How to Work with Provided Eagle PCB Files

Download and Install Eagle

- 1. Visit the [Autodesk Eagle Download Page]
- 2. Create an Autodesk account if you don't already have one.
- 3. Download the installer compatible with your operating system (Windows, macOS, or Linux).
- 4. Install the application following the on-screen instructions.
- 5. Note: Eagle is now bundled with *Fusion 360 Electronics*, but you can still access Eagle independently.

Open the Provided Files

- 1. Launch Eagle.
- 2. Navigate to File \rightarrow Open \rightarrow Project.
- 3. Locate the downloaded project folder containing the schematic and board files.
- 4. Open the .sch (schematic) file first to ensure netlists are correct.
- 5. Open the corresponding .brd (board) file to view the PCB layout.

Add Any Missing Libraries

- 1. Identify missing libraries from Control Panel \rightarrow Libraries \rightarrow Used Libraries.
- 2. Download required .lbr files from trusted sources or request them from the project provider.
- 3. In Eagle:
 - a. Open Control Panel → Libraries.
 - b. Right-click and select Open Library Manager.
 - c. Under the Available tab, click Browse to add the .lbr files.
 - d. Enable the library by clicking the green checkmark.

Review and Edit the PCB Layout

- 1. Verify that all components are placed properly.
- 2. Check routing and connectivity visually.
- 3. Use Tools → Ratsnest to ensure all nets are correctly updated.

Run the Autorouter (if Necessary)

- 1. Select Tools → Autorouter.
- 2. Configure settings:
 - a. Layers (e.g., TOP and BOTTOM for two-layer boards).

- b. Effort Level (start with "Medium").
- 4. Click Start to run the autorouter.

Introduce or Verify Ground Planes

- 1. Select the Polygon tool from the toolbar.
- 2. Check if a GND polygon already exists.
- 3. If not, draw a rectangle surrounding the board outline.
- 4. Set the Signal Name to GND.
- 5. Click Ratsnest to fill the copper pour.

Run Design Rule Check (DRC)

- 1. Go to Tools \rightarrow DRC.
- 2. Load manufacturer-specific DRC settings if provided.
- 3. Click Check to run the analysis.
- 4. Fix any errors (and seriously review warnings).

Export Gerber Files for Manufacturing

- 1. Open **File → CAM Processor**.
- 2. Use a predefined Gerber job (if available) or set up your own layer stack.
- 3. Export:
 - a. Copper layers (Top/Bottom)
 - b. Silkscreens
 - c. Solder masks
 - d. Drill files (NC Drill)
- 4. Package all exported Gerber files into a ZIP folder ready to send to a PCB manufacturer.