

# InstallShield 2021 Express Edition Release Notes

Originally released September 2021; updated to include R2 (December 2021)

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## Introduction

InstallShield is the industry standard for authoring high-quality Windows Installer-based installations.

InstallShield 2021 Express Edition also offers new features, enhancements, and resolved issues that make it easy to use the latest technologies.

For the latest information about InstallShield 2021 Express Edition, including updates to these release notes, see the [online version of the InstallShield 2021 Express Edition release notes](#).

## Changes in R2

InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition includes the following changes:

- For descriptions of enhancements in InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition, refer to [Enhancements](#).
- For descriptions of resolved issues in InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition, refer to [InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition](#).

## New Features in R1

InstallShield 2021 R1 Express Edition includes the following new feature:

- [Support for Windows 11](#)

## Support for Windows 11

The Setups created with InstallShield 2021 R1 Express Edition can now run on Windows 11 version.

## Enhancements

The enhancement for InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition:

- [Provision for Installing Files to ARM Specific Folder](#)

### Provision for Installing Files to ARM Specific Folder

InstallShield Express edition now supports adding ARM specific folders to the InstallShield project from the Predefined Folder. However, the template summary is not updated to Arm64 in InstallShield Express edition. You should continue with the x86(Intel) Template Summary, which supports copying files to ARM specific folders.



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**Note** - This change was tracked in issue [IOJ-1930508](#).

# Important Information

Note the following important information regarding the InstallShield 2021 Express Edition release:

- [Evaluating InstallShield](#)
- [Obtaining the Installations for InstallShield, InstallShield Add-Ons, and the Redistributable Files](#)
- [Installing More than One Edition of InstallShield](#)
- [Installing More than One Version of InstallShield](#)
- [Removal of Update Notifications View](#)

## Evaluating InstallShield

If you have not purchased a license for InstallShield, you can install it and use it for a limited number of days without activating it or connecting it to a license server. When you use InstallShield before activating it or connecting it to a license server, it operates in evaluation mode, and some of its functionality is not available. For details, see [Functionality Notes for the Evaluation Version of InstallShield](#). Note that the evaluation limitations are removed when you activate InstallShield or when you connect it to a license server and check out a license for it.

## Obtaining the Installations for InstallShield, InstallShield Add-Ons, and the Redistributable Files

The following installations are available for download from the Revenera Software Product and License Center as documented in the [InstallShield download and licensing instructions](#):

- InstallShield
- Redistributable files (for example, InstallShield prerequisites and InstallScript objects)
- Add-ons (if you are entitled to them) such as the Standalone Build and the InstallShield MSI Tools
- FlexNet Licensing Server software (if you purchased concurrent licenses and you need to set up your organization's license server)
- Skin Customization Kit
- InstallScript Object templates
- InstallShield service packs (if available)

## Installing More than One Edition of InstallShield

Only one edition of InstallShield 2021—InstallShield Premier, InstallShield, or Express—can be installed on a system at a time. In addition, the InstallShield 2021 DIM Editor cannot be installed on the same machine with any edition of InstallShield 2021.

Microsoft Visual Studio can be integrated with only one version of InstallShield at a time. The last version of InstallShield that is installed or repaired on a system is the one that is used for Visual Studio integration.

## Installing More than One Version of InstallShield

InstallShield 2021 Express Edition can coexist on the same machine with other versions of InstallShield.

The InstallShield 2021 Express Edition Standalone Build can coexist on the same machine with other versions of the Standalone Build. In most cases, the Standalone Build is not installed on the same machine where InstallShield is installed. If you do install both on the same machine and you want to use the automation interface, review the *Installing the Standalone Build and InstallShield on the Same Machine* topic in the InstallShield Help Library to learn about special registration and uninstallation considerations.

## Removal of Update Notifications View

Starting InstallShield 2021 R1, Update Notifications, where you can integrate FlexNet Connect and InstallShield to check for updates, is no longer supported. The merge modules used for this integration are no longer bundled with InstallShield. If you are an existing customer using this integration, you can continue using the integration by copying the merge modules from a previous InstallShield installation. For more details, [click here](#).

## Project Upgrade Alerts

The following information describes possible upgrade issues that may occur when you upgrade projects that were created with InstallShield 2016 and earlier to InstallShield 2021. It also alerts you to possible changes in behavior that you may notice between new InstallShield 2021 projects and projects that are upgraded from InstallShield 2016 or earlier to InstallShield 2021.

- [General Information about Upgrading Projects that Were Created in Earlier Versions of InstallShield](#)
- [Changes to the List of Supported Versions of Windows for Target Systems](#)
- [Localized String Considerations](#)

## General Information about Upgrading Projects that Were Created in Earlier Versions of InstallShield

InstallShield creates a backup copy of the project with a file extension such as .777 (for an .ism project) or .2016 (for an .issuite project) before converting it. Delete the .777 or .2016 part from the original project's file name if you want to reopen the project in the earlier version of InstallShield. Note that you cannot open InstallShield 2021 projects in earlier versions of InstallShield.

You can upgrade projects that were created with the following versions of InstallShield to InstallShield 2021: InstallShield 2016 and earlier, InstallShield 12 and earlier, InstallShield DevStudio, InstallShield Professional 7 and earlier, and InstallShield Developer 8 and earlier. Note that projects that were created with InstallShield MultiPlatform or InstallShield Universal cannot be upgraded to InstallShield 2021.

## Changes to the List of Supported Versions of Windows for Target Systems

For all project types except for Suites, Windows XP SP3 and Windows Server 2003 SP2 are the minimum versions of Windows that are required for target systems that run the installations that are created in InstallShield. For suites (Advanced UI, and Suite/Advanced UI project types), Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008 are the minimum versions of Windows that are required for target systems.

## Localized String Considerations

Changes to the handling and detection of localized strings were introduced starting in InstallShield 2016. For example, localized string content that includes square brackets around invalid characters can now trigger a build time warning or error. Accordingly, the following new warning and errors might occur when you are working with your installation.

Error or Warning Number	Message	Troubleshooting Information
-7355	The %4 value for string %2 does not meet validation criteria for table %1 column %3.	This warning occurs if a localized string value does not meet validation criteria for a column in the String Editor table. To resolve this warning, update the flagged value in the String Editor.
-7354	The %4 value for string %2 does not contain a legitimate value for table %1 column %3.	This error occurs if a localized string value does not contain a legitimate value in the named column of the String Editor table. To resolve this error, update the flagged value in the String Editor.

## Resolved Issues

This section lists the customer issues that were resolved in the following versions of InstallShield Express Edition:

- [InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition](#)
- [InstallShield 2021 R1 Express Edition](#)

For descriptions of resolved issues in InstallShield 2020 R3 SP1, refer to [Resolved Issues](#).

## InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition

The following issue has been resolved in InstallShield 2021 R2 Express Edition:

Issue Number	Issue Summary
<b>IOJ-2206307</b>	During the IIS web site installation, the Internet Information Server authentication details were removed from the preconfigured web.config file packaged and copied in the payload files. This issue has been fixed by retaining the authentication setting defined in the preconfigured web.config.
<b>IOJ-2222867</b>	Downloading the Microsoft .net 4.7.1 and 4.7.2 prerequisites from Web and offline were unsuccessful. This issue has been fixed.
<b>IOJ-2218565</b>	Found that the broken link for Microsoft ReportViewer 2012 and Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Express SP2 System CLR Types (x64) * (x86) Redistributables. The links for the redistributables are fixed now and the redistributables can be downloaded.
<b>IOJ-2217285</b>	The Microsoft Visual C++ 2008 Redistributable - x86 was unsupported on target machine while installing the InstallShield. This issue has been fixed.
<b>IOJ-2216294</b>	Found that the broken links for Microsoft SQL server 2016 Redistributables. The links for redistributables are fixed now.
<b>IOJ-2202540</b>	Downloading of VC++2010 and 2010SP1 prerequisites using "Download from web" option were unsuccessful and failed to install prerequisites when higher version is installed. This issue has been fixed.
<b>IOJ-2202504</b>	The Installer was not built successfully when Microsoft Report Viewer 2015 and Microsoft SQL Server 2014 Express SP2 System CLR Types (x86) were added to the project. This issue has been fixed.

## InstallShield 2021 R1 Express Edition

The following issue has been resolved in InstallShield 2021 R1 Express Edition:

Issue Number	Issue Summary
<b>IOJ-2200424</b>	An error was thrown while downloading Windows Installer 3.1(x86) prerequisite from redistributable gallery. This issue has been fixed.

# System Requirements

This section contains the minimum requirements for systems that run InstallShield (the authoring environment), as well as for target systems that run the installations created with InstallShield (the run-time environment).

- [For Systems Running InstallShield](#)
- [For Target Systems](#)

## For Systems Running InstallShield

InstallShield runs on the latest versions of these operating systems, fully updated with the most recent patches and service packs.

Item	Description
<b>Processor</b>	Pentium III-class PC (500 MHz or higher recommended)
<b>RAM</b>	256 MB of RAM (512 MB preferred)
<b>Hard Disk</b>	750 MB free space
<b>Display</b>	Designed for XGA resolution at 1024 × 768 or higher
<b>Operating System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Windows Server 2008</li><li>• Windows 7</li><li>• Windows Server 2008 R2</li><li>• Windows 8</li><li>• Windows Server 2012</li><li>• Windows 8.1</li><li>• Windows Server 2012 R2</li><li>• Windows 10</li><li>• Windows Server 2016</li><li>• Windows Server 2019</li><li>• Windows 11</li><li>• Windows Server 2022</li></ul>
<b>Privileges</b>	Administrative privileges on the system
<b>Mouse</b>	Microsoft IntelliMouse or other compatible pointing device

Item	Description
<b>Optional Integration with Visual Studio</b>	<p>The following versions of Microsoft Visual Studio can be integrated with InstallShield Premier or InstallShield (previously called InstallShield Professional):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Visual Studio 2008</li><li>● Visual Studio 2010</li><li>● Visual Studio 2012</li><li>● Visual Studio 2013</li><li>● Visual Studio 2015</li><li>● Visual Studio 2017</li><li>● Visual Studio 2019</li></ul> <p>The following editions of these versions of Visual Studio can be integrated with InstallShield Premier or InstallShield:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Professional</li><li>● Premium</li><li>● Ultimate</li><li>● Enterprise</li></ul>

## For Target Systems

Target systems must meet the following minimum operating system requirement:

- Windows XP SP3
- Windows Server 2003 SP2
- Windows Vista
- Windows Server 2008
- Windows 7
- Windows Server 2008 R2
- Windows 8
- Windows Server 2012
- Windows 8.1
- Windows Server 2012 R2
- Windows 10
- Windows Server 2016
- Windows Server 2019



- Windows 11
- Windows Server 2022

Target systems must also support the SSE2 instruction set.

## Known Issues

There is no known issue in InstallShield 2021 R1 Express Edition.

## Legal Information

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