

Questions and Answers

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What is the cloud?

Think of cloud computing as essentially just renting processing power and storage space on a virtual server that is managed in a remote datacenter, accessible over the internet. Information in the cloud can be accessed from anywhere at any time and from any location. The cloud is infinitely scalable, meaning you only use and pay for what you need.

Why would I want to use the cloud?

Imagine that you are working on intensive design tasks, such as rendering or energy analysis, on your desktop computer. Often, conducting these tasks can result in tying up your computer for several hours as the data is crunched and rigorous jobs are completed. With the cloud, the data moves from the desktop into virtual space. The data can then be crunched on a virtual machine, and once the rendering or simulation is complete, results return to the desktop.

What is Autodesk BIM 360?

Autodesk® BIM 360™ is the next generation of BIM, for anyone, anywhere, at any time. Building, infrastructure design, and construction professionals can access intelligent model-based workflows through a broad range of cloud-based services within the Autodesk® 360 platform, which provides mobility and accessibility through infinite computing power. Autodesk BIM 360 helps multidiscipline design and construction teams improve project outcomes by moving computational-intensive tasks to the cloud, enabling more rapid visualization and simulation and optimized collaboration with access to intelligent data-rich models.

Autodesk BIM 360 services:

Energy analysis can help designers, architects, engineers, and building energy analysts perform faster, more accurate energy analysis of multiple building design iterations, optimize energy efficiency, and work toward carbon neutrality earlier in the design process.

Structural analysis provides cloud-based structural analysis to structural engineers as a part of the BIM process. Design models can be extended to the cloud for analysis and once analysis is complete, results can be visualized and explored.

Rendering helps designers, architects, engineers, and contractors reduce time and project costs and produce compelling, near-photorealistic visualizations—without tying up the desktop or requiring specialized rendering hardware.

Clash detection, coordination and collaboration brings BIM to the cloud with technology that supports multi-discipline model coordination and intelligent object data exchange for the building and infrastructure industries. This approach enables architects, engineers, owners and builders across the globe to collaborate in real time in over 50 different 3D formats, while providing a solution to distribute BIM data into external business systems.

Conceptual design and feasibility evaluation enables users to publish, store, and manage large models in the cloud. Users can invite authorized team members to access, download, and edit shared models and scenarios simultaneously and review multiple project proposals using the same data—more securely, without sending files via email or external hard drives.

Field management, commissioning and handover services enable construction industry professionals to combine mobile technologies and BIM at the point of construction. Automation of field processes such as quality, safety and commissioning checklists, distribution of plans and drawings, and mobile model access helps to provide measurable time and cost savings for AEC projects.

How is Autodesk BIM 360 different from what was announced last year?

Last year, Autodesk launched BIM 360 as a collection of solutions that help design professionals solve their data management and collaboration challenges. Since then, the needs of the marketplace have evolved and greater demands have arisen for access to information from anywhere at any time. To better support the needs of building and infrastructure professionals, Autodesk BIM 360 has therefore evolved more broadly into the next generation of BIM, providing cloud-based services that support design, visualization, simulation, and collaboration.

How does Autodesk BIM 360 relate to Autodesk 360 and Autodesk PLM 360?

Autodesk 360 is the Autodesk platform for accessing the infinite computing power of the cloud, enabling design professionals to more rapidly design, visualize, simulate, and collaborate from anywhere, at any time. Autodesk® PLM 360 and Autodesk BIM 360 are groups of cloud-enabled offerings that utilize the Autodesk 360 platform. Together, the 360 offerings provide:

- Next generation of BIM with cloud-based services that support design, visualization, simulation, and collaboration—with BIM 360.
- Optimized business process interaction through cloud-based services—with PLM 360.

Can I buy Autodesk BIM 360?

Autodesk BIM 360 is a set of cloud-based services, not an individual software offering. The services that comprise Autodesk BIM 360 are available as new term license purchases or as Subscription entitlements. Learn more about how these services are offered at the [Autodesk BIM 360](#) center.

What pricing and availability applies for the Autodesk BIM 360 services?

Learn more about pricing and availability at the [Autodesk BIM 360](#) center.

Is Autodesk BIM 360 secure?

Autodesk invests heavily in the security and reliability of the Autodesk 360 platform to help provide you with better security and data protection. Find detailed information about [Autodesk 360 security](#).

Where can I find out more information about Autodesk BIM 360?

For more information about Autodesk BIM 360, visit the [Autodesk BIM 360](#) center.

What are the key benefits of the conceptual design and feasibility evaluation service?

- Help collaborate and share conceptual design ideas in the cloud with teams located anywhere, minimizing the need to buy expensive storage hardware
- More reliably manage and share large infrastructure models with remote teams

What are the key benefits of the clash detection, coordination, and collaboration service?

- Provide the entire project team with one-click access to BIM project data – anytime, anywhere.
- Make better decisions earlier by communicating in the context of the coordinated project model.
- Help identify, communicate and resolve conflicts before construction begins.
- Simplify multi-discipline BIM coordination workflows by helping to reduce file format complexity and compatibility issues
- Improve team productivity with round-trip coordination workflows from Autodesk® Revit® software products, AutoCAD® software, and AutoCAD® Civil 3D® software.
- Reduce time spent in coordination meetings with help from real-time clash detection and coordination.
- Support team communication with notifications and activity tracking
- Better leverage the value of the model by connecting the live BIM data to project control systems.

What are the key benefits of the structural analysis service?

- Perform static analysis from the cloud so as to minimize any disruption to their workflow or performance
- Simultaneously perform static analysis for various buildings models or parts of a project
- Calculate different variants of the same model simultaneously (for example, using differing materials at the same time)

What are the key benefits of the energy analysis service?

- Improve project quality by incorporating energy and performance analysis into design decision making
- Easily compare energy consumption, loads, and lifecycle costs of multiple design options using side-by-side views of reports
- Communicate analysis results to project stakeholders using easy-to-interpret, graphical reports
- Design professionals access a cloud-based global climate data set that contains more than 1.5 million weather data sets from within Autodesk® Revit®*, Autodesk® Revit® Architecture or Autodesk® Revit® MEP software
- Conduct building performance analysis rapidly, while minimizing any disruption to the design workflow

What are the key benefits of the rendering service?

Rendering helps to reduce time and project costs by enabling visualizations to be produced in the cloud. Compelling, near-photorealistic visualizations can be more easily produced without tying up the desktop or requiring specialized rendering hardware.

*Autodesk Revit software is an application that combines the capabilities of Autodesk® Revit® Architecture, Autodesk® Revit® MEP and Autodesk® Revit® Structure software, and which is only available as part of the Autodesk® Building Design Suite 2013 Premium Edition and the Autodesk® Building Design Suite 2013 Ultimate Edition.

**Autodesk 360 Energy Analysis is web-based energy analysis that is only available to Autodesk Subscription customers of Autodesk Revit software, Autodesk Revit Architecture software, and/or Autodesk Revit MEP software, or an Autodesk suite containing Autodesk Revit software, Autodesk Revit Architecture software, and/or Autodesk Revit MEP software, during the term of their Subscription.

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