

Autodesk® Revit® Architecture
Autodesk® Revit® MEP
Autodesk® Revit® Structure

Questions and Answers

This document provides questions and answers about using Autodesk® Revit® Architecture, Autodesk® Revit® MEP, or Autodesk® Revit® Structure software with Boot Camp®, part of Mac OS® X that enables you to install and run Microsoft® Windows® (and Windows-based applications) on a Mac® computer or with Parallels Desktop, a system utility available from Parallels, Inc. that allows users to run applications in each operating system without restarting their computer.

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1. Can I install Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, or Autodesk Revit Structure on a Mac computer?

Yes, you can install Autodesk Revit Architecture 2010, Autodesk Revit MEP 2010, or Autodesk Revit Structure 2010 (32- or 64-bit) on a Mac computer on a Windows partition. The system must use Boot Camp or Parallels to manage a dual OS configuration and meet the minimum system requirements.

2. What is Boot Camp?

Boot Camp is a utility provided with the Mac OS X v10.5 (aka "Leopard"). You can install Windows® XP or Windows Vista® on an Intel-based Mac computer by partitioning the hard drive. The Boot Camp Assistant guides you through the process. After installation, use Boot Camp to operate your Mac using a dual boot system. You specify the required operating system (Windows OS or Mac OS)

when you start the computer. Once you start the computer, the selected OS runs in native mode. If you start the computer in Windows, you can install and run Windows applications at native speeds.

Note: You must purchase the Windows Operating System software separately.

3. What is Parallels Desktop?

Parallels Desktop for Mac is a system utility available from Parallels, Inc. It maps the hardware resources of the host computer to a virtual machine using a guest operating system. Use the utility to run applications in the required operating system without restarting.

Note: You must purchase the Windows Operating System software and the Parallels Desktop software separately.

Note: Your Mac must have enough memory to run the Mac OS X and your Mac applications. It also needs memory for the virtual machine's operating system and the applications installed on the virtual machine.

4. How does Boot Camp differ from Virtualization?

Boot Camp is a dual boot configuration that allows the selected operating system to run in native mode. Use virtualization to start the computer using the Mac OS, and then use Parallels to start the Windows OS as a virtual machine. You can then run applications in each operating system without restarting the computer.

5. Is Parallels Desktop the only supported Mac virtualization solution?

Autodesk has tested Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, and Revit Structure running under Parallels Desktop and it is officially supported. Autodesk has not tested and does not recommend using Revit-based products with other virtualization software.

6. Which configuration provides the best performance?

For maximum performance, use Boot Camp to run Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure in a native Windows OS. For small to medium sized assemblies, Parallels provides greater convenience and good performance.

7. What about licensing?

You can use either a standalone or network license of Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure. Using the system as the network license server is not supported.

Note: The Revit licensing engine is sensitive to hardware configuration changes in stand-alone licensing mode. Hardware configuration changes can cause licensing issues when you use Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure in both Boot Camp and Parallels on the same machine. The first time the licensing engine encounters a hardware configuration change, it attempts to recover from the error. Close the licensing error dialog box the first time it is encountered and restart Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure in either Boot Camp or Parallels. You can usually recover from the first license error using this method.

The licensing engine may not recover from subsequent changes. Do not perform further hardware configuration changes after recovering from the first licensing error. If you use Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure in Boot Camp

and Parallels on the same computer and expect to make hardware configuration changes, use network licensing.

8. Who do I contact for support?

- For questions and issues related to Mac operating systems or Boot Camp, contact Apple.
- For questions and issues related to Parallels, contact Parallels.
- For questions and issues related to Windows operating systems, contact Microsoft.
- For questions and issues related to Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure, contact your re-seller or Autodesk.

9. What are the Mac hardware requirements?

Operating System	Mac OS X 10.5.x.
Processor	Intel-based Mac (64-bit Windows Vista requires an Intel® Core™ 2 duo or Xeon® processor).
RAM	3-GB minimum Recommend 4-GB for 32-bit guest OS, 8-GB or more for 64-bit guest OS.
Disk space	Minimum 20-GB for the Mac OS partition, minimum 20-GB for the guest OS partition.
Boot Camp	V 2.0 or higher.

10. What are the Windows system requirements?

Operating System*	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows XP 32-bit, SP2 or higher (Home or Professional). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Do not install an earlier version of Windows and attempt to update it to SP2 later. • Windows Vista 32-bit, SP1 or higher (Home Premium, Business, or Ultimate). • Windows Vista 64-bit, SP1 or higher (Home Premium, Business, or Ultimate). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Requires Intel Core 2 Duo or Xeon processor.
Browser	Internet Explorer® 6, SP1 or higher.
Graphics Display	1280 x 1024 monitor and display adapter capable of 24-bit color. Dedicated video card with hardware support for Microsoft® DirectX® 9 or later recommended.

*For additional information, refer to the system requirements for Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure.

11. What are the Parallels system requirements?

Operating System	Mac OS X 10.5.x.
Parallels version	Parallels Desktop 4.0 (4.0.3844 or higher)
Processor	Intel-based Mac (64-bit Windows Vista requires an Intel Core 2 duo or Xeon processor).
RAM	4-GB minimum Recommend 6-GB system memory for 32-bit Windows OS, 8-GB or more for 64-bit Windows OS.
Disk space	Minimum 40-GB available disk space; Recommend 100-GB disk space available.

12. How do I use Boot Camp?

For answers to common questions, visit:

<http://www.apple.com/support/bootcamp/>

The basic steps to install Boot Camp are:

- In the Mac OS, locate the Boot Camp Assistant in the Applications > Utilities area.
- Print the Installation and Setup Guide.
- Follow the instruction contained in the Boot Camp Setup Guide to create and pre-format the Windows partition.
- Install Windows.

Warning! Do not format or install Windows on the Mac OS partition.

Note: To complete the install process, you will need access to the Leopard Operating System DVD to install the necessary Windows drivers.

13. After I configure Boot Camp, how do I specify which operating system to use?

You can specify the default Operating System in the Boot Camp assistant. Or, hold the Option key down when you start, and then choose the required operating system.

14. How do I use Parallels Desktop?

To purchase the software or obtain answers to common questions, visit: <http://www.parallels.com/>.

The recommended steps to install and configure Parallels Desktop are:

- Follow the steps to configure Boot Camp and create a Windows partition on the hard drive.
Note: This step is optional. However, a system with both a dual boot and virtual machine configuration provides the greatest flexibility to the user. Boot Camp can be configured before or after the Parallels install. Configure Boot Camp first to retain Windows customization.
- Start the computer in the Mac OS.
- Install Parallels Desktop. If a Boot Camp partition exists, Parallels Desktop detects and uses the Boot Camp partition.
- Once you have installed and configured Parallels Desktop, start Parallels Desktop and then start Revit Architecture, Revit MEP, or Revit Structure in a window. Use Full Screen mode to maximize the Windows application screen area. Use Coherence mode to integrate Windows applications fully in the Mac OS.

Note: The default Video memory configuration of the Virtual Machine is 128-MB. Do not increase this amount if you are using a 32-bit Windows OS. Increasing the amount of video memory the Virtual Machine consumes on a 32-bit Windows OS can cause instability.

15. Should I use a Fat32 or an NTFS partition?

When you install Windows, you can choose to format the Windows partition as Fat32 or NTFS. There are advantages and disadvantages to each. We recommend that you use NTFS.

Fat32

- Ability to read/write Windows files from the Mac OS
- Less secure (no permissions scheme)
- Maximum 32 GB partition size

NTFS

- More secure
- More space efficient
- Supports partition sizes greater than 32 GB
- Read-only in OS X

Notes for laptop users:

- If you are using the laptop keyboard, you may need to press the **fn** (function) key with the **control**, **alt (option)**, **delete** keys to start Windows.
- Because a notebook is configured to preserve battery life, the Power Options may need to be adjusted to take full advantage of processor speed. For example, a 2.8 GHz processor may be operating at 1.59 GHz to conserve power using the default Portable/Laptop setting.

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