Autodesk® Revit®
Autodesk® Revit® Architecture
Autodesk® Revit® MEP
Autodesk® Revit® Structure
Autodesk® Revit LT™

Questions and Answers

This document provides questions and answers about using Autodesk® Revit®, Autodesk® Revit® Architecture, Autodesk® Revit® MEP, Autodesk® Revit® Structure, or Autodesk® Revit LT™ 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® 9 for Mac software, a system utility available from Parallels, Inc. that allows you to run applications in each operating system without restarting your computer.

Contents

1. **Can I install Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, Autodesk Revit Structure, or Autodesk Revit LT on a Mac computer?**
   Yes, you can install Autodesk Revit 2015, Autodesk Revit Architecture 2015, Autodesk Revit MEP 2015, Autodesk Revit Structure 2015, or Autodesk Revit LT 2015 on a Mac computer on a Windows partition. The system must use Boot Camp or Parallels Desktop 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 v10.9.1 (aka "Mavericks"). You can install Windows® on a Mac computer with an Intel® CPU 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 a license to 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 licenses to 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.

5. **Is Parallels Desktop the only supported Mac virtualization solution?**
Autodesk has tested and officially supports the current and three previous versions of Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, Autodesk Revit Structure, and Autodesk Revit LT running under the current and three previous versions of Parallels Desktop for Mac. Autodesk has not tested and does not support using products based on the Revit® platform with other virtualization software.

6. **Which configuration provides the best performance?**
For maximum performance, use Boot Camp to run Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, Autodesk Revit Structure, and Autodesk Revit LT in a native Windows OS. For small to medium sized projects, Parallels Desktop provides greater convenience and good performance.

7. **What about licensing?**
You can use either a standalone or network license of Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, and Autodesk Revit Structure; but using the system as the network license server is not supported. For Autodesk Revit LT, only standalone licensing is available.

Note: Revit licensing is sensitive to hardware configuration changes in stand-alone licensing mode. Hardware configuration changes can cause licensing issues when you use Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, Autodesk Revit Structure, and Autodesk Revit LT in both Boot Camp and Parallels Desktop on the same machine. The first time Revit licensing 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 Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP,

Autodesk Revit Structure, or Autodesk Revit LT in either Boot Camp or Parallels Desktop. You can usually recover from the first license error using this method.

Revit licensing may not recover from subsequent changes. Do not perform further hardware configuration changes after recovering from the first licensing error. If you use Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, and Autodesk Revit Structure, on the Boot Camp partition through Parallels on the same computer and expect to make hardware configuration changes you should use network licensing. For Autodesk Revit LT you may only use stand-alone licensing, therefore running the Boot Camp partition through Parallels is not recommended in this configuration.

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 Desktop, contact Parallels.
   - For questions and issues related to Windows operating systems, contact Microsoft.
   - For questions and issues related to Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, Autodesk Revit Structure, and Autodesk Revit LT, contact your re-seller or Autodesk Support.

9. **What are the Mac hardware, Windows, or Parallels Desktop system requirements?**
   See http://www.autodesk.com/products/autodesk-revit-family/system-requirements, Parallels section.

10. **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 the Mac Operating System installation media to provide the necessary Windows drivers.*

11. **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.

12. **How do I use Parallels Desktop?**
    To purchase a license to 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 Window 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 Desktop 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 Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP, Autodesk Revit Structure, or Autodesk Revit LT 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. If you are using a 64-bit Windows OS, 1,024 MB is the recommended setting.

13. **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.

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.