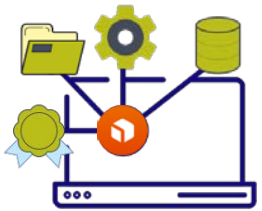
ArtiosCAD Installation Advisor

Standard Edition

September 2018
last updated June 2026

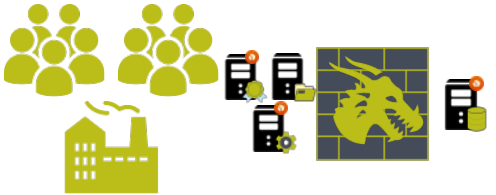
Concepts

- A **database** stores related information about your files
- A **server** shares information with other computers
  - A license server grants permission to use ArtiosCAD
  - A file server stores the files you work on
  - A configuration server shares settings and options so everyone uses the same environment
  - A database server stores related information about your designs and shares it with all users
  - Each server (except a license server) must have ArtiosCAD installed as a Server/Custom installation
- A **client** communicates with one or more ArtiosCAD servers to function

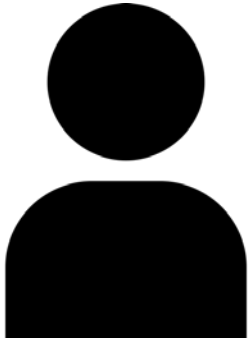


Concepts (continued)

- You use the ArtiosCAD media to for every kind of installation on each server **and** each client
- There are three common models:
  - Single User – all servers on one machine for use by one person
  - Client/Server with the Esko database – Different machines act as servers and one of them has the database. Everyone uses ArtiosCAD as a client
  - Client/Server with a database managed by your IT department – Different machines act as servers and everyone uses ArtiosCAD as a client. Your IT department configures the database and updates it for each new release



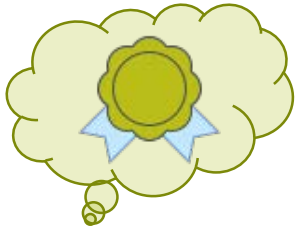
Who Will Use ArtiosCAD?



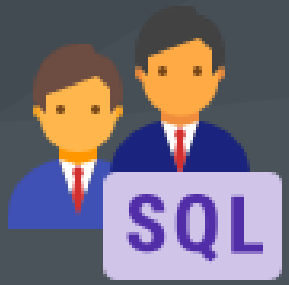
- Just you on a single machine?
  - A **Single User** installation is the way to go. It installs the database, all servers, and ArtiosCAD on the same machine

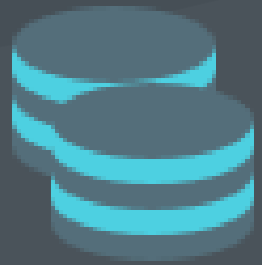
- More than just you?
  - If you want to share everything, one of you can be a **server** and the others can be **clients**
  - Or you all can be standalone in which each machine does a Single User installation but then shares no information

What Kind of License Do I Have?



- If you received an email from Esko with a license file attached, you need to install that license either:
  - On your own machine using the Local License Manager
  - On the License Server if it is a network license
- A License Server is only required for a network license. Otherwise, ArtiosCAD uses a local license with the Local License Manager, or a subscription
- If you did not receive a license file, you may be using a subscription license linked to your Esko ID
- You install the license after you install ArtiosCAD
- The first time you launch ArtiosCAD, you tell it the kind of license you have





Which Database Program Should I Use?

- Microsoft SQL Server Express
  - Free and comes with ArtiosCAD
  - Sufficient for single users and small groups with Single User installations
- Microsoft SQL Server or Oracle
  - Requires an additional separate machine as a database server
  - Only choose this if you already have it from your IT department
  - Database admin must build the database and maintain it over time

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Which Installation Is Right For Me?

Ability	Single User	Client	Server/Custom
Fewer questions	✓	✓	
More options			✓
Quick and easy	✓		✓
Can choose program installation folder	✓		✓
Actively shares information			✓
Requires a network connection		✓	✓
Actively shares program preferences			✓
Choose installed features			✓
Choose database program			✓
Choose user files location			✓
Need to know server names		✓	✓
Need to give other people server names			✓

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Questions & Answers

You have to define and supply the *sa* and *programmer* database passwords. ArtiosCAD uses them to build the database and then connect to the database when you run ArtiosCAD.

If you need to change them later, use DataCenter Admin.

Question	Answer
Database server name	_____
Database program	_____ Microsoft SQL Server Express _____ Microsoft SQL Server _____ Oracle
sa user password	_____
programmer user password	_____
Design Files server name	_____
Configuration server name	_____
License server name (if needed)	_____

Installing a Newer Version? (Part 1)

- If you are installing a newer version of ArtiosCAD:
  - Not changing anything? Do the same kind of installation you did for previous versions
  - IF YOU NEED TO CHANGE ANYTHING, like file locations or server names:
    - If this is a client machine, choose Client Installation and enter the new server names when prompted. Make sure to pay attention and not just click Next through the installer
    - If this is a server machine, choose Server/Custom Installation and then Advanced and enter the new server names when prompted
    - If you need to change where you save user files, you must do a Server/Custom installation
  - You may need to install a newer version of the Network License Manager on the License Server. That link in the installer becomes available when there is a newer version to install

Installing a Newer Version? (Part 2)

- If your IT department manages the database, the database administrator needs to update the database schema on the database server
- You must update all machines in the ArtiosCAD cluster to use the same version
  - Update the servers first
  - If you update a client to a new version but the Defaults server is an earlier version, the client will not have the correct Defaults and ArtiosCAD will not work as expected. You may still use the older version if you want, but the newer version will not work properly if the servers are not at the same level

Swapping Out a Server

- If you are swapping out a server and installing the same version of ArtiosCAD on it as the old one had:
  - On each client, use **Modify** in Programs and Features in Settings/Control Panel and specify the new server names when prompted
  - If this machine was a license server, make sure to reinstall the Network License Server using *Install License Server Components* in the initial installer dialog box

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