



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do I need to purchase Autodesk Architectural Desktop 2004 to run Autodesk Building Systems 2004?

No. Autodesk® Building Systems software is a stand-alone product, providing all the functionality required by building systems engineers and designers, built on the same technology as Autodesk® Architectural Desktop. As a result, you can more easily and accurately share design data with the hundreds of thousands of other industry professionals who are using Autodesk Architectural Desktop, as well as those using AutoCAD® software or other CAD systems through Autodesk's industry-leading DWG compatibility.

2. Are there any new routing features with Autodesk Building Systems?

Yes. Now you can preview the bends and turns in duct, piping, conduit, or cable tray systems before you lay them out. There is also a Suggested Layout Path routine that suggests routes for ductwork, piping, conduit, and cable tray between two known points by toggling through the choices. This saves you valuable design time by minimizing tedious drafting tasks like stretching and erasing.

3. How can I check for interferences?

There are two ways to check for interferences. The first method is by visually inspecting the 3D model from different perspectives. The second method is by turning on the Building Systems Interference Detection setting. This tool highlights the conflict between two building systems objects, even across xrefs. This capability is especially helpful for large projects that have extensive building systems.

4. Does Autodesk Building Systems provide metric content?

Yes, Autodesk Building Systems includes both U.K. - and U.S.-based metric content. The metric content provided in the catalogs is a solid foundation for other metric standards that differ from the U.S. or U.K. standards.

5. Is a network version of Autodesk Building Systems available?

Yes. Enhanced FLEXlm® 8.3 license management software helps you get the full benefit from your Autodesk Building Systems licenses. For example, with the new license-borrowing feature you can install a time-limited license on your computer while disabling the license on the server for that same period. You can then run Autodesk Building Systems without having a connection to the license server.

6. How easy is it to edit ducts or pipes after they are drawn?

Autodesk Building Systems features intelligent engineering objects that interact with their neighbors through connectors to become intelligent systems. You can easily modify whole runs of ductwork or piping using the relationships established by these connectors. For example, if a duct run needs to be resized below a transition and that section includes multiple 90-degree elbows, you simply select the last piece of duct on that run, choose Duct Modify, and select the new size. The software then asks if you want to modify only that section or all the ductwork and elbows back to the transition, as well as modify the

transition accordingly. The intelligent objects and connectors provided with Autodesk Building Systems greatly simplify this kind of modification.

7. Are there any pipe sizing tools available?

For 2D schematic plumbing piping, Autodesk Building Systems provides pipe sizing tables for supply piping (hot and cold domestic water) and sanitary waste. Sizing is based on plumbing code tables, including a fixture unit table, which are fully customizable so you can create your own to match the applicable code for the job. The software uses these tables to automatically size various plumbing piping systems, decreasing project cycle times and reducing expenses.

8. Are there any calculation and analysis tools for electrical engineering design?

Yes. The circuits and the Circuit Manager automatically calculate load, circuit length, and other circuit properties as you add panels, devices, and their associated circuits. Additionally, overloads are automatically flagged, avoiding potentially costly mistakes.

The objects and framework in Autodesk Building Systems are designed to support engineering calculation and analysis through the use of connection graphs and property sets. Third-party application developers can extend their products to interact with the intelligent electrical objects in Autodesk Building Systems.

9. What are the benefits of subscription for Autodesk Building Systems?

The Autodesk® Subscription Program is the easiest way to keep Autodesk Building Systems software up-to-date. For an annual fee, subscription provides a budget-conscious way to ensure you are always using the most current technology. Features of the program include

- Access to all upgrades released during the subscription term at no additional cost
- Download of all Autodesk Building Systems extensions that may be released during the subscription term at no additional cost, enabling you to access valuable content and product enhancements in a timely manner

In addition, you can choose to purchase Autodesk direct online support for added assurance. For the latest information on the Autodesk Subscription Program, including availability and purchase requirements, visit www.autodesk.com/subscription or contact your local Autodesk representative.

10. Where is Autodesk Building Systems sold?

Autodesk Building Systems is available worldwide in Domestic English and International English (imperial and metric versions). Additionally, it is available in a U.K. version for the Commonwealth market. Additional localized versions of the product will be available at a later date.

Contact your local Autodesk Authorized Reseller or Distributor or Autodesk Systems Center for more information. To locate one near you, visit www.autodesk.com/reseller.



Autodesk, Inc.
111 McInnis Parkway
San Rafael, CA 94903
USA

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