

SolidWorks Automation Suite - Installation Guide

Pre-Installation Checklist

Before installing, ensure you have:

- [] Windows 10/11 (64-bit) operating system
 - [] Administrator privileges on the computer
 - [] .NET Framework 4.8 or higher installed
 - [] SolidWorks 2020 or higher installed and activated
 - [] 500 MB free disk space (minimum)
 - [] 8 GB RAM (16 GB recommended)
 - [] Antivirus temporarily disabled (if causing conflicts)
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Installation Steps

Step 1: Download the Installer

1. Download `SolidWorksAutomation.msi` from:
 - Internal network share: `\\server\Software\SolidWorksAutomation\`
 - Or download from provided link
2. Verify file integrity (optional but recommended):

```
powershell  
Get-FileHash SolidWorksAutomation.msi -Algorithm SHA256
```

Compare with provided hash value.

Step 2: Run the Installer

1. **Right-click** `SolidWorksAutomation.msi`
2. Select **“Run as administrator”**
3. If prompted by User Account Control, click **“Yes”**

Step 3: Welcome Screen

1. Read the welcome message
2. Click **“Next”** to continue

Step 4: License Agreement

1. Read the End User License Agreement
2. Select **“I accept the terms in the License Agreement”**
3. Click **“Next”**

Step 5: Choose Install Location

Default Location: `C:\Program Files\SolidWorksAutomation`

To change:

1. Click **“Change”**
2. Browse to desired location
3. Click **“OK”**
4. Click **“Next”**

Recommended: Use default location for proper functionality.

Step 6: Select Features

Choose components to install:

☒ **Main Application** (Required)

- Core application files
- Dependencies
- Configuration files

☒ **Documentation** (Recommended)

- User guide
- API documentation
- Troubleshooting guide

☐ **Sample Workflows** (Optional)

- Pre-built workflow examples
- Template workflows

Select features and click **“Next”**

Step 7: Shortcuts

Choose shortcut locations:

- [x] Create Start Menu shortcut
- [] Create Desktop shortcut

Click **“Next”**

Step 8: Ready to Install

1. Review installation summary
2. Click **“Install”** to begin
3. Wait for installation to complete (2-5 minutes)

Step 9: Completion

1. Installation complete message appears
2. [] Launch SolidWorks Automation Suite
3. Click **“Finish”**

Post-Installation Configuration

First Launch Setup

When you first launch the application:

1. Initial Connection

The application will attempt to connect to SolidWorks:

If SolidWorks is Running:

- Application attaches to running instance
- Connection status shows “Connected”

If SolidWorks is Not Running:

- Application prompts to start SolidWorks
- Click “Yes” to start
- Wait for connection (15-30 seconds)

2. Configure Paths

1. Open Settings (Tools → Settings)
2. Navigate to “Paths” tab
3. Configure folders:

Templates Path: Location of SolidWorks templates

Recommended: C:\SolidWorks\Templates

Workflows Path: Where workflows are saved

Default: %AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\Workflows

Output Path: Generated files location

Recommended: D:\SolidWorksOutput (or project-specific folder)

Logs Path: Application logs

Default: %AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\Logs

1. Click “Apply” then “OK”

3. Test Connection

1. Click “Connect to SolidWorks” button
2. Verify connection status shows “Connected”
3. Check SolidWorks version is displayed

Verification

Verify Installation

1. Check Installation Folder:

C:\Program Files\SolidWorksAutomation\

Should contain:

- UnifiedUI.exe
- Configuration files
- Documentation folder
- Templates folder (if selected)

2. Check Start Menu:

- Windows Start
- Search “SolidWorks Automation”
- Shortcut should appear

3. Check Registry:

Open Registry Editor (regedit) and verify:

`HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\SolidWorksAutomation`

4. Launch Application:

- Click Start Menu shortcut
- Application should launch without errors
- Main window appears within 5 seconds

Test Basic Functionality

1. Connection Test:

- Launch SolidWorks
- Launch SolidWorks Automation
- Verify connection indicator is green

2. Document Test:

- Open a simple part in SolidWorks
- In application, check that active document is detected

3. Settings Test:

- Open Settings (Ctrl+,)
- Verify all tabs are accessible
- Try changing a setting and saving

Network Installation

For deploying to multiple computers:

Option 1: Group Policy Deployment

1. Copy MSI to network share:

`\\server\Software\SolidWorksAutomation\SolidWorksAutomation.msi`

2. Create GPO:

- Open Group Policy Management
- Create new GPO
- Edit → Computer Configuration → Software Settings → Software Installation
- Right-click → New → Package
- Browse to MSI file
- Select "Assigned"

3. Deploy:

- Link GPO to target OU
- Force update: `gpupdate /force`
- Installation occurs on next computer restart

Option 2: Silent Installation

For automated deployment:

```
msiexec /i SolidWorksAutomation.msi /quiet /norestart /log install.log
```

With Parameters:

```
msiexec /i SolidWorksAutomation.msi /quiet /norestart ^
  INSTALLFOLDER="C:\CustomPath\SolidWorksAutomation" ^
  ADDLOCAL=MainApplication,Documentation ^
  /log install.log
```

Parameters:

- /quiet : No user interface
- /norestart : Don't restart computer
- /log : Create log file
- INSTALLFOLDER : Custom install location
- ADDLOCAL : Features to install

Option 3: SCCM Deployment

For System Center Configuration Manager:

1. Create Application:

- SCCM Console → Software Library → Application Management
- Create Application → Manually specify application information

2. Add Deployment Type:

- Type: Windows Installer
- Content: Path to MSI
- Installation program: `msiexec /i SolidWorksAutomation.msi /quiet`
- Detection method: File system check for UnifiedUI.exe

3. Deploy:

- Distribute content to distribution points
- Deploy to device collection
- Set deployment purpose (Required/Available)

Upgrading**Upgrade from Previous Version**

The installer automatically:

1. Detects older version
2. Removes old version
3. Installs new version
4. Preserves user data (settings, workflows, logs)

Manual Steps:**1. Backup User Data** (optional but recommended):

```
%AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\
```

Copy to safe location

2. Export Settings:

- Open application

- Settings → Export Settings
 - Save to file
3. **Run New Installer:**
 - Follow installation steps above
 - Installer handles upgrade automatically
 4. **Import Settings** (if needed):
 - Settings → Import Settings
 - Select exported file
 5. **Verify:**
 - Check version: Help → About
 - Test workflows
 - Verify connections
-

Uninstallation

Method 1: Control Panel

1. Open **Control Panel**
2. Navigate to **Programs and Features**
3. Find **“SolidWorks Automation Suite”**
4. Click **“Uninstall”**
5. Follow prompts
6. Click **“Yes”** to confirm

Method 2: Settings App

1. Open **Windows Settings** (Win+I)
2. Go to **Apps**
3. Search for **“SolidWorks Automation”**
4. Click application
5. Click **“Uninstall”**
6. Confirm removal

Method 3: Silent Uninstallation

```
msiexec /x {ProductGUID} /quiet /norestart /log uninstall.log
```

Or by MSI path:

```
msiexec /x SolidWorksAutomation.msi /quiet /norestart /log uninstall.log
```

What Gets Removed

The uninstaller removes:

- Application files
- Start Menu shortcuts

- Desktop shortcuts (if created)
- Registry entries

What Gets Preserved

User data is **NOT** removed:

- Workflows: %AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\Workflows\
- Settings: %AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\settings.json
- Profiles: %AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\Profiles\
- Logs: %AppData%\SolidWorksAutomation\Logs\

Complete Removal

To remove all traces including user data:

1. Uninstall application (methods above)
2. Delete user data folder:

```
powershell
```

```
Remove-Item -Recurse -Force "$env:APPDATA\SolidWorksAutomation"
```

3. Clean registry (optional):

```
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\SolidWorksAutomation
```

Troubleshooting Installation

Issue: “Installation Failed” Error

Cause: Missing prerequisites or permissions

Solution:

1. Verify .NET Framework 4.8 is installed
2. Run installer as Administrator
3. Check disk space (need 500 MB free)
4. Disable antivirus temporarily
5. Check Windows Event Viewer for details

Issue: “.NET Framework 4.8 Required” Error

Solution:

1. Download .NET Framework 4.8 from Microsoft
2. Install .NET Framework 4.8
3. Restart computer
4. Run installer again

Issue: “SolidWorks Not Found” Warning

Solution:

- This is a warning, not an error
- Install SolidWorks 2020 or higher
- Or continue installation (you can install SolidWorks later)

Issue: Installer Hangs or Freezes

Solution:

1. Wait 5-10 minutes (may be processing)

2. If still frozen:

- Open Task Manager
- End "msiexec.exe" process
- Restart computer
- Run installer again

Issue: "Another Version Already Installed"

Solution:

1. Uninstall existing version first
 2. Restart computer
 3. Run new installer
-

Advanced Configuration

Custom Installation Paths

To install to custom location:

During Installation:

- Step 5: Click "Change"
- Browse to desired location
- Must have write permissions

After Installation (not recommended):

- Move files manually
- Update registry entries
- Update shortcuts

Proxy Configuration

If behind corporate proxy:

1. Configure system proxy:

Settings → Network & Internet → Proxy

2. Or configure in application:

Settings → Network → Proxy Settings

Firewall Configuration

Allow application through firewall:

1. Windows Firewall → Allow an app
 2. Click "Change settings"
 3. Click "Allow another app"
 4. Browse to UnifiedUI.exe
 5. Check both Private and Public
 6. Click "Add"
-

Support

Installation Support

If you encounter issues:

1. **Check Installation Log:**

`%TEMP%\MSI*.log`

Sort by date, open most recent

2. **Contact Support:**

- Email: support@example.com
- Include: Installation log, error messages, system info

3. **Community Help:**

- GitHub Issues: <https://github.com/swiffc/Solidworks-Automation/issues>
- Search for similar issues first

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