

Questions and Answers

Autodesk® Showcase® 2011 visual communication software helps designers, engineers, and marketing teams evaluate designs in context, more rapidly explore alternatives, and tell the stories of their designs with vividly immersive 3D presentations and renderings. The latest version of the software features storyboarding and movie creation capabilities, a new cross-section tool, and an intuitive user interface (UI) and navigation techniques. Showcase 2011 also provides enhanced Autodesk® Inventor® software interoperability and certain free third-party CAD translators, helping users save time and prevent rework.

Contents

1. General Product Information.....	3
1.1 What are the key new features in Showcase 2011?	3
1.2 What are the various “flavors” of Showcase software, and how are they different from each other?.....	3
1.3 What are the key product line changes with the 2011 versions?.....	4
1.4 How do I cross-grade from Showcase Professional 2010 to Showcase 2011?	4
1.5 I’m running a 12-month complementary license of Showcase Professional 2010 because I require network licensing for my Showcase seats. What should my upgrade path be?.....	4
1.6 Is there a trial version of Showcase 2011 available?.....	4
1.7 When will Autodesk Showcase 2011 Viewer, Autodesk Showcase 2011, and Autodesk Showcase Professional 2011 be available?	4
1.8 Will a manual be included in the product package?	4
1.9 What upgrade pricing is available if I am not on Subscription?.....	4
2. Technology	5
2.1 What operating systems does the Showcase 2011 family support?	5
2.2 What hardware configurations are required for the Showcase 2011 family?	5
2.3 What graphics cards does Showcase 2011 support?	5
3. Installation, Configuration, and Licensing.....	5
3.1 How do I transfer my Showcase license to another machine?	5
3.2 How does the Online License Transfer system work?	5

Autodesk Showcase 2011 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 4. Compatibility and Interoperability6
 - 4.1 How does Showcase 2011 integrate with other Autodesk and certain third-party products?....6
- 5. Training and Support6
 - 5.1 What are my options for training?.....6
 - 5.2 What is Autodesk Authorized Training, and how do I get it?6
 - 5.3 How will Showcase 2011 technical support be provided?6
- 6. Subscription.....6
 - 6.1 What benefits does Subscription offer?.....6
 - 6.2 What benefits does Subscription with Gold Support offer?7
 - 6.3 How can I access my Subscription benefits?7
 - 6.4 How do I obtain a home use license?.....7
 - 6.5 Are Showcase customers on Subscription entitled to use previous versions of the product? ...7
 - 6.6 As an Autodesk Subscription customer, how will I obtain my copy of and my license for Showcase 2011?.....7
 - 6.7 In which countries will software download be the default method for delivering software upgrades to Subscription customers?.....7
 - 6.8 Can I change my product upgrade delivery preference?8
 - 6.9 What if I want both a download and a boxed shipment?.....8

1. General Product Information

1.1 What are the key new features in Showcase 2011?

The following are the top new features included in Showcase 2011. Please see www.autodesk.com/showcase-features for a more detailed list of new features.

- **Storyboard Timing and Movie Creation**

Slide timing allows you to better control the timing of environment switching, alternative changes, behavioral triggering, or camera position changes. Share your work with colleagues or customers by more quickly and easily exporting slides as movies or interactive Adobe® Flash® files.

- **Cross-Section Tool**

Explore designs in greater detail by intersecting model geometry with a plane or box that can be freely positioned—in real time—to help create informative views for design review.

- **Patch Level Access**

Access model data with greater flexibility, and isolate and apply different materials to one or a group of surface patches.

- **Bloom Effect**

Create surreal lighting effects by over-exposing concentrated lights on highly reflective objects.

- **Ambient Shadow Textures on Polygons**

Create highly realistic imagery by calculating ambient shadows on polygonal objects that contain UVs, using textures instead of vertices.

- **Autodesk Inventor Software Interoperability**

Showcase 2011 software can now read Inventor software's welding maps, thread maps, and decals, enabling you to repurpose information that has already been defined in Inventor.

- **New Environments and Environment UI**

Showcase 2011 features a larger selection of photorealistic environments—some of which are included with Inventor 2011—and a new UI that makes managing environments easier.

- **New Tessellation Settings and Enhanced Level of Detail (LODs)**

Tessellation settings have been simplified, improved, and optimized for Inventor interoperability. With the new geometry Level of Detail (LOD) system, objects positioned far away from the camera are automatically displayed at a lower level of detail.

- **New Orbit Shot**

Add cinematic camera motion to your presentations with the new Orbit Shot, which allows you to move the camera 360 degrees around a center of interest.

- **Keyframe Animation and Triggers**

Add greater interactivity to presentations with keyframe animations and triggers. Triggers make geometry “clickable” in Presentation Mode, triggering an alternative, a shot, a behavior, an environment, or a storyboard slide.

1.2 What are the various “flavors” of Showcase software, and how are they different from each other?

Autodesk Showcase software comes in three versions:

- **Autodesk Showcase 2011 Viewer*** (free) allows non-Showcase license holders to view and navigate Showcase scenes.

For the first 30 days of use, the Showcase 2011 Viewer is a fully functional trial of Autodesk Showcase 2011 software.

- **Autodesk Showcase 2011** (MSRP \$1,000 US) provides tools for interactively exploring design options and creating highly realistic renderings for marketing and sales purposes.

- **Autodesk Showcase Professional 2011** (MSRP \$6,000 US) is designed for specialized display environments involving multiple-screen displays, high-speed raytracing clusters, stereoscopy, and remote session sharing. The software includes the features of Showcase 2011 plus these additional functionalities and the X-Rite MA 98 Measured Material Device, a hardware device that can measure real-world glossy paints and help produce an accurate Material representation within Showcase.

Autodesk Showcase 2011 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1.3 What are the key product line changes with the 2011 versions?

For no additional cost, Showcase 2011 now includes functionality that was previously available only in Showcase Professional. Showcase Professional 2011 remains valuable for customers who require specific capabilities for high-end display systems. Customers with existing Showcase Professional seats that are not connected to high-end display systems may get more value by cross-grading to the lower-cost Showcase 2011.

1.4 How do I cross-grade from Showcase Professional 2010 to Showcase 2011?

A \$0 cross-grade is available for customers who want to move from Showcase Professional to Showcase 2011. Customers must have active Autodesk® Subscription contracts in order to take advantage of this cross-grade. Please contact your **local reseller** for more details.

1.5 I'm running a 12-month complementary license of Showcase Professional 2010 because I require network licensing for my Showcase seats. What should my upgrade path be?

With the 2011 releases, Autodesk Showcase will now support network licensing. Therefore, if you do not require the high-end display capabilities of Autodesk Showcase Professional, you should take advantage of the \$0 cross-grade to Autodesk Showcase 2011 software.

1.6 Is there a trial version of Showcase 2011 available?

Yes, the Autodesk Showcase 2011 Viewer also functions as a fully functional 30-day trial for noncommercial use. You can download it from **www.autodesk.com/showcase-trial**.

1.7 When will Autodesk Showcase 2011 Viewer, Autodesk Showcase 2011, and Autodesk Showcase Professional 2011 be available?

The Showcase 2011 family is scheduled to ship and be available for download on or after April 7, 2010.

1.8 Will a manual be included in the product package?

In a corporate wide effort to support sustainable initiatives, no printed documentation will be shipped. Showcase 2011 documentation will be available in electronic form on the installation DVD and for download.

1.9 What upgrade pricing is available if I am not on Subscription?

For the first time, Autodesk is offering upgrade pricing for Showcase 2011. Upgrade pricing is not available for Showcase Professional 2011 software. On March 16, 2010, Autodesk introduced a new, streamlined upgrade pricing model. Under the previous upgrade pricing model, the price of your upgrade depended on which product release you licensed. Now, upgrading from any of the three previous software releases will cost 50 percent** of the price of a new license, no matter which release you own. **Find out more.**

Key Product Line Changes	Showcase 2010	Showcase 2011
Silver Subscription	Yes	Yes
NLM	No	Yes
Upgrade	No	Yes
Trial	No	Yes

2. Technology

2.1 What operating systems does the Showcase 2011 family support?

The 32-bit version of Showcase 2011 software is supported by any of the following operating systems:

- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional (SP3 or higher) operating system
- Microsoft® Windows Vista® Business (SP2 or higher) operating system
- Microsoft® Windows® 7 Professional operating system

The 64-bit version of Showcase 2011 software is supported by any of the following operating systems:

- Microsoft Windows XP Professional x64 (SP2 or higher) operating system
- Microsoft Windows Vista Business x64 (SP2 or higher) operating system
- Microsoft Windows 7 Professional x64 operating system

2.2 What hardware configurations are required for the Showcase 2011 family?

Minimum/Laptop

- 2.4 GHz Intel® or equivalent AMD® processor
- 2 GB system RAM
- Certified NVIDIA® or ATI™ graphics card with at least 512 MB graphics memory***

Recommended

- Intel® Pentium® 4 or 4-core 2.8 GHz processor; or equivalent AMD processor
- 4 GB or more system RAM with Windows XP x64 Edition or Windows Vista 64-bit
- Certified NVIDIA or ATI graphics card with at least 768 MB graphics memory***

2.3 What graphics cards does Showcase 2011 support?

Showcase 2011 software supports NVIDIA Quadro® FX and GeForce® graphics cards released after 2007 that include the 7, 8, or 9 series graphics chipset. Graphics cards must have a minimum 512 MB graphics memory. More memory is recommended on Windows Vista or for users working with large data sets or complex scenes.

For a complete list of system requirements, visit www.autodesk.com/showcase.

3. Installation, Configuration, and Licensing

3.1 How do I transfer my Showcase license to another machine?

Online License Transfer provides a flexible and convenient web-based mechanism for customers with stand-alone licenses to transfer their licenses to different machines without using a dongle. This basic functionality is available without additional charge and there is no limit on the number of transfers. Online License Transfer allows you to use a web interface to deactivate the software on your current computer and reactivate the software on a different computer.

3.2 How does the Online License Transfer system work?

You log on to the Online License Transfer system using a web interface where you can then deactivate your software license on your current computer before reactivating it on a different one.

4. Compatibility and Interoperability

4.1 How does Showcase 2011 integrate with other Autodesk and certain third-party products?

One of the major strengths of Autodesk Showcase software is its streamlined interoperability with Autodesk Inventor, Autodesk® Alias®, and Autodesk® Moldflow® products, as well as certain third-party CAD software. Showcase 2011 software can now read Inventor software's welding maps, thread maps, and decals, helping you save time by repurposing information that has already been defined in Inventor. Third-party CAD translators: Catia® v4 and v5, are now included with Showcase 2011 at no additional cost.

5. Training and Support

5.1 What are my options for training?

There are a number of helpful Showcase learning resources and tutorials available on the **Manufacturing Resource Center** and on the **AREA** online community.

5.2 What is Autodesk Authorized Training, and how do I get it?

Autodesk Authorized Training is designed to accelerate your career with Autodesk software. Get trained at an Autodesk Authorized Training Center (ATC®), with hands-on, instructor-led classes to help you enhance your productivity and heighten return on investment. You can make Autodesk Official Training Courseware (AOTC) a key part of your product training, and learn from the best with content developed by Autodesk subject-matter experts. Earn Autodesk certification to prove your experience, reliably validate your skills and knowledge, enhance credibility in your field, and maximize your value. For more information about these learning solutions, visit www.autodesk.com/aotc and www.autodesk.com/certification.

5.3 How will Showcase 2011 technical support be provided?

Customers with Autodesk Subscription will receive access to web support. Customers with Autodesk Subscription with Gold Support (Showcase Professional 2011 only) will receive both telephone and web support throughout the duration of their subscription term. Please consult www.autodesk.com/subscription for more details.

6. Subscription

6.1 What benefits does Subscription offer?

- Annual software releases
- Previous version rights
- License management tools
- Extra territory rights
- Home use rights
- Access to e-Learning content
- Access to downloadable DVDs
- New release online training
- Access to knowledge database
- Subscription extensions

Autodesk Showcase 2011 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

6.2 What benefits does Subscription with Gold Support offer?

Available only to Showcase Professional 2011 customers, Subscription with Gold Support includes all the benefits of Subscription (see above list), plus the following:

- Telephone support
- Access to Ask Autodesk discussion forums
- Defect reporting and tracking

6.3 How can I access my Subscription benefits?

Simply log in to the Subscription Center at www.autodesk.com/subscriptionlogin to begin accessing your Subscription services.

6.4 How do I obtain a home use license?

You must have a valid Autodesk Subscription contract to be eligible to receive a home use license. If the primary license is a stand-alone license, you may use the media in your possession to install the home use license of the product. Once the home use license is installed, you must obtain an authorization code from Autodesk. Stand-alone home use licenses will have the same serial number as the primary license on which they are based.

If the primary license is a network license, you must complete a home use license application and submit it to Autodesk. Autodesk will review the application and issue a serial number for a stand-alone home use license based on the corresponding network license.

Home use license applications are available on the Subscription Center and from your reseller or Autodesk sales representative.

6.5 Are Showcase customers on Subscription entitled to use previous versions of the product?

Yes. Showcase and Showcase Professional customers with valid Subscription and Subscription with Gold Support contracts are entitled to use up to three previous versions of their respective product (Showcase/Showcase Professional 2010, 2009, 2008), up to the total number of licenses of the product currently under Subscription.

6.6 As an Autodesk Subscription customer, how will I obtain my copy of and my license for Showcase 2011?

Subscription customers will be able to download their Showcase 2011 software entitlement. Subscription contract managers and software coordinators will be sent an email containing a link to a download page. Customers must log in using their Subscription Center login credentials to access this page. From there they may download their Showcase 2011 product entitlement. The product license is accessible in the coverage report located in the Subscription Center.

6.7 In which countries will software download be the default method for delivering software upgrades to Subscription customers?

Software download will be the default method of delivering software upgrades to Autodesk Subscription customers in the 37 countries listed below. Autodesk Subscription customers in these countries will not automatically receive a boxed shipment. (chart on following page)

Autodesk Showcase 2011 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Americas	Europe, Middle East, and Africa	Asia Pacific
Argentina	Austria	Australia
Bahamas	France	Hong Kong
Bolivia	Germany	Korea, Republic of
Brazil	Ireland	Macau
Canada	Italy	Malaysia
Chile	Liechtenstein	New Zealand
Colombia	Portugal	Singapore
Costa Rica	Spain	Taiwan
Dominican Republic	Switzerland	
Ecuador	United Kingdom	
Guatemala		
Jamaica		
Mexico		
Paraguay		
Peru		
Puerto Rico		
United States		
Uruguay		
Venezuela		

6.8 Can I change my product upgrade delivery preference?

Yes. If you are a software coordinator in a participating country and you prefer to receive a boxed shipment, you can change the delivery preference in your Subscription Center profile from “download” to “box.”

Likewise, if you are a software coordinator in one of the nonparticipating countries and you prefer to download your software upgrade, you can change the delivery preference in your Subscription Center profile from “box” to “download.”

You can change your delivery preference at any time; however, the changes you make will not be applied to upgrade orders that have already been fulfilled or upgrade orders that are scheduled to be processed within the next seven business days.

If you want to change your delivery preference, you should do so immediately to ensure all future software releases to which you are entitled will be delivered according to your preference.

Subscription customers who change their preference after their upgrade order has already been fulfilled can request a box at any time by submitting a Boxed Shipment Request form in Subscription Center.

6.9 What if I want both a download and a boxed shipment?

If you are the software coordinator and you want both a download and a boxed shipment, you can change the delivery preference in your Subscription Center profile to “box.” This will ensure that a boxed shipment is automatically sent as soon as it is available. Or, you can keep your delivery preference set to “download” and request a one-time boxed shipment by submitting a Boxed Shipment Request form in Subscription Center.

** This product is subject to the terms and conditions of the end-user license agreement that accompanies the software.*

*** Savings based on USD SRP. International pricing may vary.*

**** Please refer to the Showcase system requirements or hardware certification chart for a list of supported ATI and NVIDIA graphics hardware.*

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