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Solidworks recommended specs

You’re bound to encounter numerous crashes and overall instability.Using integrated graphics with Solidworks simply isn’t recommended. Some features, like RealView graphical rendering requires a supported card.SOLIDWORKS only supports OpenGL hardware acceleration. For general modeling, aim for higher clock speeds over number of cores.Though multi-processing is not heavily utilized within the core SOLIDWORKS modeling program, they can be helpful to run multiple applications simultaneously on your computer.SOLIDWORKS add-ins like SOLIDWORKS Simulation, and SOLIDWORKS Flow Simulation do utilize multi-processing capabilities extensively. This is due to the fact that the cores have to communicate with each other to complete the task, which can slow things down. Find out the minimum and recommended hardware, operating system and Microsoft products for SOLIDWORKS and SW Data Management. These workstations have been tested, optimized, and certified to run professional applications like SOLIDWORKS. The CPU is a lot more important, but having a capable enough graphics card sure will come in clutch.Whether you opt for a gaming model or a workstation one depends entirely on your needs and budget. The more RAM you have, the more and larger the programs you can run at peak performance. Find graphics card drivers for your system to ensure system performance and stability. Most of computers and especially laptops nowadays come with multiple cores. You can’t, therefore, cut too many corners, lest you end up with a system that’ll barely chug through the most basic of designs and models.CPU (Processor) RequirementsA processor with a high operating frequency and tremendous single-core performance is an absolute must. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. SOLIDWORKS Subscription Service Certification Training SOLIDWORKS Store Dassault Systèmes’ Solidworks is the industry standard when it comes to computer-aided design (CAD) and computer-aided engineering (CAE).It was first released back in November of 1995 and has quickly risen to prominence due to its staggering featureset and incredible versatility.It’s not the only option of its kind but it nonetheless stands in a league of its own, with millions upon millions of engineers and designers across the globe using it on a daily basis.Image Credit: SolidworksHow demanding is it, though? You might see a slight uplift in performance but that may come at the cost of stability which should be avoided at all costs.Is Solidworks Free?It is not. Not enough system memory results in poor system performance.SOLIDWORKS recommends at least 16 GBs of RAM.Javelin recommends at least 32 GBs of RAM, at least 64 GBs if you are conducting regular FEA and CFD simulations.Additional RAM will not improve performance if sufficient memory space is available. For SolidWorks 2020 we recommend Intel’s i9 or Xeon 8-core processors. If physical memory resources are exhausted, virtual memory may be used causing poor performance.Graphics CardThe graphics card is one of the most commonly overlooked SOLIDWORKS hardware component when configuring a workstation. SOLIDWORKS provides a general list of minimum requirements and recommendations on their website. Here is the list of vendors that produce SolidWorks-suitable laptops: HP Lenovo Dell Fujitsu MSI Panasonic Clevo (laptops) BOXX Javelin has compiled this SOLIDWORKS 2024 hardware requirements guide to aid you in the process of upgrading or purchasing new hardware. 32GB would be a good middle ground.Storage RequirementsUsing an SSD in today’s day and age is pretty much a must. Your businesses time is better used designing and building great designs with SOLIDWORKS, not troubleshooting compatibility issues with your hardware components.“Higher numbers are always better”Do not simply look at raw numbers and specifications when comparing components. Overall, the program is not sensitive to RAM speed, so get whatever is cheapest. Additionally, SOLIDWORKS 2019 and newer leverages OpenGL 4.5 for improved performance with the Enhanced Graphics Performance option enabled.SOLIDWORKS Visualize utilizes different GPU architectures for rendering in hybrid and GPU modes. One of the main advantages of SSD is that it does not have any moving parts as opposed to the traditional drive. Hardware and system requirements for SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD products. What’s the barrier to entry?The only reason — and, in all fairness, it’s quite a valid one — why we can give this a pass is because Solidworks, at its core, is a program targeted towards industry professionals and large companies. If your projects are even heavier than that, then 64GB of RAM would be a much better option.You really shouldn’t skimp out on RAM if working in Solidworks is your primary goal. If an iGPU is all you have, we suggest you give Fusion 360 a look as it performs a lot better on integrated graphics (an understatement).Over to YouHave you ever used Solidworks and, if so, what was that experience like? Check with your reseller or the manufacturer of the software for compatibility and support.SOLIDWORKS 2024 supports the use of Microsoft Office 2016 or newer. Word and Excel are needed in order to generate Design Tables, analytical reports, and Excel based BOMs.DS SOLIDWORKS recommends a trusted antivirus product updated to the latest version. Drives, especially disk based non-SSDs, run optimally when sufficient “empty” hard drive space is provided.Only Windows-based storage is supported. Review the SOLIDWORKS Network License Server requirements in addition to these requirements.For best performance, Javelin highly recommends a dedicated server environment. Your graphics card affects how smoothly the images on screen rotate, zoom, pan, and refresh. Compare pre-configured systems for … RAM: 16 GB is the minimum I'd recommend running SolidWorks with. Would you like to run SolidWorks on a Mac computer? You can, generally speaking, get it for cheap (if not even free) if you’re a hobbyist, student, or start-up, which is definitely an option worth exploring.Image Credit: SolidworksFor a detailed price guide, we suggest you give the following article a read.There’s also a free trial available as well. Here’s a list of some of the suitable cards as of 2020: Radeon Pro WX 9100 Quadro P1000 Radeon Pro WX 8200 Quadro P2000 Radeon Pro WX 7130 Quadro P3000 Radeon Pro WX 7100 Quadro P3200 Radeon Pro WX 5100 Quadro P4000 Radeon Pro WX 4170 Quadro P4200 Radeon Pro WX2100 Quadro P420 Radeon Pro WX3100 Quadro P5000 Radeon Pro W41xx Quadro P5200 Quadro M6000 Quadro P520 Quadro M600M Quadro P6000 Quadro M620 Quadro P6200 Quadro T1000 Quadro P620 Quadro T2000 Quadro RTX3000 Quadro M2200 Quadro RTX4000 Quadro M4000 Quadro RTX5000 Quadro M5000 Quadro RTX6000/ RTX8000 See more detailed Graphics card information by vendor on Solidworks website. The amount of RAM directly correlates to the number and size of programs that can run at any given moment on your system. In terms of RAM, you will need at least 16Gb. The larger the models you work on, the more memory the computer needs to keep things moving. Find the best workstation for your SOLIDWORKS needs with expert advice and discounts from GoEngineer and Dell. Consult your Javelin SOLIDWORKS PDM Implementation Professional for recommended memory amounts based on your usage and server configuration.The processor should be a relatively current Intel or AMD processor. It’s a very complex program with more features and options than you can shake a stick at.You can grasp its basics relatively quickly, but the learning curve is nonetheless quite steep, especially for moderately demanding projects (to say nothing of highly complex assemblies and models).Still, the web is littered with guides and tutorials (both written and those in video format), so you’ll be able to master Solidworks at a fairly respectable pace — assuming you’re really driven to do so, that is.It’s a relatively forgiving program as long as you have a beginner-friendly tutorial to aid you. Refer to SOLIDWORKS Visualize requirements for more information.Hard DrivesOther than acting as storage space for applications and files, the hard drive can play a vital role in your system’s overall performance.For optimal performance, DS SOLIDWORKS recommends a high-speed Solid State Drive (SSD). Get the fastest processor you can afford You will need a fast Processor – 3.3 Ghz or higher. The benefits of owning a laptop are well known: you can take it on business trips, to client’s premises, or take it home (this is especially useful in the times of COVID). The reason behind this is that most of Mechanical Computer Aided Design (MCAD) software is single-threaded. Software requirements for SolidWorks MS Word and Excel: 2013, 2016, 2019 64-bit versions for Solidworks 2020. That being said, that’s not the only prerequisite to running and harnessing all that Solidworks has to offer.Rendering and simulation benefit greatly from a higher core count processor, so going with a top-of-the-line CPU from Intel or AMD will provide the best possible experience.Something like the Core i7-13700K (or better) would be your best bet or, alternatively, an equivalent option from AMD (like the Ryzen 9 7950X or 5950X, for instance).Threadripper CPUs from AMD and Xeon ones from Intel are also tremendously powerful because of their rendering and simulation performance, but they don’t clock as high and are noticeably more expensive.It’s not a worthwhile trade-off, all things considered, but is nonetheless an avenue worth exploring depending on your overall use-case and budget.Here’s how two Xeon CPUs stack up against more mainstream options from Intel and AMD:Source: Puget SystemsThese results are somewhat outdated given that they’re three years old, but the point stands nonetheless.Moreover, with newer CPUs becoming more and more powerful, this performance gap has narrowed quite a bit, which makes mainstream processors from Intel and AMD the best and most cost-effective choice for working in Solidworks.GPU (Video Card) RequirementsBuying a workstation graphics card for Solidworks is, at least to a certain degree, highly recommended.It is by no means a must, but there are certain features that are only supported on workstation GPUs (as opposed to gaming ones) like RealView, for instance.Source: SolidworksMoreover, with the introduction of the Enhanced Graphics Performance mode in Solidworks 2019, there’s a much larger gap performance-wise between entry-, mid-, and high-end workstation cards, as evidenced in the following image:Source: Puget SystemsThis doesn’t mean that “entry-level” Quadro GPUs (now just named RTX with the “A” suffix or Quadro RTX, in some instances) are insufficiently capable, but rather that there’s an ostensible difference in performance.The main benefit of getting a workstation GPU is impeccable stability, official certification, and driver support (in addition to a couple of unique features within Solidworks itself). Your computer will need to process information quickly in order to ensure good SolidWorks performance, so the difference in speed will have a substantial effect. It’s not something you can just open up and start working without first submerging yourself in its fundamentals and truly impressive featureset.Can You Run Solidworks on Integrated Graphics (iGPU)?You can, generally speaking, but you’re not going to have a good time. Consider adding exemptions for SOLIDWORKS file types in the antivirus software to improve performance with Open/Save/Save As operations.SOLIDWORKS PDM System RequirementsSOLIDWORKS PDM uses SOLIDWORKS SolidNetwork Licensing (SNL). In fact, you can forget about 8Gb as it will definately not be sufficient. We suggest using the following recommendations in tandem with those requirements.Common SOLIDWORKS Hardware Requirements Misconceptions“Build your own custom SOLIDWORKS 2024 system to save money!”Though building and configuring your own SOLIDWORKS CAD system (workstation) can be fun, Javelin strongly recommends purchasing a pre-configured system from a reputable hardware manufacturer. There’s really nothing to grasp onto, nothing to analyze or think about — it’s as austere as it gets.How does Solidworks scale with additional performance? Operating system requirements for SolidWorks It is always advisable to go for the latest OS as otherwise you will end up with no updates of support in a year or two. Balance number of cores and clock speed for Simulation workstations.System Memory (RAM)System memory is another important SOLIDWORKS hardware component for overall system performance. We recommend you go for 32Gb or RAM or more for optimum performance. Multi-core processor and SolidWorks SolidWorks runs best on a fast single core processor. The multi-core processor has several processing units (cores) where each of them reads and executes program isntructions. Consumer class graphics cards are optimized to play the newest video games, but not to run professional applications like 3D CAD and are the most common source of SOLIDWORKS instability.The SOLIDWORKS Hardware Certification page provides a comprehensive list of supported graphics cards and certified drivers. Heck, there’s no macOS version at all.You’ll either have to resort to using 3DEXPERIENCE (which basically runs Solidworks inside your browser) or, alternatively, running it within a virtual machine (through Parallels, for instance)If you have an Intel-based Mac device you can still use it through Boot Camp, but that’s no longer an option for Apple Silicon users.Working in Solidworks through a virtual machine is possible (and it runs fairly well, all things considered), but you’ll nonetheless face numerous graphical issues (amongst other things).It’s an okay option for some light and moderately demanding work, but it is by no means adequate for professional use.Is Solidworks CPU or GPU Intensive?It thrives off both. And, in case you need any additional help, feel free to reach out on our forum!FAQLet’s go over a few potential questions you might have regarding Solidworks and all that it entails:How Much RAM Do You Need for Solidworks?16GB is the bare minimum. Other configurations, such as servers with the addition of domain controllers, have been found to introduce variables that should be avoided whenever possible.SOLIDWORKS PDM 2024 Database and Archive servers are only supported in the Windows Server 2019 and 2022 operating system environments.SOLIDWORKS recommends at least 8GB of RAM or more for Archive and Database servers. Operating system and hardware requirements for license servers are slightly different than their clients.The 2024 SOLIDWORKS Network License (SNL) Server is only supported under the Windows 10, Windows 11, Windows Server 2019 and 2022.SOLIDWORKS offers support for certain Virtual Environments. NAS or SAN storage is not officially tested or supported by SOLIDWORKS.Supporting Software ConsiderationsOperating SystemSOLIDWORKS 2024 is only supported under the Windows operating systems.Windows 11 is supported with SW 2022 SP2 and newer.SOLIDWORKS 2020 was the last version that supported Windows 7 SP1, (64bit).eDrawings 2024 is supported under the macOS 12.0 (Monterey) or higher operating systems.Refer to the SOLIDWORKS system requirements page for additional information.SOLIDWORKS Network License (SNL) ServerMany clients prefer their licenses to be internally networked opposed to activated as standalone licenses. They are also less power hungry than the traditional hard drives. There are numerous different licenses available at the time of this writing, and they all include an optional annual maintenance fee (which costs upwards of a thousand dollars).Regular, professional licenses can cost more than $4000, depending on a myriad of different factors. Run moderately complex finite element analysis (FEA), kinematic studies and visualisationBuild complex surfaces, sheet metal, and plastic parts, intricate large assemblies and more sophisticated multi-page detailed drawings. WAN environments have special considerations for bandwidth and latency. You can have a slower processor, but SolidWorks might work too slowly and freeze. The easiest way to manage all the wires is to get a thunderbolt dock. Solidworks simply hasn’t been ported over to macOS and, by the looks of it, that’ll keep on being the case for the foreseeable future.You can still run Solidworks through a virtual machine, but your mileage will vary in regard to how well it’ll perform and how stable it’ll be.For Solidworks, going with a PC is the only truly viable option.You can watch the following video for more information:How to Check Your Current Specs to See if You Can Run SolidworksIf you’re not quite certain whether your existing computer is strong enough to run Solidworks, we suggest you give the following article a read.It’ll give you all the information you need and, in case your hardware isn’t up to snuff, you’ll be able to pinpoint all potential bottlenecks and upgrade what warrants upgrading.How to Upgrade Your PC to Run Solidworks FasterIf you want to upgrade your existing computer in order to run Solidworks — but are unsure of where to start — we have an in-depth beginner’s guide that’ll show the proverbial ropes.It’ll point you in the right direction and give you a better understanding of what is it exactly that you need to focus on when upgrading your existing components to something more novel. The 7,200 RMP drive processes roughly 150Mb per second, while the 5,400 RPM drive only 100Mb per second. In such an environment, there’s no shortage of powerful components and spec’d out PCs.These people have to spend ostentatious amounts of money on their machines and their hardware as their livelihood depends on the speed at which they can get their job done.That’s not necessarily an excuse, but once observed through such a lens, things start to make a bit more sense.Solidworks is a demanding piece of software. Research graphics cards hardware, system requirements, and other related topics. If you are on a tight budget, the traditional Hard Disk Drive (HDD) will work just fine, but do go for the faster RPM (revolutions per minute) drive: choose 7,200 RPM drive over the 5,400 RPM one. Though older SATA based SSDs will yield a significant improvement over disk based storage, Javelin recommends newer higher bandwidth NVMe/PCIe over SATA based SSDs.When selecting a drive capacity, allow for a sufficient amount of free space on the drive for virtual memory and scratch space. Hard drive requirements for SolidWorks Solid State Drives (SSDs) are strongly recommended due to their excellent system responsiveness, faster boot times, and silent operation. That way you can test Solidworks and its immense featureset without having to spend a dime.And, should it pique your interest, you’ll then be able to find the most suitable license for your needs and, hopefully, save a few Benjamin Franklins.Is Solidworks Easier Than Fusion 360?It’s not. Consult your Javelin SOLIDWORKS PDM Implementation Professional for recommended specifications based on your usage and server configuration.SOLIDWORKS PDM Web 2 service requires the Microsoft Internal Information Service (IIS).SOLIDWORKS has recently offered support under certain Virtual Environments. RAM for SolidWorks Second consideration for doing SolidWorks graphic modelling is RAM (Random Access Memory) or main memory. They both have their own use-cases and noticeably different learning curves.Solidworks is much more robust and feature-rich and, as such, is used by industry professionals around the globe.It’s mighty expensive though, and, frankly, it isn’t as consistent or polished as one would like (especially for the asking price), but that’s nonetheless a worthwhile trade-off given its immense power and feature-set.And, one could argue, that also stresses the importance of having a workstation graphics card — you want to circumvent as many driver and performance issues as possible.Does Solidworks Run Natively on Apple Silicon?It does not, unfortunately. SolidWorks does not benefit from hyperthreading. And, needless to say, having a bit of experience in similar programs will go a long way towards enabling you to master Solidworks and all that it entails.Should I Overclock My CPU for Solidworks?We don’t recommend it. Generally speaking, the faster the processor, the faster SOLIDWORKS will perform, but here are some other options to consider.When purchasing a new computer, Javelin does not recommend anything below a current generation Intel Core i7 or a current generation AMD Ryzen processor.Newer series CPUs may show similar clock speeds and cores to previous series CPUs. However, improvements to the overall architecture can yield overall improved performance beyond what raw specifications may indicate.The multiple processors, cores, and hyper-threading that come in today’s processors are not widely utilized within the core SOLIDWORKS modeling application. Currently, you can run SolidWorks 2018, 2019 and 2020 on Windows 10, 64-bit, we recommend you go for it to future-proof your purchase. We recommend at least 500Gb SSD, but if budget allows go for 1Tb+. A dedicated workstation should have 32GB at minimum. Consult your Javelin SOLIDWORKS PDM Implementer for additional information.Check out SOLIDWORKS Hardware & System Requirements. We are confident that Dell hardware will provide the best performance for your team and increase the efficiency your regular workflows.Core SOLIDWORKS Hardware ConsiderationsProcessor (CPU)The processor can be the single most influential component to your systems overall performance. The faster the processor is, the more responsive SolidWorks will be. It’s easy to attach to a large monitor and an external wired or wireless keyboard. Best laptops for SolidWorks If you are thinking of buying a laptop, you should budget for $2,000 or £2,000 at least. 4GBs or more is recommended.If budget and motherboard allows, consider dual or quad NVIDIA graphics cards to operate rendering and graphics processes in parallel.Check this SOLIDWORKS Visualize Benchmark page for system performance results and additional system configurations recommendations for your SOLIDWORKS Visualize rendering clients.SOLIDWORKS Network RecommendationsSOLIDWORKS is tested only with Microsoft’s Windows Networking and Active Directory network environments. There’s no denying it. Just to put things into perspective, the average SSD delivers around 1.2Gb-1.4Gb speed per second, while the top performing SSDs can achieve processing speeds of over 2Gb per second. Many components will tout similar model numbers and specifications but perform very differently. And the more powerful your PC is, the better it’ll run. For professional use, going with a Quadro RTX GPU would definitely be a wise (if a bit pricey) choice.Be that as it may, regular “gaming grade” graphics cards are superbly capable as far as Solidworks is concerned and offer a lot more “bang-for-the-buck.”Does Solidworks Require a Good PC?Pretty much. Applications and references that can help determine hardware performance. Traditional mechanical hard drives are no longer a viable option, no matter one’s workload.Buying an NVMe drive is also a sound purchasing decision, although you won’t notice any performance difference in your day-to-day usage as far as working in Solidworks is concerned.SATA SSDs (and, by the same token, NVMe ones) are much faster than regular old hard drives and will speed up your workflow tremendously, especially when it comes to complex assemblies and overall load and boot-up times.Our PC Build Recommendations for SolidworksSolidworks is quite a demanding piece of software, one that can utilize both your CPU and your GPU to great effect.It also scales quite nicely with more powerful hardware which means that, if working in Solidworks is your primary goal, you shouldn’t skimp out on any component whatsoever (budget permitting).And so, with that in mind, here are three different PC builds — for three vastly different budgets — that will all get the job done.Mid-range Solidworks PC Build at $1000High-range Solidworks PC Build at $1500Our PC Builder List above currently lists a mainstream GPU. Certain older versions of these software packages are not supported by these companies in later revisions of SOLIDWORKS. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. Please review the list of approved virtualized environments on the SOLIDWORKS system requirements page.For Network Licensing, the default setup requires TCP ports 25734 and 25735 to be open through your firewall for license access.Partner SoftwareThere are related software packages that work with SOLIDWORKS. SolidWorks Graphics cards Additionally, you will need a professional level Graphics card (GPU), such as, ideally, NVIDIA Quadro RTX 3000 to RTX 5000. If you know you can make good use of PRO-Level GPU features, consider a RTX A4000/A6000 or Radeon PRO W7900.Can I Run Solidworks on a Mac?You can’t, at least not in any user-friendly way. Complex Simulation and visualisation useProcessor (1)Intel Core Ultra7 or 13th/14th gen i7Intel Ultra 9 or 13th/14th Generation Intel Core i7/i913th/14th Gen Intel Core i7/i9RAM32GBs or more64GBs or more128GB or moreHard Drive (2)512GBs+ NVMe PCIe SSD Drive1TBS+ NVMe PCIe SSD and / or RAID storage solutions.2TBs+ NVMe PCIe SSD and / or RAID storage solutions.Video Card (3)16GB NVIDIA RTX 2000 Ada+20GB NVIDIA RTX 4000 Ada Generation +24GB NVIDIA RTX 4500 Ada Generation +Operating SystemWindows 10/11 Pro (64-bit)Windows 10/11 Pro (64-bit)Windows 10/11 Pro (64-bit)Additional SoftwareMicrosoft Office 2021 or newerMicrosoft Office 2021 or newerMicrosoft Office 2021 or newerSuggested Desktop ModelsDell Precision 3680Dell Precision 3680Dell Precision 3680Suggested Laptop ModelsDell Precision 5591Dell Precision 5690, 7680Dell Precision 7680, 7780Multi-processing can greatly aid rendering and analysis computations.Requires hard disk space to install application and ample free space for files and swap space (virtual memory).Consult the official SOLIDWORKS Hardware Certification page for exact model numbers.Our Choice: Dell HardwareJavelin provides the best Dell desktops and laptops for SOLIDWORKS and for other Dassault Systèmes solutions including CATIA 3DEXPERIENCE and DraftSight.Our recommendations for SOLIDWORKS workstations are based off benchmark results that our experts take using real engineering data. That’ll give you just enough headroom to work on moderately complex assemblies.If you tend to multitask a lot and are a more demanding user, going with 32GB would definitely be preferable, with 64GB also being a valid option if you’re working on very complex assemblies, models, renders, and so on.Solidworks’ RAM requirements scale with the complexity of your projects, so the more demanding and layered they are, the more RAM you’ll need.32GB is sort of a good middle ground, even if you’re starting out, as it’ll futureproof your build and alleviate any memory-related bottleneck further down the road.Is Solidworks Better Than Fusion 360?It is, generally speaking. It’s not the most demanding piece of software out there, but it sure is taxing on one’s hardware. SolidWorks does not run on Mac OS, so you will need to use Boot Camp or Parallels to install Windows before you can use it. Antivirus applications tested with SOLIDWORKS products. Research graphics cards hardware, system requirements, and other related topics. Novell networks and non-Windows based network storage devices are not tested, supported or recommended.TCP/IP network service is required when using SOLIDWORKS PDM.Client Workstations require a minimum connection speed of 100Mbps for reliable SOLIDWORKS PDM Server Access. SSD: You want SolidWorks on an … System Hardware Requirements to Use SOLIDWORKS Operating System : SOLIDWORKS 2021-Windows 10 Pro, 64-bit SOLIDWORKS 2020-Windows 10 Pro, 64-bit, Windows 7 SP1, … Also, what is your opinion on its overall system requirements? By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. Build moderately complex parts, detailed drawings, sophisticated schematics diagrams, and first pass visualisationFor complex SW parts, large assemblies, sophisticated multi-page drawings. Consider upgrading your SOLIDWORKS to the newest and best version to benefit from these hardware based performance enhancements.Recommended SOLIDWORKS Hardware ConfigurationsBelow, the Javelin technical team has compiled a general SOLIDWORKS hardware recommendations. Consult an IT professional or Javelin technical consultant for additional assistance when assessing hardware components.“SOLIDWORKS performance is the same every release”Besides the dozens of new features and enhancements, SOLIDWORKS also takes more and more advantage of hardware technology in each new release. These recommendations are made based on the purchase of a NEW computer.Essential SOLIDWORKS HardwareAdvanced SOLIDWORKS HardwareUltimate SOLIDWORKS HardwareUser NeedsLight design changes on moderately complex assembly designs. There’s a solid enough overlap feature-wise and they are used for relatively similar tasks (depending on one’s profession), but they nonetheless feature vastly different learning curves and “skill ceilings.”Solidworks is a piece of software created for industry professionals and highly dedicated and capable hobbyists. Let us know in the comment section down below and, in case you need any help, head over to our forum and ask away! Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. It all depends on the complexity of your projects and assemblies.A mid-range computer will get the job done just fine, but if you’re serious about working in Solidworks, buying a top-of-the-line processor with high single-core performance and at least a mid-range workstation GPU will go a long way towards ensuring a consistent and stable level of performance.Is Solidworks Difficult to Learn?It is. A processor of 3.3Ghz or higher A 500Gb or larger Hard Drive Disk (HDD) At least 16Gb of RAM A quality Graphics Card by NVIDIA or AMD The latest operating system to future-proof your SolidWorks purchase Now, let’s look at each of these components in detail. Along with the general SOLIDWORKS 2024 hardware recommendations, here are some additional SOLIDWORKS hardware considerations if you plan on using SOLIDWORKS Visualize.For hybrid and GPU based renderings, SOLIDWORKS Visualize leverages NVIDIA iRay support with CUDA 11 or newer based graphics cardsSOLIDWORKS Visualize 2022 and newer supports ProRender GPUs found on Radeon and FirePro series graphics cards for hybrid mode.SOLIDWORKS Visualize needs at least 2GBs of GPU memory to enable hybrid rendering modes and at least 4GBs to enable the Denoiser feature. Please review the list of approved virtualized environments on the SOLIDWORKS system requirements page.eDrawings RequirementseDrawings 2024 is only supported on Windows 10, Windows 11, macOS 12.0 or newer.SOLIDWORKS Visualize RequirementsSOLIDWORKS Visualize is a photo rendering and animation application that can utilize both the CPU and GPU for rendering tasks (hybrid mode). What kind of experience can one expect with a mid-range configuration or, perhaps, a laptop? If you know you can make good use of PRO-Level GPU features, consider a Quadro RTX2000 or Radeon PRO W7800.“Professional” Solidworks PC Build at $2500+Our PC Builder List above currently lists a mainstream GPU. Graphics cards can also enable visualization features to display images more realistically.It is highly recommended to purchase a workstation class graphics card to run SOLIDWORKS optimally. See the support lifecycle and antivirus guidelines for SOLIDWORKS 2023 to 2028. Or is that a misconception?Let’s take a closer look.Solidworks Official System RequirementsThe official Solidworks system requirements are as follows: Operating System: Windows 10 or Windows 11 (64-bit only) Processor: 64-bit; Intel or AMD RAM: 16GB or more Graphics Card: A dedicated graphics card that has been officially certified Storage: An SSD is recommended for optimal performanceOur Take On the Official Solidworks System RequirementsThese are some of the worst, most vague, and incomplete system requirements we’ve seen yet. Whether they’re as stable or consistent in performance as Quadro RTX ones is up for debate, but the numbers speak for themselves.Heck, even the mid-range RTX 3060 Ti offers better viewport performance at 1080p than the Quadro RTX 4000 model.NVIDIA GPUs are a much better option as opposed to AMD ones, and while workstation GPUs do take the lead in certain other benchmarks and programs, these are nonetheless tremendously impressive results, especially when we view them through the lens of a sheer value proposition.To see how NVIDIA’s four-and-a-half-year-old RTX 4000 workstation GPU performs in Solidworks, make sure to watch the following video:RAM (Memory) RequirementsSolidworks needs around 8GB of RAM for the most basic operations and assemblies.Still, having 16GB (preferably running in dual-channel) will result in a noticeably better experience, especially if you have the tendency to multitask and have multiple different windows and programs open at the same time.That being said, Solidworks is normally used for very large and complex assemblies, models, simulations, and whatnot.If your assemblies range from 500MB to over 1GB, you really ought to invest in 32GB of RAM. That’s no small benefit.Still, regular gaming GPUs (the newest ones, at least) offer a very similar level of performance for a fraction of the cost.If you’re an industry professional or are part of an engineering firm and want absolute peace of mind, then going with, say, a Quadro GPU would be for the best.If that’s not the case, then there’s really no need for you to spend absurd amounts of money on a workstation graphics card.The following benchmark says it all:Source: TechGageGaming-grade graphics cards like the RTX 3090 and RTX 3080 hold the performance crown. SolidWorks specifies that Finite Element Analysis (FEA) in SolidWorks Simulation may benefit from multiple cores, however, they do not advise to use more than 8 cores. An application used by industry professionals surely needs a spec’d out PC in order to run properly?

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