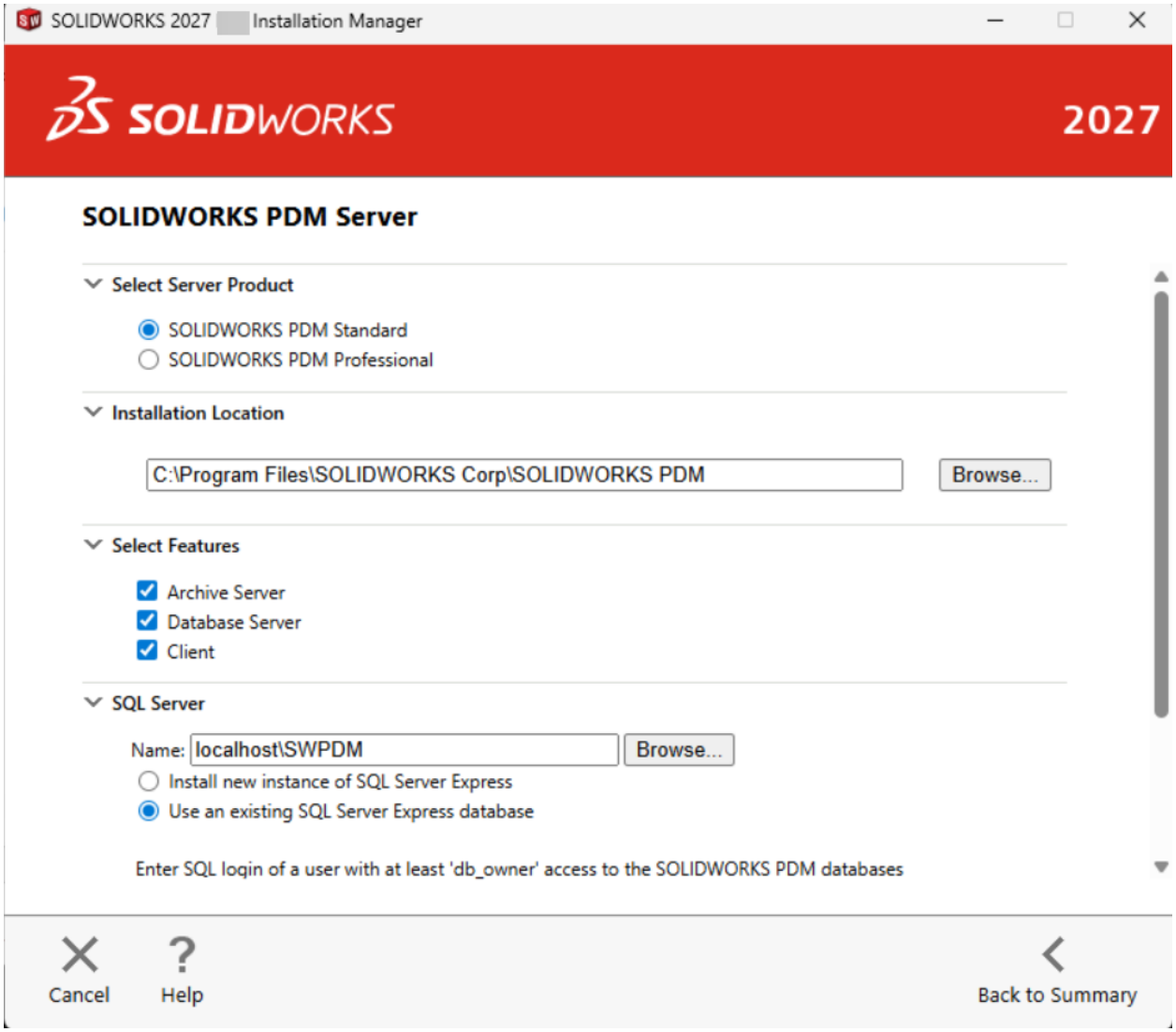
	SOLIDWORKS 2025	SOLIDWORKS 2026	SOLIDWORKS 2027
Hypervisors (Virtual Environments)			
VMware vSphere ESXi	8.0.3 U3	8.0.3 U3g	To be announced
VMware Workstation	17.6.0	17.6.4	To be announced
Microsoft Hyper-V	2022	2025	To be announced
Parallels Desktop, Mac	20.2.0	26.0.1	To be announced
Citrix XenServer	To be announced	To be announced	To be announced

Installation of PDM Standard Server Components

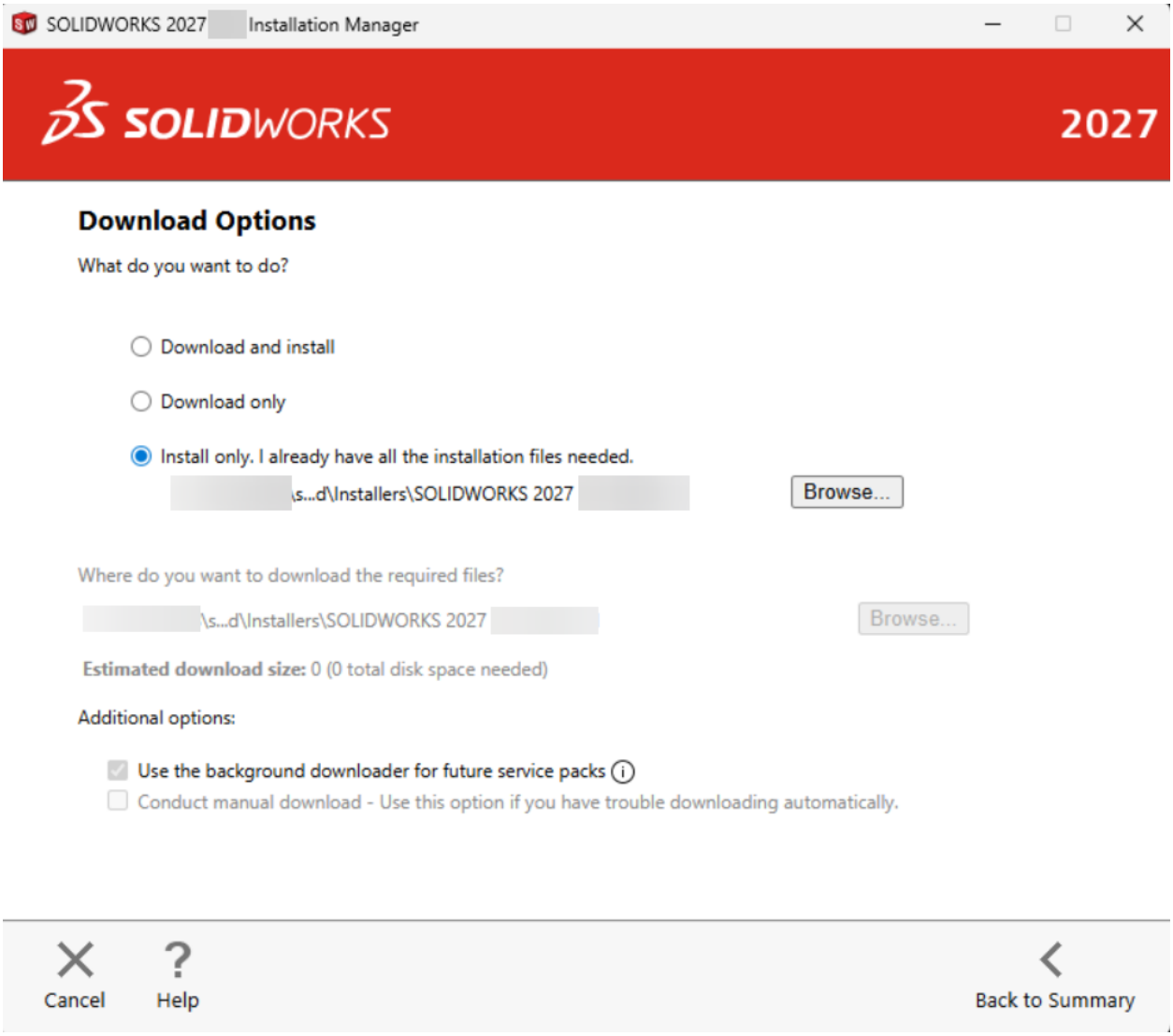
1. Run the "Setup.exe" file inside your downloaded installation folder.
2. Select "Install server components" > "Install SOLIDWORKS PDM Server," and "Next."
3. If you had selected to install the SolidNetWork License Manager on the previous page, please enter your PDM serial number in the appropriate field and press "Next."
4. Select "Change" next to "SOLIDWORKS PDM Server" on the Summary page.



5. Select "SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard," check both "Archive Server" and "Database Server," input your SQL Server login information to either use an existing instance or create a new one, and then select "Back to Summary." Please take note that it is recommended to install the "Client" component as well. We also recommend downloading and installing the Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio tool when installing a new instance.



6. Select "Change" next to "Download Options" to verify that your download options are correct. Adjust these as needed and select "Back to Summary."



7. Accept the terms of the SOLIDWORKS License Agreement and select "Install Now" or "Download and Install" depending on your selection in "Download Options."

8. If the installation prompts a restart of the computer, this should be followed accordingly. After this is finished, the PDM Standard Server installation is complete.

For additional support, existing customers can submit a ticket or new customers can contact Hawk Ridge Systems.