

Autodesk® Seek

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Autodesk File Formats, updated February 2011

RFA (.rfa), RVT (.rvt) Autodesk® Revit® Family

The power of BIM (building information modeling) and Revit software facilitates an improved way of working collaboratively, using a model created from coordinated and consistent design information. Revit families and BIM models enable earlier decision-making, better documentation, and the evaluation of alternatives for sustainable design or improvements using analysis before construction begins—helping to support any project’s success.

There are three types of Revit families:

- Hosted families (.rfa) are separate components that extend and enrich a model with many special or branded elements and can be loaded into a model at design time. RFA files found in Autodesk® Seek are Hosted families.
 - Note: Revit Type catalogs are TXT (.txt) files are used to define Revit family permutations within RFA files
- System families (.rvt) are common building element models, such as walls, floors, roofs, ceilings, rooms, etc. that define the basics of a model, and are not available for loading or creating as separate files.
- In-Place Families are custom elements defined by users within the context of the Revit model and are often associated with other model elements.

DWG™ (.dwg) AutoCAD® Drawing File

DWG is the native file format for AutoCAD and can store both 2D and 3D design information. DWG files are popular in nearly every design industry, and the technology has made DWG one of the most commonly used design data formats.

TrustedDWG™ technology is the original, efficient, and accurate way for storing design data created using AutoCAD and AutoCAD-based products. Developed by Autodesk, and comprising the core file format for AutoCAD software and AutoCAD-based products, AutoCAD 2009, AutoCAD 2010 and AutoCAD 2011 software include TrustedDWG functionality. The software alerts the user that Autodesk cannot guarantee the integrity or compatibility of that DWG file with AutoCAD or any other Autodesk application. The TrustedDWG notification may be easily disabled by checking the box identified for that purpose.

DWF™ (.dwf) Design Web Format™ file

Design Web Format is the Autodesk method of publishing design data to a file that can be posted on the Internet or on an intranet. DWF files can be viewed with a standard web browser or with the free* downloadable Autodesk® Design Review. DWF files allow designers, engineers, project managers, and other team members to communicate design

