

# Worksharing and Central Models

Using Autodesk Revit



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# Covered in session

Creating a Central File  
Worksets

Creating Local Files

Synchronizing/Saving

Restoring (rollback)

Archiving/Moving Central

Rewriting Central



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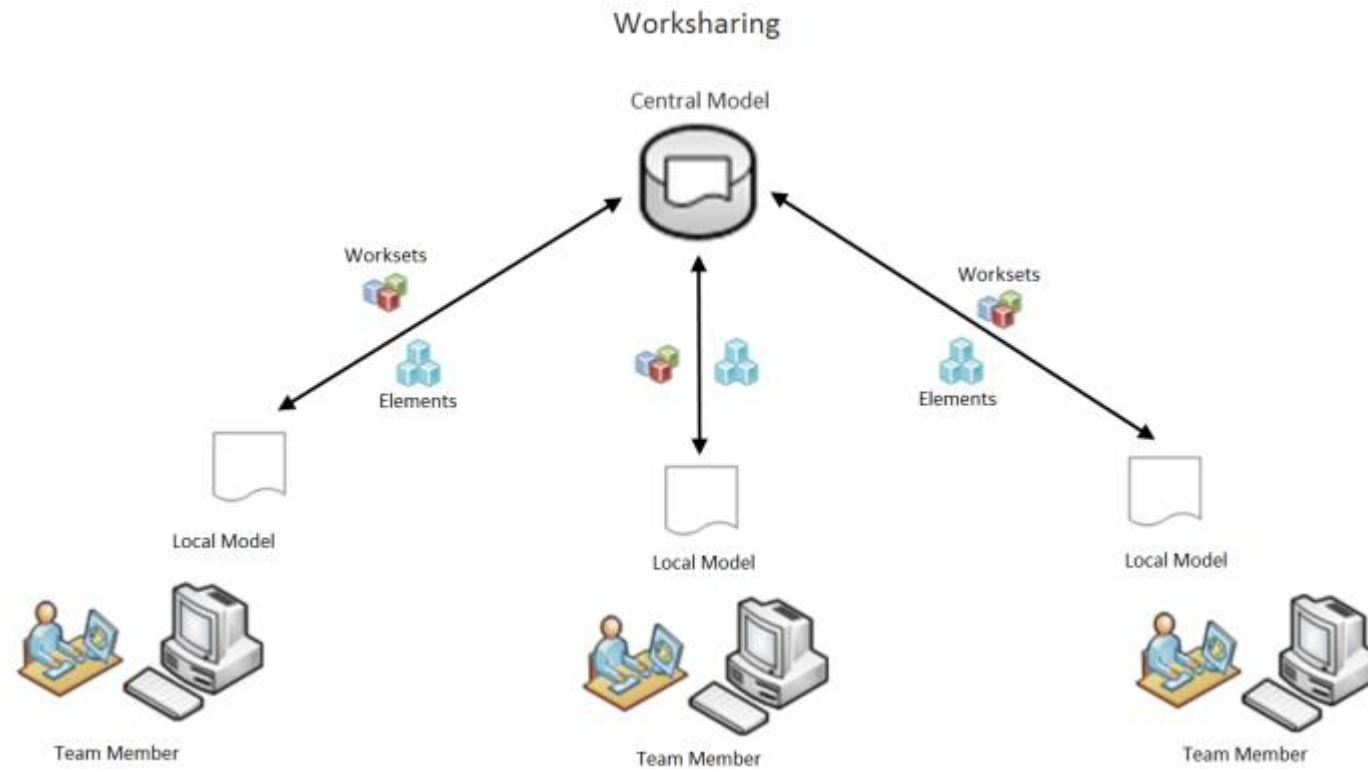
# Creating Central Files

## Summary



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# What is Central?



(Image from Autodesk Knowledge Network)



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# Demonstration...



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# Worksets

## Summary



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# What are Worksets?

A **workset** is a collection of elements in a workshared project. You can create **worksets** based on functional areas, such as the following: For architecture and structural engineering: interior, exterior, and site. For systems: HVAC, electrical, or plumbing.

(From Autodesk  
Knowledge Network)

If we over-simplify them – see them as **Layers**



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# Why use Worksets?

Additional visibility/grouping beyond categories, filters, groups etc.

Open less elements whilst working

They facilitate **Worksharing**



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# Demonstration...



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# My Recommended Worksets

## Architecture

walls, ceilings, finishes, doors, internal windows, railings etc.

## Structure

concrete and steel

## Facade

cladding the building (roof, cladding, soffits etc.)

## Site

outside building, inside site

## Context

outside site

## Levels & Grids

explanatory

## Reference Planes

explanatory

## Scope Boxes

explanatory

## ?Hidden/Working?

Up for debate...

## Links

one per linked **model**, one per linked dwg **set**



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# Workset1



Leave it be!

It behaves like Layer 0/Defpoints in AutoCAD

Holds onto coordinates, nesting behaviours etc.

**Do not rename it, do not use it**



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# Creating Local Files

## Summary



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# Warning!

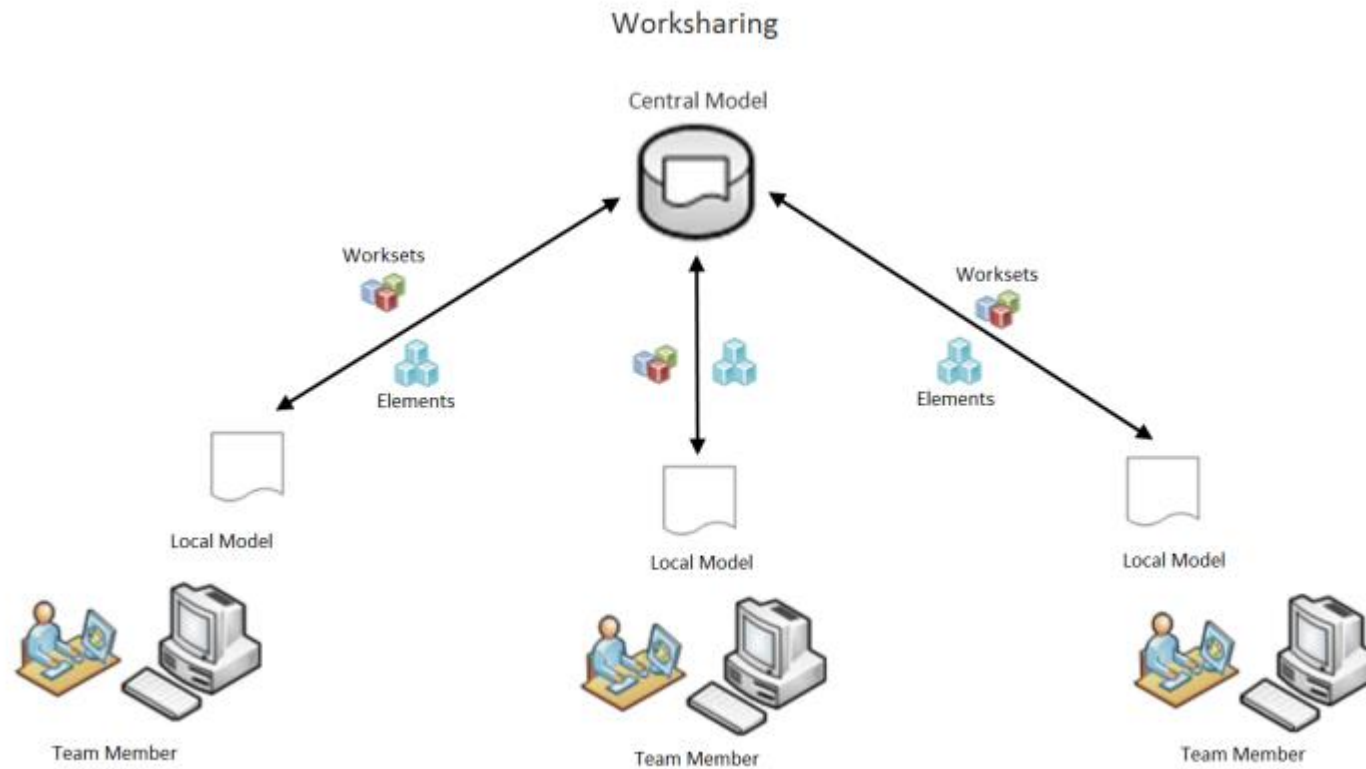


Never open central directly, or via windows explorer. Always through Revit, and as a local file



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# What is a Local file?



(Image from Autodesk Knowledge Network)



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# Demonstration...



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# Note

Whilst you can technically open an old local file, reload latest and keep working...

**It is most often safer and quicker to create a new local file**



# Note

Clean your local files **at least once per week**

Do **not** let them build up, they will take up your local disk drive space and eventually **impact performance**



# Synchronizing

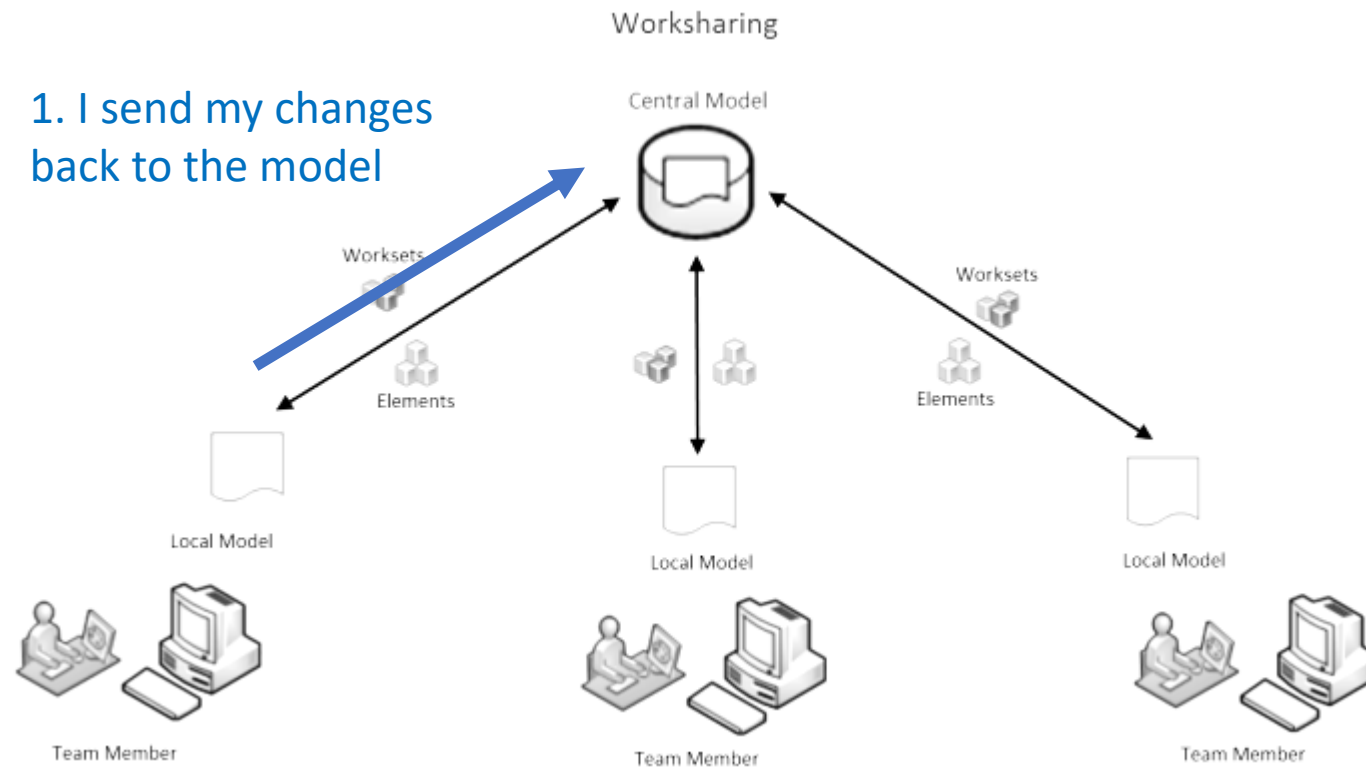
## Summary



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# When I Synchronize

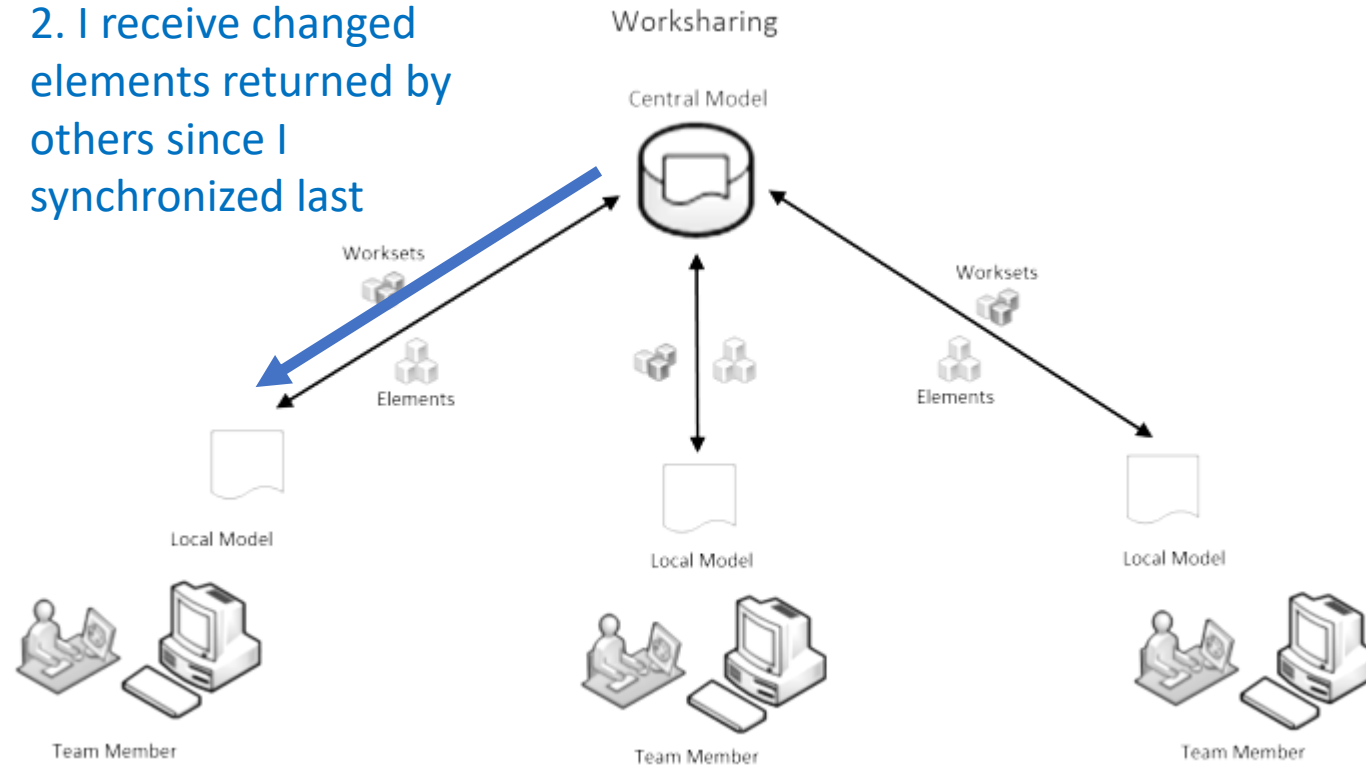
1. I send my changes  
back to the model



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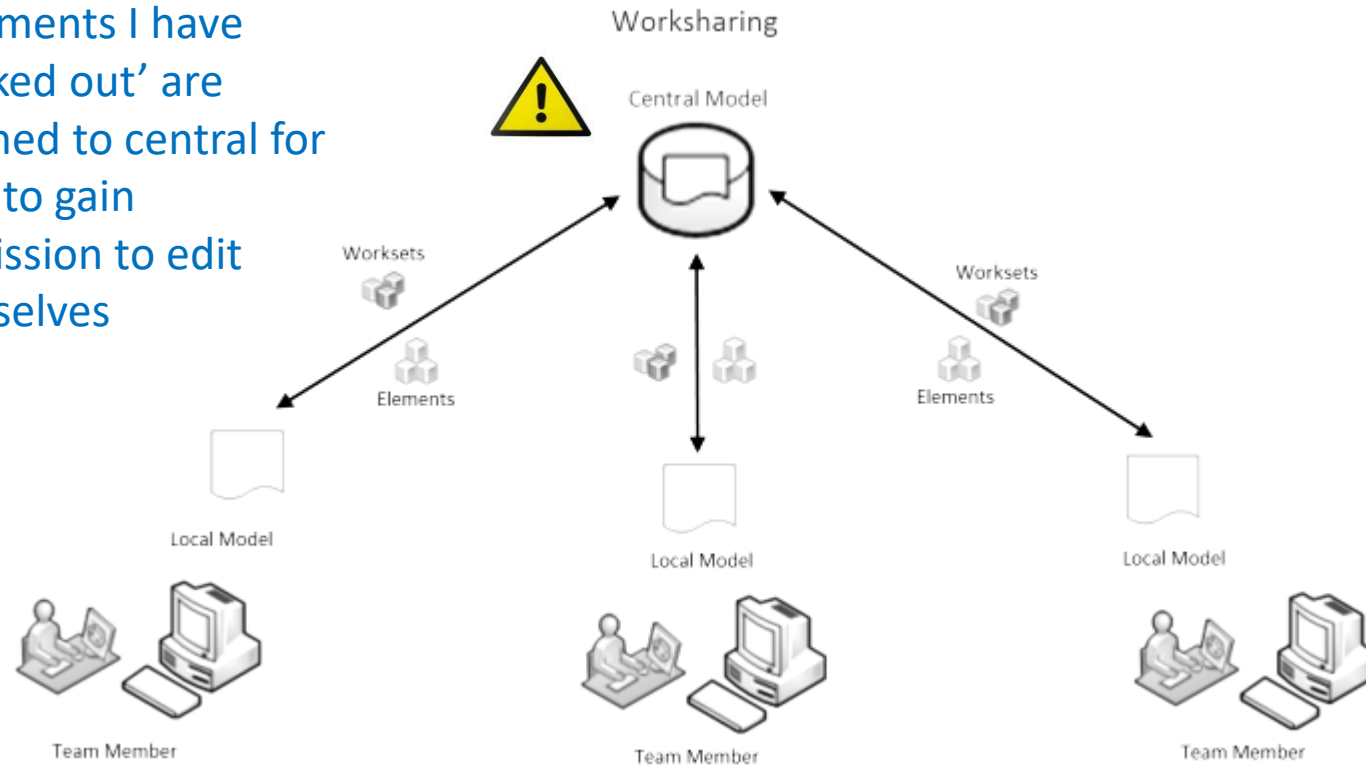
# When I Synchronize

2. I receive changed elements returned by others since I synchronized last

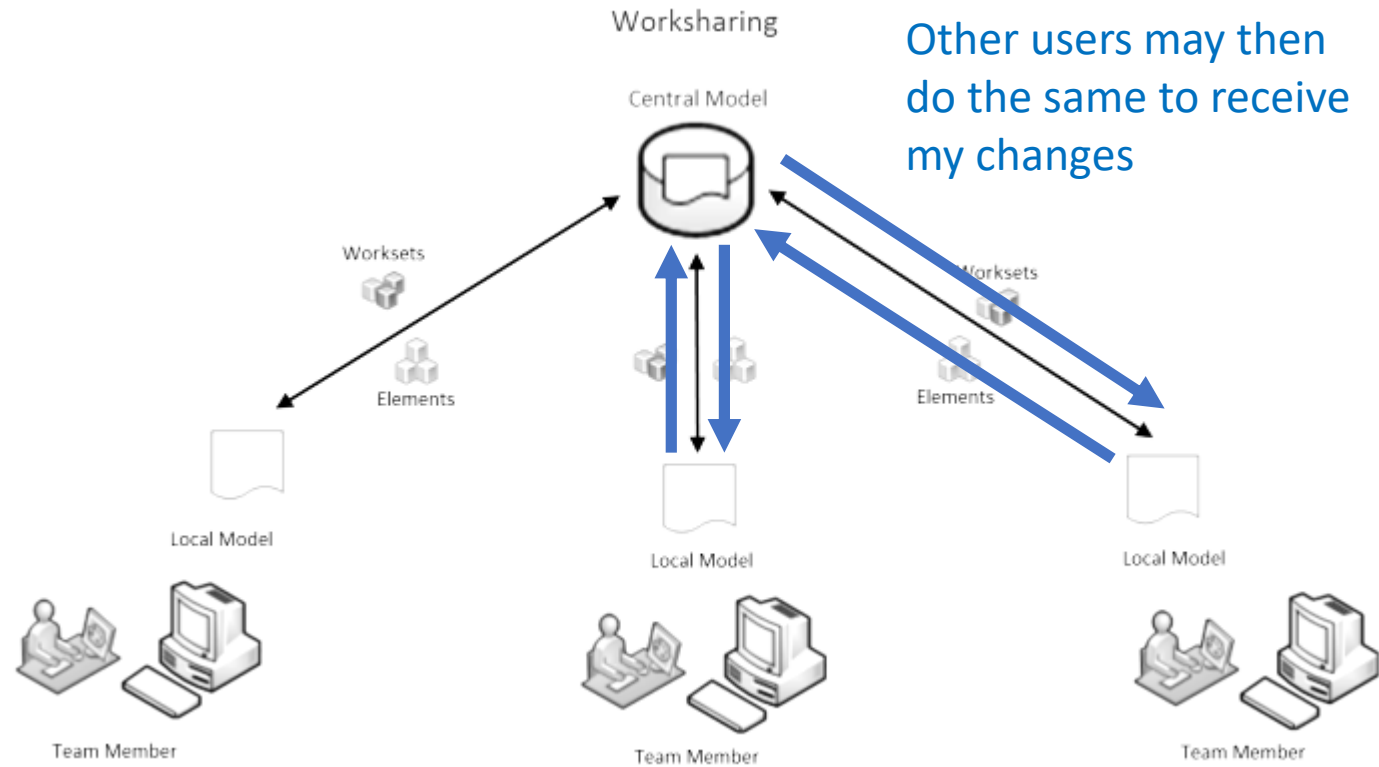


# When I Synchronize

3. Elements I have  
'checked out' are  
returned to central for  
users to gain  
permission to edit  
themselves



# When I Synchronize



# Note

Elements are not automatically updated in other local files until those users also synchronize.

**They may need to synchronize to edit elements you have 'checked out' anyway**

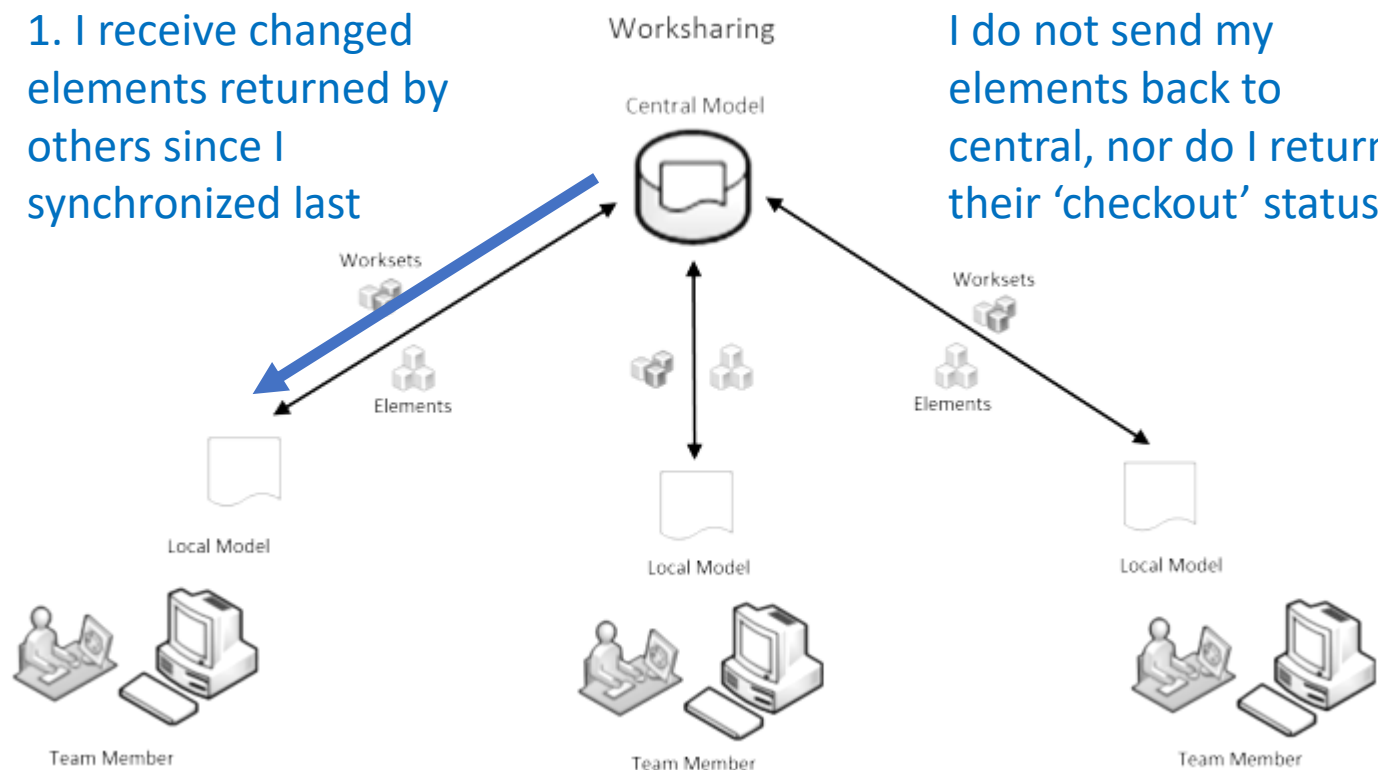




# When I Reload Latest

1. I receive changed elements returned by others since I synchronized last

I do not send my elements back to central, nor do I return their 'checkout' status



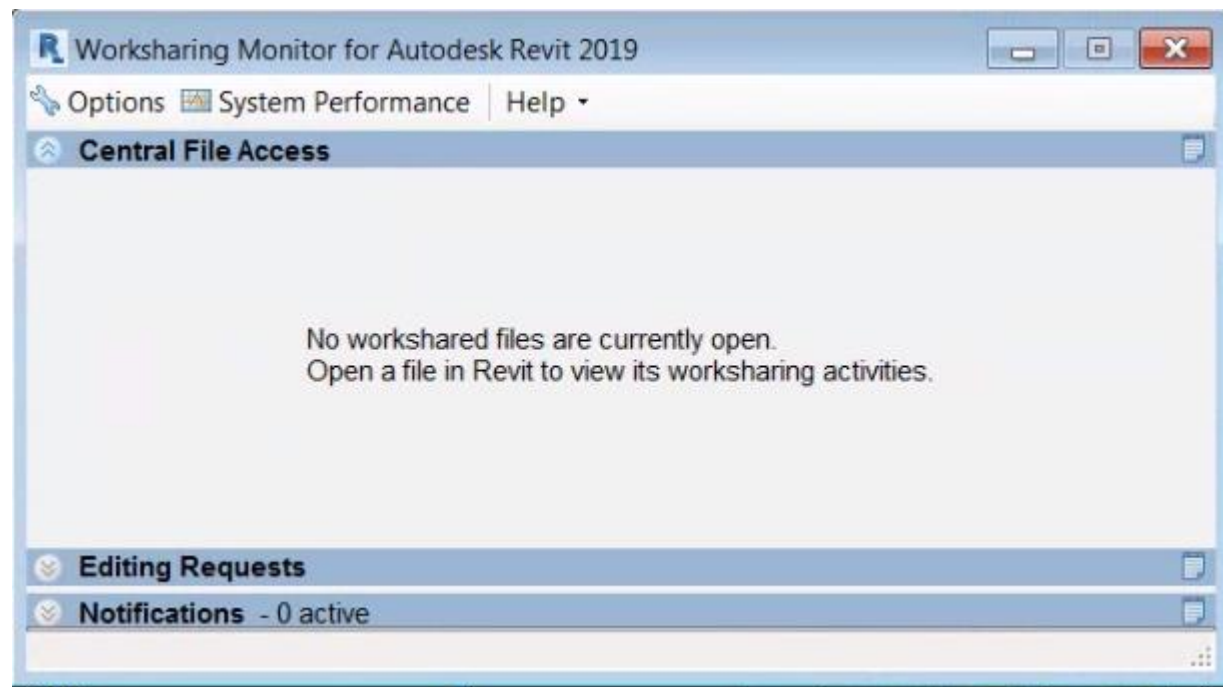
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# Demonstration...

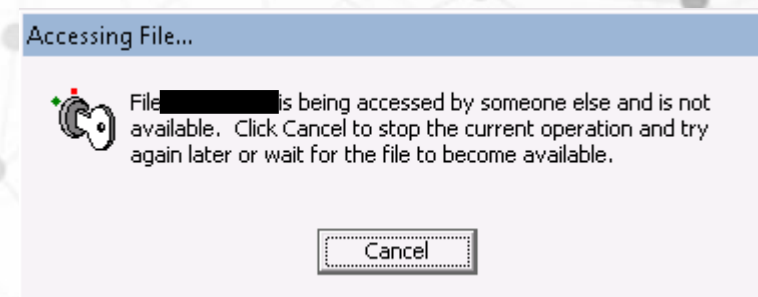


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# Worksharing Monitor



Use it to avoid  
running into **this!**



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# Restoring/Rolling Back

## Demonstration



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# Remember

Worse comes to worse, most servers have a frequent backup window which your IT manager can access for you...



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# Archiving/Moving Central

## Demonstration



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# Rewriting Central

## Summary



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# Why would we do this?

Over time, Revit models get **bloated**.

Source code of the files can gain unused or rogue strings of data, which can lead to;

⚠ **Data corruption!** ⚠



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# Workflow

Once per week (ideally at the end)

1. Everybody out!
2. Archive a copy of Central
3. Copy the backup folder
4. Open detached
5. Save as, over the current Central
6. Synchronize
7. Close
8. Open for business!



