

Updated On: 1 March, 2015

Autodesk is gradually transitioning new software purchases for our products to subscription options only. In the first phase of this transition, new seats of most individual desktop software products will generally be available only as a [Desktop Subscription](#) after 31 January, 2016.

Throughout this transition period, Autodesk and our partners will work with customers to make this transition as smooth as possible (and to deal with exceptional situations accordingly), and will provide as much advance notice as possible so that customers can anticipate and plan for these changes. The following FAQ has been prepared to address any questions about this transition.

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Latest Updates

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- 1.3 What products are affected?
- 2.4 I am currently sharing perpetual licences for individual products on a network. With this announcement, what options will be available to maintain or to buy new network licences?
- 2.5 What exactly is a “network subscription”?
- 2.6 When will a “network subscription” be available?
- 3.4 Will Maintenance Subscription customers be able to transition to a perpetual licence whilst remaining on Maintenance Subscription?
- 5.3 Is this a global change?

1. Overview

1.1 What is changing?

Effective 31 January, 2016, Autodesk will discontinue selling new perpetual (standalone or network) licences for most individual (non-suite) products. New Desktop Subscription licences for these products will be available as multi-year, annual, quarterly or monthly plans. Active Maintenance Subscription agreements on previously purchased perpetual licences will continue to be renewable.

1.2 Who is impacted by these changes?

Any company or individual who wishes to purchase new software licences of the products listed in Question 1.3 after 31 January, 2016, will only have the option to purchase as Desktop Subscription or term-based licences.

If you are a customer with an active Maintenance Subscription contract(s), see section 3 for details on licences, benefits and purchasing options. If you are on an Autodesk Enterprise Business Agreement, or a customer who is unable to utilise electronic delivery or web-accessed software, please refer to General Questions in Section 4.

1.3 What products are affected?

Autodesk plans to discontinue the sale of new perpetual licences in all countries globally where Autodesk software is available for most individual desktop software products. This affects the following products:

Autodesk® 3ds Max®	Autodesk® AutoCAD® MEP	Autodesk® Inventor® Professional
Autodesk® 3ds Max® with Softimage®	Autodesk® AutoCAD® P&ID	Autodesk® Maya®
Autodesk® Alias® AutoStudio	Autodesk® AutoCAD® Plant 3D	Autodesk® Maya LT™
Autodesk® Alias® Concept	Autodesk® AutoCAD® Raster Design	Autodesk® Maya® with Softimage®
Autodesk® Alias® SpeedForm	Autodesk® AutoCAD® Revit LT™ Suite	Autodesk® Motion Builder®
Autodesk® Alias® Surface	Autodesk® AutoCAD® Utility Design	Autodesk® Mudbox®
Autodesk® AutoCAD®	Autodesk® AutoCAD® Civil 3D®	Autodesk® Navisworks® Simulate
Autodesk® AutoCAD® for Mac®	Autodesk® Fabrication CADmep™	Autodesk® Navisworks® Manage™
Autodesk® AutoCAD® Architecture	Autodesk® Fabrication CAMduct™	Autodesk® Point Layout
Autodesk® AutoCAD® Inventor LT™ Suite	Autodesk® Fabrication ESTmep™	Autodesk® Revit® Architecture
Autodesk® AutoCAD LT®	HSMWorks Premium	Autodesk® Revit LT™
Autodesk® AutoCAD LT® for Mac®	HSMWorks Professional	Autodesk® Revit® Structure
Autodesk® AutoCAD LT® Civil Suite	Autodesk® Inventor HSM™	Autodesk® River and Flood Analysis
Autodesk® AutoCAD® Electrical	Autodesk® Inventor HSM™ Pro	Autodesk® Showcase®
Autodesk® AutoCAD® Map 3D	Autodesk® Inventor®	Autodesk® Structural Bridge Design
Autodesk® AutoCAD® Mechanical	Autodesk® Inventor LT™	Autodesk® Vehicle Tracking

1.4 Does this change apply to Autodesk Suites such as the Autodesk Design and Creation Suites?

New perpetual licences for Autodesk Design & Creation Suites will continue to be offered beyond 31 January, 2016. Any transition to a subscription-only based offering for Autodesk Design & Creation Suites will be communicated well in advance.

1.5 Why is Autodesk discontinuing some perpetual licences?

With this change, Autodesk is continuing its transition to subscription-based products, which offer customers a lower entry price, greater choice of tools and the ability to pay-as-you-go. With its shift away from software “ownership” or perpetual licences, Autodesk plans to continually innovate and improve its Desktop Subscription products, more tightly integrate them with cloud services, allow access from multiple devices and, at any time, make them easier to deploy, and manage and reduce file compatibility issues.

1.6 Does this affect existing software purchased under a perpetual licence?

No. If a customer already has a perpetual licence or purchases a new perpetual licence at any time before 31 January, 2016, that licence doesn't go away. They still retain the perpetual licence to that software and can continue to use it in accordance with their perpetual licence agreement. If the software product is covered by Maintenance Subscription, they will also continue to receive their Maintenance Subscription benefits.

1.7 How will this change impact Maintenance Subscription customers?

Customers with current Maintenance Subscription contracts on 31 January, 2016, will retain the option to renew Maintenance Subscription for the affected products (and receive corresponding benefits). The elimination of perpetual licences only impacts the ability to make new purchases of new perpetual licences.

Current Maintenance Subscription customers who need additional licences will have the option to purchase network licences on subscription and share these licences on a network server with previously purchased perpetual network licences. This option gives customers the ability to continue to receive subscription benefits such as software updates and usage flexibility, and share their existing perpetual licences and subscription based licences on a network server. See Section 2 for more information about “network subscription”.

1.8 How will Autodesk ease this transition for customers?

Autodesk is doing several things to make the transition to Desktop Subscription as smooth as possible for customers:

- Providing the time needed to assess options and make plans by providing a full year of advance notice of changes to come
- Allowing Maintenance Subscribers to continue to renew their Maintenance Subscriptions and receive/access the benefits of their Maintenance Subscription
- Making Autodesk Account the one place to manage all of your products, subscriptions and services
- Providing the ability to lock in your subscription rate by introducing the option of a multi-year Desktop Subscription offering
- Continuing to offer Autodesk Design and Creation Suites as a perpetual licence

1.9 Are there any changes to Cloud Service Subscription?

Separately purchased Cloud Service Subscription offerings, such as BIM 360, PLM 360 and Fusion 360, are not impacted. Cloud services that are included with offerings as Maintenance Subscription and Desktop Subscription benefits will continue to be included in those offerings.

2. Desktop Subscription

2.1 What is Desktop Subscription? Does Desktop Subscription use the cloud to store applications and data?

Desktop Subscription gives access to Autodesk software - the same full version as with a perpetual licence - but with a flexible, pay-as-you-go approach for a software budget that is easier to manage. Desktop Subscription provides benefits such as Basic Support, access to the latest software and product enhancements, and in some cases, access to select cloud services. The desktop software application delivered through Desktop Subscription, as well as associated user data, continue to be stored on a local machine, and any usage of included Autodesk cloud services is optional.

2.2 What are the key features/benefits of Desktop Subscription licences?

Desktop Subscription grants licence holders the right to use the software for a specified period of time, with the option to renew their contract for additional payments. Customers who purchase a Desktop Subscription receive benefits such as Basic Support, options for more advanced support, access to the latest software and product enhancements, and in some cases, access to select cloud services.

2.3 Currently not all Autodesk products are available as Desktop Subscription. What is the timeline for making these products available?

Desktop Subscription, where currently unavailable, will be introduced during the transition. Any new product or service introduced during this time will be available only as Desktop or Cloud Subscription.

2.4 I am currently sharing perpetual licences on a network. With this announcement, what options will be available to maintain or buy new network licences?

Autodesk understands that, after 31 January, 2016, customers who have perpetual network licences for individual products may need a way to add network licence seats. As such, we plan to introduce the option to purchase licences for individual products on a “network subscription” basis. We expect to introduce this new “network subscription” option to customers on Maintenance Subscriptions prior to 31 January, 2016.

2.5 What exactly is a “network subscription”?

A “network subscription” is similar to a perpetual network licence, with one primary difference. Whilst a perpetual network licence is activated and used indefinitely, a “network subscription” is usable only for a specified term (e.g. one year) unless renewed. These licences should work with existing perpetual network licences the customer already has, to create a seamless sharing experience. The term length we will offer is currently being defined. We expect to offer “network subscriptions” at 1.5 times the equivalent Desktop Subscription price.

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2.6 When will a “network subscription” be available?

The “network subscription” offering is currently being developed and we expect it will be available prior to 31 January, 2016. More information will be provided when this offering is fully defined.

2.7 Is Autodesk making any changes to Desktop Subscription as part of this transition?

Autodesk plans to introduce new multi-year Desktop Subscription plans (2-year and 3-year plans) in March, 2015.

2.8 Will Autodesk support previous version (PV) rights under Desktop Subscription?

Autodesk understands the value our customers gain from access to and use of prior versions. Autodesk intends to make the same previous version benefits available to desktop subscribers that are available to maintenance subscribers.

3. Maintenance Subscription

3.1 What is Maintenance Subscription?

Maintenance Subscription ensures that a perpetual licence holder receives term-based benefits such as Basic Support, options for more advanced support, access to the latest software and product enhancements, and in some cases, access to select cloud services. A Maintenance Subscription agreement must be applied to a separately purchased perpetual licence.

3.2 What happens if I am a current Maintenance Subscription customer?

Current maintenance customers will continue enjoying the benefits of Maintenance Subscription, as long as they continue to renew.

Current Maintenance Subscription customers that want to use network licensing will have the option to purchase network licences on subscription and share these licences on a network server with previously purchased perpetual network licences. This option gives customers the ability to continue to receive subscription benefits such as software updates and usage flexibility, and share their existing perpetual licences and new term based licences on a network server. See Section 2 for more information about “network subscription”.

Autodesk Enterprise Token Flex and Autodesk Multi-Flex licensing options (offered with Enterprise Business Agreements) will continue to be available to enterprise customers.

3.3 What happens if a Maintenance Subscription expires?

If a Maintenance Subscription is not renewed, customers will have to purchase a Desktop Subscription if they want to get the latest features and functionality. Autodesk will be reviewing Subscription renewal policies before 31 January, 2016, and will communicate any changes well in advance of the effective date. Multi-year Maintenance Subscription discounts will no longer be offered after 31 August, 2015.¹

3.4 Will Maintenance Subscription customers be able to transition to a perpetual licence whilst remaining on Maintenance Subscription?

Even after we discontinue the sale of perpetual licences for a given product, customers may opt to purchase a transfer from that product to another product for which perpetual licences are still sold. For example, a customer with a perpetual licence of AutoCAD LT after 31 January, 2016, may transfer that perpetual licence to AutoCAD Design Suite Ultimate. But that customer will not be able to purchase a transfer from AutoCAD LT to AutoCAD LT Inventor Suite. The customer’s current maintenance agreement will be moved to the new product at the time a transfer is purchased.

¹ Autodesk Authorised Resellers are independent resellers. They are free to participate in any promotion and set their own prices. Reseller prices may vary.

3.5 How long can current Maintenance Subscription customers remain on Maintenance Subscription?

Whilst Autodesk is announcing our plans to discontinue the sale of new perpetual licences, we are not eliminating Maintenance Subscription. Maintenance Subscription customers that remain in good standing on their Maintenance contracts can expect to remain on Maintenance for the foreseeable future. The multi-year Maintenance Subscription discount will no longer be offered¹.

3.6 Will existing Maintenance Subscription customers be able to add additional perpetual licence seats under Maintenance Subscription after 31 January, 2016?

Once Autodesk has discontinued sales of new perpetual seats for a product, customers will only have the option to renew Maintenance Subscription contracts for previously purchased perpetual licences. No new Maintenance Subscription contracts can be started after 31 January, 2016, for affected products. In addition, the multi-year Maintenance Subscription discount will also be eliminated after 31 August, 2015¹.

3.7 What happens if a customer with a perpetual licence chooses to discontinue Maintenance Subscription?

Customers with expired maintenance subscriptions can continue using their perpetual licences. However, they will lose Subscription benefits such as updates, technical product support, flexible licence rights and cloud services. Autodesk will be reviewing Subscription renewal policies before 31 January, 2016. Changes will be communicated ahead of when they become effective. If a Maintenance Subscription is not renewed, customers will have to purchase a Desktop Subscription if they want to get the latest features and functionality.

4. Enterprise Business Agreements

4.1 How will this change impact Enterprise Business Agreement customers in the near term?

Customers who currently have an Enterprise Business Agreement with Autodesk for the Enterprise Flex, Multi-Flex or Token Flex Offerings will see no immediate change to the terms or benefits of their agreements.

4.2 What will happen to customers with Enterprise Business Agreements that include perpetual rights to their software when the agreement ends?

Customers with an Enterprise Business Agreement that includes perpetual rights to their software may exercise their rights to receive those perpetual licences at the end of their agreement, or they may choose to renew those perpetual licences under Maintenance Subscription at that time.

4.3 Will customers with an Enterprise Business Agreement be able to add new perpetual licences to their agreement?

Customers with an Enterprise Business Agreement will be able to purchase new perpetual licences, as permitted by the terms of their agreement. After 31 January, 2016, customers entering into a new Enterprise Business Agreement will not have the option to purchase new perpetual licences. Customers will have the option to purchase additional "network subscription" licences or Desktop Subscription licences, as desired.

4.4 Where can Enterprise customers get more information?

Customers with an Enterprise Business Agreement should speak directly with their Autodesk Account Executive for more information about the perpetual licence transition and how it will affect them.

5. General Questions

5.1 How will this change affect customers in Government, Education and others who are unable to utilise electronic delivery or web-accessed software?

Autodesk is committed to finding solutions that will ease the transition to subscription-based models. Throughout this transition, we will work with our partners and customers to ensure that these changes do not prevent the purchase and use of Autodesk software.

5.2 How will these changes affect education customers?

The discontinuation of new perpetual licences does not impact education customers. Qualified academic institutions, students and educators will continue to have free access to Educational Licences. For more information, please visit <http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/all>

5.3 Is this a global change?

Yes. The discontinuation of perpetual licensing for most individual products (non-Suites) will go into effect on 31 January, 2016, globally. However, there is one region where this transition will start earlier to provide valuable insight to Autodesk. In ANZ (Australia and New Zealand), the sale of new perpetual licences for LT Family products will stop after 6 June, 2015. Affected products are AutoCAD LT for Mac and AutoCAD LT, Inventor LT, Revit LT, Inventor LT Suite and Revit LT Suite. Customers in ANZ will be able to attach Maintenance Subscription to any perpetual licences of these products purchased by 6 June, 2015.