# Autodesk® Inventor® View Replacement FAQ

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## 1. General product information

### 1.1 What are the changes that are taking place for Autodesk® Inventor® View?

Autodesk Inventor View is being replaced by Inventor Read-only for viewing Inventor part (.ipt), assembly (.iam), drawing (.idw, .dwg), and presentation (.ipn) files. Inventor Read-only provides access for viewing Inventor files and other compatible file formats within the Inventor user interface without consuming a license. There is no change to the Inventor Apprentice server.

### 1.2 Why is Autodesk making this change?

Autodesk Inventor View is being replaced by Inventor Read-only, which has several advantages over Inventor View.
1. Inventor Read-only mode does not require a separate install as is the case of Inventor View.
2. Inventor Read-only provides the same viewing experience and visual fidelity as that of Inventor Professional, providing a consistent viewing experience between Autodesk products.
3. Inventor Read-only provides more features such as view representations and visibility of 3D Annotations, 2D Sketches, and Decals. A detailed comparison of various viewers is provided in Section 3.2.

### 1.3 In addition to Inventor Read-only mode, are there any other recommended viewers?

In addition to Inventor Read-only mode, which is a desktop product, Autodesk recommends two web-based viewers. These viewers are listed below.
   a. Shared Views
   b. Autodesk Viewer
More details on these viewers are in Section 3.1.

### 1.4 What is the final release of Inventor View?

Inventor View 2023 is the final release of Inventor View, and there will be no Inventor View 2024 and further releases.

## 2. Key dates for changes to Inventor View

### 2.1 What is the last date for accessing Inventor View?

Autodesk will provide access to Inventor View 2023 installation files until March 31, 2027, and you can download Inventor View 2023 by clicking **HERE**. You can use Inventor View 2023 to view older Inventor file formats.

## 3. Offerings

### 3.1 What are the recommended alternatives to view Inventor 2024 files?

Autodesk recommends three alternatives.

1. **Inventor Read-Only** - Inventor Read-only Mode is provided as part of the full Inventor install and can be used to open and review native Inventor file formats (.ipt, .iam, .ipn, .idw, .dwg).  Inventor Read-only Mode provides several review experiences that are not available in Inventor View including support for Presentation (.ipn) files, a measure tool, model sectioning, view representations, and Model States. Inventor Read-only Mode is license free. Additional information including instructions on how to download and install is found **HERE.**
2. **Autodesk Viewer** - Native Inventor files and other CAD formats can be directly uploaded to the Autodesk cloud viewer for review and mark-up. Click **HERE** to access Autodesk Viewer.

3.  **Shared Views** - Inventor models and drawings can be published to the Autodesk Viewer and accessed from a shared, time-limited hyperlink.  Note that a Shared View can only be authored by a fully licensed version of Inventor, but it can be shared with people without Inventor or Inventor license.  More information on Shared Views can be found **HERE**

## 3.2 What are the advantages and disadvantages of the different types of viewers?

| Category | Capability | Inventor View | Inventor Read-Only | Shared Views (LMV) | Autodesk Viewer |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Object Visibility | 3D Annotations | ✘ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | 3D Weld Symbols | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | General Note (flat-to-screen) | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | Work Geometry | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | Mesh Bodies / Surface Bodies | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | 2D Sketches | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | 3D Sketches | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| Graphics | Cosmetic thread | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | Texture/Decal | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | Cosmetic Weld / Weld Bead (3D) texture | ✔ | ✔ | N/A | N/A |
| | Color Overrides (component, body, feature, face) | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| Scene Management | Design Views | ✘ | ✔ | Pending | Pending |
| | Model States | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | Positional Representations | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | 3D Mouse Support | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| Metadata | BOM | ✘ | ✔ | (Derived from iProperties) | (Derived from iProperties) |
| | Component iProperties | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | Browser | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | Sheet Metal Flat Pattern Access | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| Interrogation | Animation controls (from Presentations) | ✘ | ✘ | N/A | N/A |
| | Markup | ✘ | ✘ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | Sectioning | ✘ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | Measure Tool | ✘ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | Shaded/Wireframe Display Options | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| Files Supported | Part (.ipn) / Assembly (.iam) / Drawing (.idw, .dwg) | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| | Weldment (.iam) | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| | Presentation (.ipn) | ✘ | ✔ | ✘ | ✘ |
| Other | Missing File Resolution | ✘ | ✔ | N/A | N/A |
| | Large Model Performance | Poor | Excellent | Good | Good |

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## 4. Additional questions

### 4.1 What happens if we use Inventor View 2023 or earlier releases to view Inventor files?

Inventor View 2023 can continue to be used to view Inventor 2023 and earlier version files. There is no license check when using Inventor View since it is a free viewer. You can continue to use Inventor View 2023 and previous releases.

Please note that Inventor View 2023 will not be able to view Inventor 2024 and further releases for which Inventor Read-only will be the preferred file viewer.

### 4.2 How do we view Inventor files from Vault?

You can continue to view Inventor 2023 files using Inventor View 2023. However, there will not be an Inventor View 2024 release for viewing Inventor 2024 files. The solution is the same, which is that of using Inventor Read-only as a replacement to view Inventor files in Vault.

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