

Graphics Card driver setup for Inventor

Autodesk Inventor is highly reliant on graphics processing for most of its functions. Often when Inventor becomes unstable (crashing or poor graphics performance) it is as a result of the graphics driver/graphics database being incorrect. Autodesk certify most CAD Graphics cards, and often update the graphics database for Inventor.

IT departments,

NOTES:

This guide Refers to Inventor 2008-2012, Windows XP, Vista and Windows 7, x86 and x64.

The first thing to note is that the latest graphics driver available from your Graphics card may not be the best driver for use with Inventor. Autodesk test all major CAD cards and once these have been tested and proven to be the best version available for Inventor, they are put up on the Autodesk website.

Autodesk also publish a Graphics Database file, which will optimise Inventor's use of graphics with an approved driver. The graphics database file is updated from time to time, and news of the latest version will be posted at the following link:

<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=16463761&linkID=9242018>

Note that for real-time rendering inside of Inventor 2011-2012, it is recommended that your graphics card runs DirectX 10 (not available in Windows XP) and that you have at least a **minimum of 512MB of on-board RAM.**

The best driver for inventor will be available from the following website; www.inventor-certified.com/graphics

Before you start changing your driver settings, **close all programs! Set a system restore point.**

Notes on unsupported Graphics cards can be found at the end of this document



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Peeks Brook Lane, Horley, RH6 9ST

STEP 1: Graphics driver

Once on this website (www.inventor-certified.com/graphics), enter your system details as shown below.

Find Graphics Hardware

Use this tool to find graphics hardware and drivers

Select from the appropriate fields below based on your product & system.

* Required Fields

1. * Your Product(s) (3 maximum) Or a Design Suite Suite Edition
 AutoCAD Select one
 Autodesk 3ds Max
 Autodesk Composite
 Autodesk Flare
 Autodesk Inventor * Product or Suite Release 2012

2. * Your Operating System
 Windows 7 64-bit

3. * Card Vendor Card Type Card Model
 NVIDIA Workstation NVIDIA Quadro FX 3800

Show Me: All Cards Certified Recommended

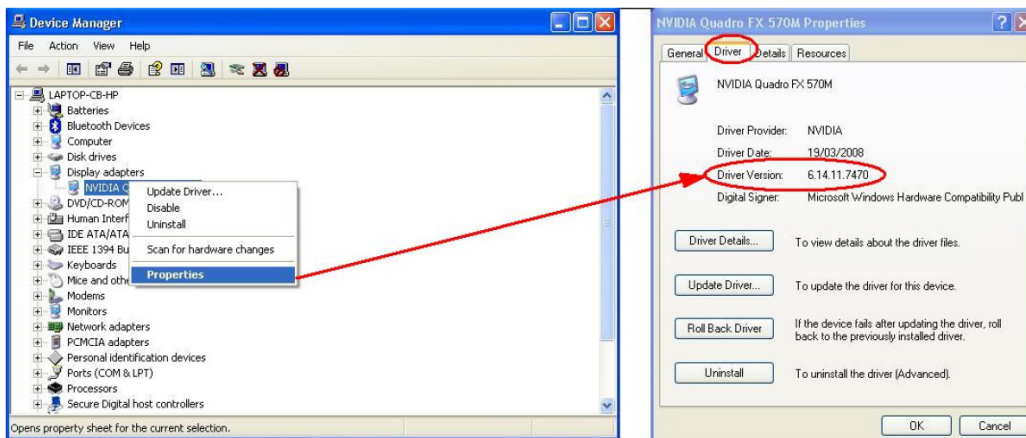
Find

Below are the cards based on your selections.

Selected Product(s): Autodesk Inventor 2012
 Operating System: Windows 7 64-bit
 Card Vendor: NVIDIA

Grade	Card	Generation	Memory(Mb)	Manufacturer's site
★	NVIDIA Quadro FX 3800	Tesla	1024	NVIDIA

Note that the best Driver available (in this example) is highlighted above. Compare this to the driver already installed (see device manager below)



If there is a difference, click on the link to the download

Grade	Card	Generation	Memory(Mb)	Manufacturer's site
★	NVIDIA Quadro FX 3800	Tesla	1024	NVIDIA

Selected Product(s): Autodesk Inventor 2012
 Operating System: Windows 7 64-bit
 Card Vendor: NVIDIA

[Back to Search Results](#)

✓ **NVIDIA Driver Release 265.70 [8.17.12.6570]** **Download Driver**

Product: ✓ Autodesk Inventor 2012

Capability Device: ✓ Hardware Acceleration (Direct3D 11)

Notes

NOTE: It is always advisable to first un-install the current driver and all utilities (like Nvidia control Panel or ATI Catalyst etc.) then run the new Graphics driver install.

STEP2: Graphics Hardware Database **(THIS MUST BE DONE TO ENSURE THAT THE PC RUNS SMOOTHLY)**

The Graphics Hardware database is available to download from the following location
<http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/dl/item?siteID=123112&id=16463761&linkID=9242018>

- Support
 - Knowledge Base
 - Discussion Groups
 - Per-Incident Support
 - Subscription Web Support
 - Up & Ready
 - Customer Error Reporting
 - Other Resources
- Documentation
- Data & Downloads
- Training
- Community
- Consulting

Autodesk Inventor® Hardware Graphics Database

Autodesk Inventor® team makes every effort to select the most reliable and functional setting for all users. You might encounter problems that we cannot support if you modify settings without our advice. The Inventor Graphics database is for use with the [drivers documented on this site](#). We have a high degree of confidence that current Inventor® certifications will work with previous Inventor® releases.

To Update Inventor's Graphics Database

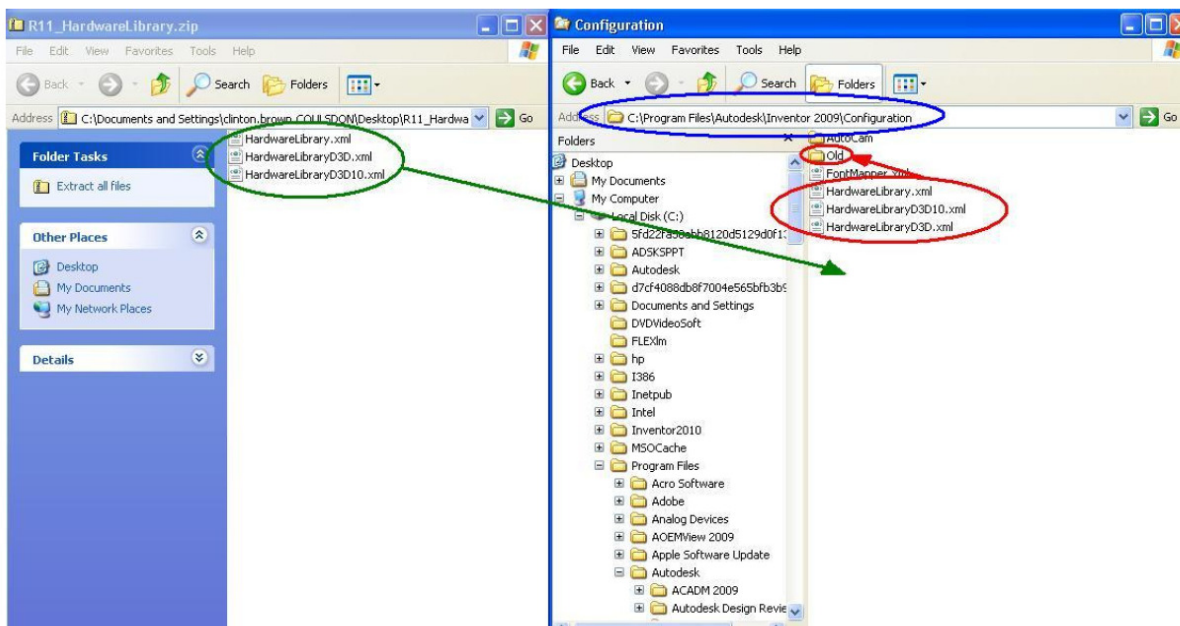
The update applies to Autodesk Inventor® versions R11 and newer:

1. This will add the latest certified drivers.
2. Using an older version of Inventor with a newer certification is OK. For example, a driver certified in R2011 is also considered certified in R2010 with the appropriate database update.

Extract the files and place them into <Inventor Install directory>\Inventor xxx\Configuration. (Replace xxx with your Inventor version number.)

Graphics Database as of 07/13/2011

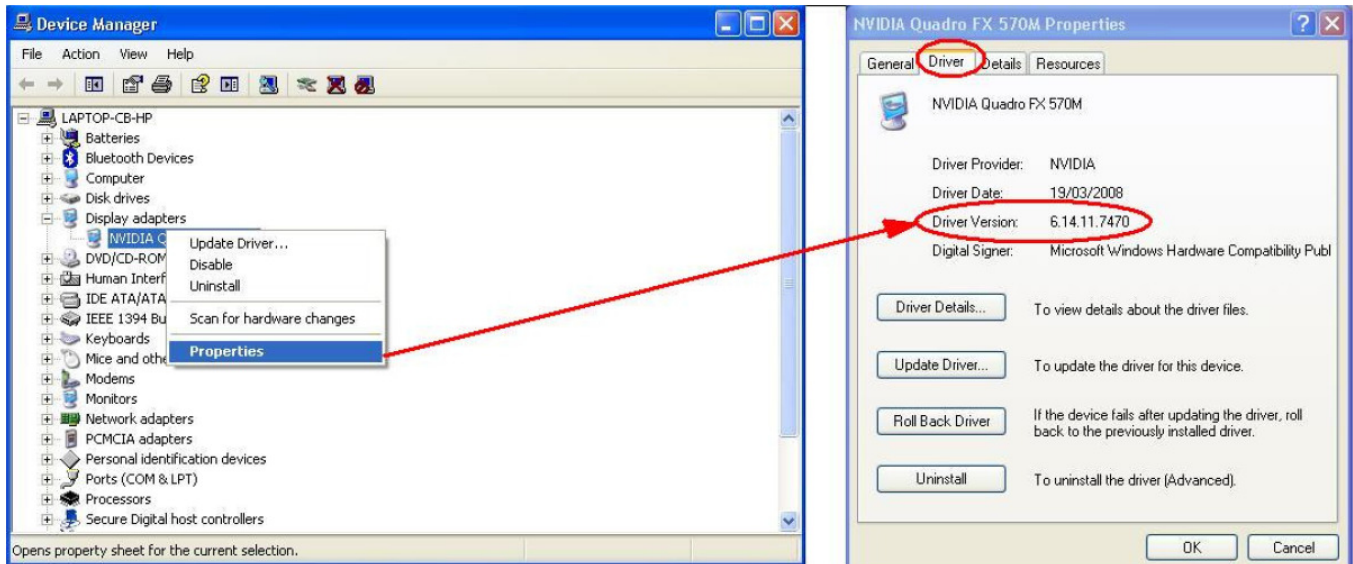
Click on the highlighted link and save the database .zip file to a convenient location (I would suggest your desktop) Open up the following folder; C:\Program Files\Autodesk\Inventor **XXX**\Configuration (This is the folder shown on the right) In the Configuration folder, create a folder called Old and move the 3 hardware library files into the Old folder. Now copy the 3 hardware library files from the zip file into the Configuration folder (The zip folder is shown on the left)



You have now updated your driver hardware database, this will ensure that Inventor and your graphics driver are both configured to work together.

STEP3: Double Check that the driver is installed

Check that the driver installed correctly



Your driver is now configured and Inventor should run smoothly

STEP4 – WHAT IF MY GRAPHICS CARD IS NOT SUPPORTED?

The good news is that there is some advice available to get the most out of unsupported systems:

See the following White papers:

Getting the Best From an Unsupported Graphics Card

<http://www.cadlinecommunity.co.uk/WhitePapers/WhitePaper.aspx?Scold=e6bdce6c-0948-48ab-99e2-8daed36c11e2&returnTo=%2fSearch%2fDefault.aspx&returnTitle=Search+CADline+Community>

Graphics – ATI Driver Finder

<http://www.cadlinecommunity.co.uk/WhitePapers/WhitePaper.aspx?Scold=11fa6b0b-d5a0-447a-b3ab-a982c116b1cd&returnTo=%2fSearch%2fDefault.aspx&returnTitle=Search+CADline+Community>

Graphics – Nvidia Driver Finder

<http://www.cadlinecommunity.co.uk/WhitePapers/WhitePaper.aspx?Scold=8be39d61-4451-4cab-aa02-cd142d2ff73f&returnTo=%2fSearch%2fDefault.aspx&returnTitle=Search+CADline+Community>