



Guide to Admin Image Install

An Admin Image is often created to speed up the installation of multiple deployments of SOLIDWORKS. It is also used when the users want to maintain toolbox or program settings through install.

Reference:

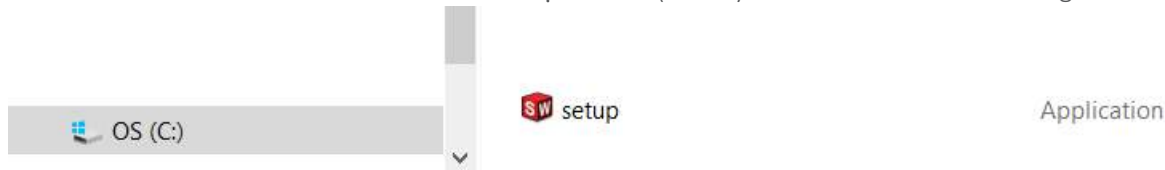
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From the host computer or server:

Part 1: Create the Image and Edit Options

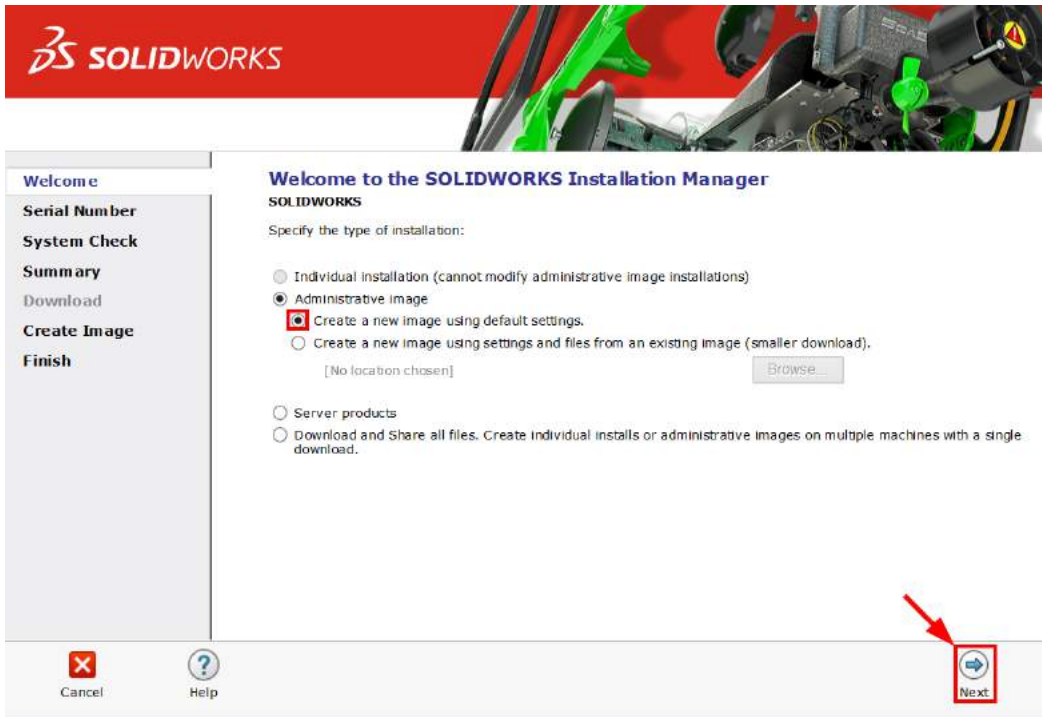
This section shows how to create the initial image and then edit options for Deployment.

STEP 1: Find and run the SOLIDWORKS **setup.exe** file (usually in SolidworksFolder in Program Files on local disk):



STEP 2: Select **Administration Image Button** and choose option **Create a new image (default settings)**:

***Note:** If there's already updated admin image files, choose the second button. If you have different operating systems on client computers, check box below.



STEP 3: Enter Network License Number and click **Next** (select and input other package keys if needed):

SOLIDWORKS Standard, Professional, Premium or SolidNetWork License

XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX



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Next

STEP 4: Choose image location (somewhere easy to find and share) and click **Download and Create Image**:

Summary

You are creating an administrative image

Note: Additional options are available in the Option Editor after the image is created. See [Help](#) for more information

Products CHANGE

SOLIDWORKS: ProductView.dll, SOLIDWORKS Toolbox, SOLIDWORKS Reading, ScanTo3D, TestAnalysis, ConnectWorks, SOLIDWORKS-Casting, Design Director, Example Files, Manuals, Help Files
SOLIDWORKS Languages: English
SOLIDWORKS Examples: Manufacturing, CAD, Simulation, Electrical, 3D Printing, 2D Drawing, 3D Model, 3D Content, 3D Content, 3D Content, 3D Content
SOLIDWORKS Examples: SOLIDWORKS Thermal Schematics, SOLIDWORKS Thermal 3D, 3D Content, 3D Content

Download Options CHANGE

Administrative Image Location CHANGE

New image location: C:\SOLIDWORKS Admin\SOLIDWORKS

I accept the terms of the SOLIDWORKS [License Agreement](#)

Estimated image size:

Estimated download size:

Back

Download and Create Image

STEP 5: Uncheck “Show me how...” and click **Customize Image**. This will open the option editor:

*Note: The option editor is located in the folder when the Admin Image was created.

Administrative Image Creation Is Complete

Show me how to install this image on a client.

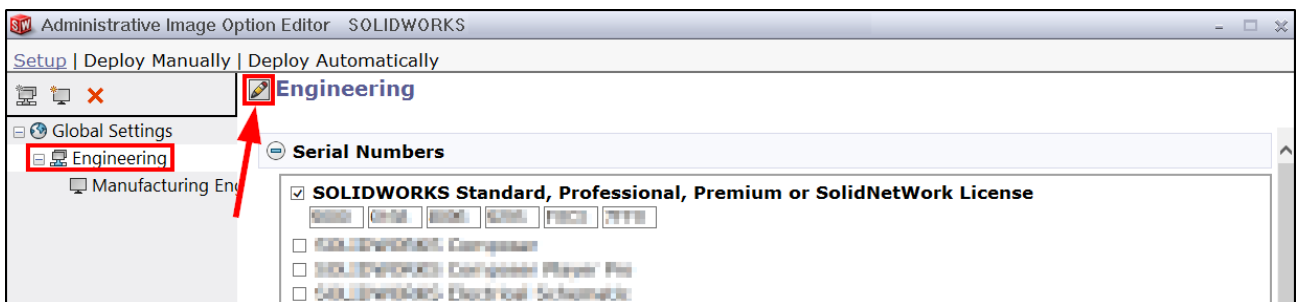
Note: Click **Customize Image** to customize your Administrative Image options using the Option Editor. (See [Help](#) for more information). You can return to the Option Editor at any time.

Customize Image

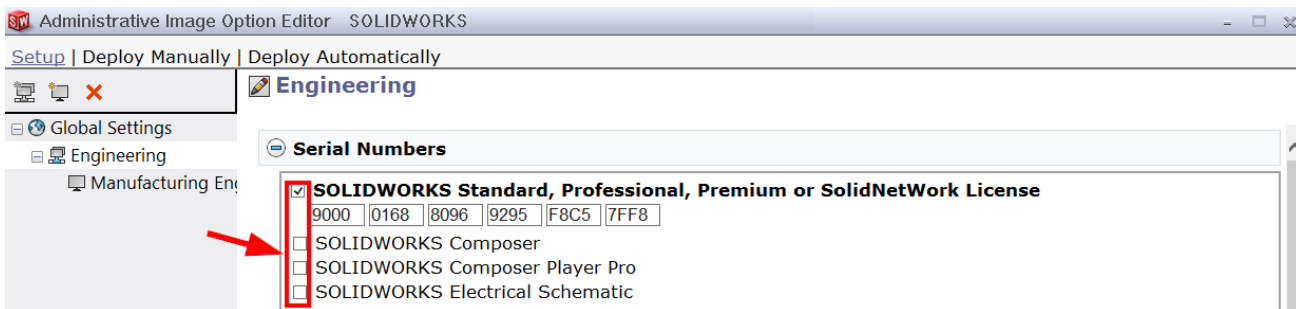
STEP 6: Next, it's common to add **groups** of machines (with similar options), and **machines** within those groups (with more unique options and settings). This allows for customized deployment of certain settings (per group or machine) later on:



STEP 7: The options are available to be adjusted. With Group selected, **click the pencil icon** to access options:



STEP 8: Here, any configuration can be made to the products to include, choose desired products to deploy:



STEP 9: Select options:

- A) Upgrade existing version (choose **Create a new major version** to keep the old SW version files).
- B) Use current settings or exported settings to maintain existing settings (see section at end of Part 1 for guide).
- C) For auto activation, click **New**:

Client Installation Options

How do you want to perform client installations of major versions?
Note: Both options will update the installation when applying a service pack.
 Upgrade an existing major version (if one exists).
 Create a new major version.
Location for new installation (if needed):
C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp
Browse...

How do you want to apply SOLIDWORKS Settings?
Note: These settings can be obtained by running the Copy Settings Wizard.
 Use current settings (if they exist) or use SOLIDWORKS default settings
 Use a settings file exported from the Copy Settings Wizard.

How do you want to activate client installations?
 Activate automatically when each client installation completes.
Browse...
 Do not activate automatically.
New...

STEP 10: Enter appropriate email address and click OK:

Client Installation Options

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 Create a new major version.
Location for new installation (if needed):
C:\Program Files\SOLIDWORKS Corp
Browse...

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Note: These settings can be obtained by running the Copy Settings Wizard.
 Use current settings (if they exist) or use SOLIDWORKS default settings
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How do you want to activate client installations?
 Activate automatically when each client installation completes.
Browse...
 Do not activate automatically.
New...

SOLIDWORKS Product Activation
Enter the following activation contact information.
E-mail: Admin Email Address
OK

***Note:** Choose options (Figure 1). Select “Run the install as...” if users don’t have admin rights to their computers. Disabling UAC (Windows notification settings) is required for any install type:

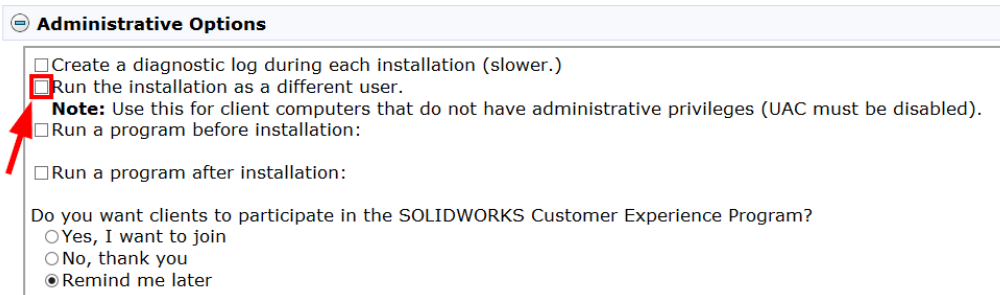
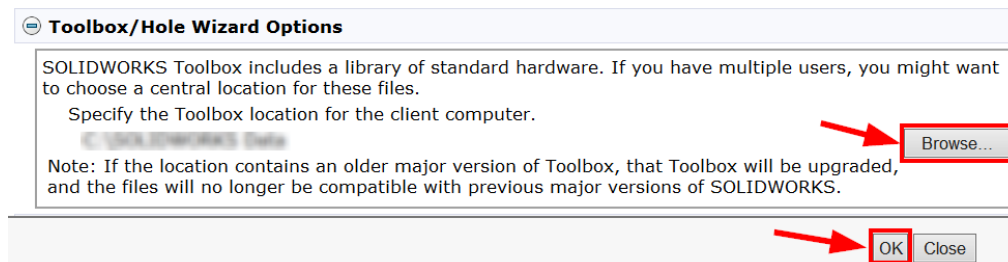


Figure 1

STEP 11: If existing Toolbox location is desired (to deploy) choose **Browse**, select current file, and choose **OK**:

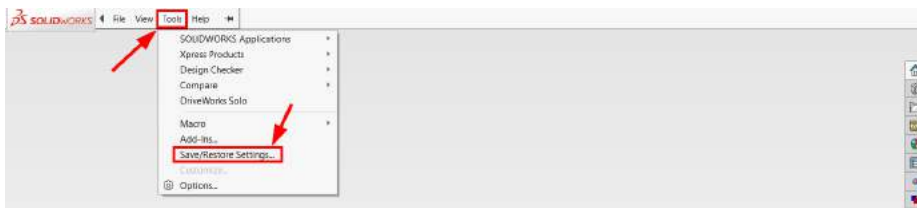
***Note:** If doing an update (versus a fresh install), this will overwrite any existing toolbox files on destination computers and loss of files is possible. Consider saving a copy of the shared toolbox in a different location than current one.



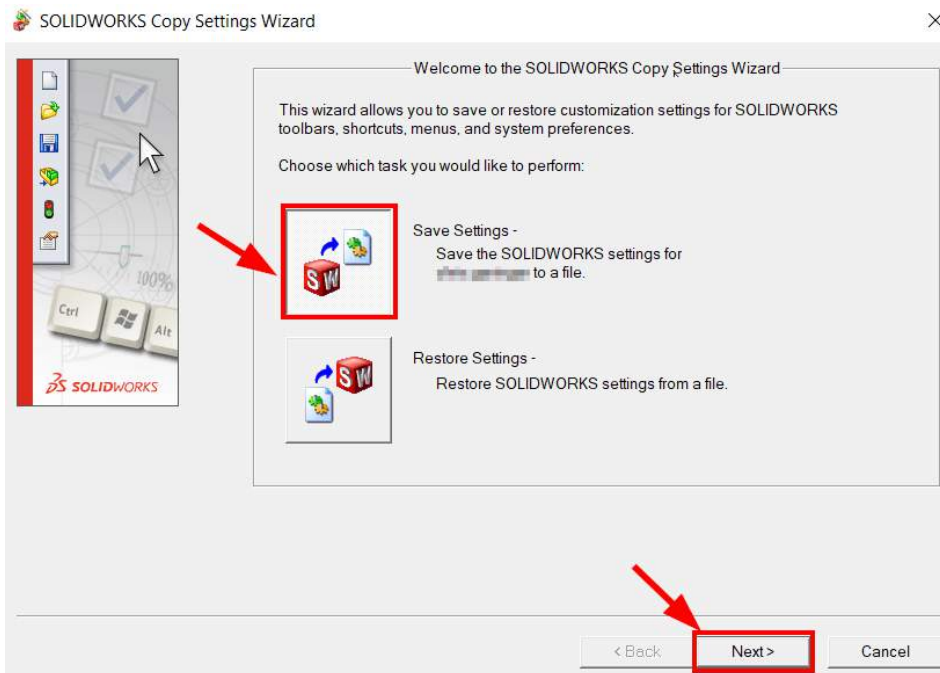
Using personalized settings: When it's preferred to install using customized settings (rather than default), such as a custom appearance or option settings within SOLIDWORKS, follow these steps.

***Note:** If a settings.sldreg file already exists, skip steps A-D.

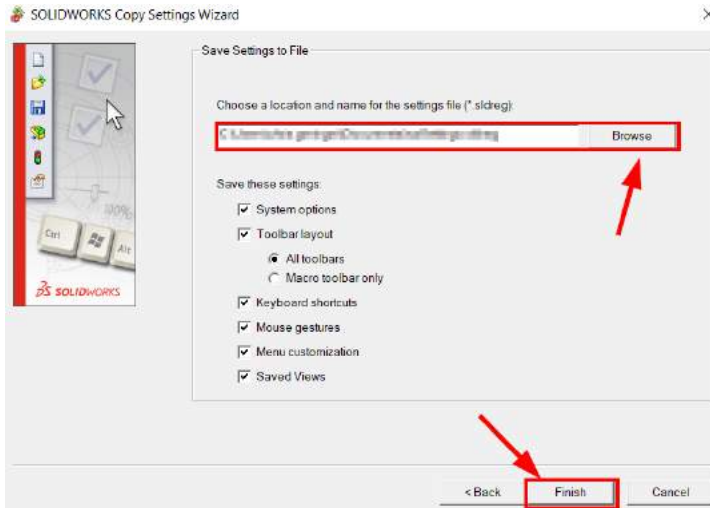
A) From SOLIDWORKS homepage, click **Tools** and then select **Save/Restore Settings**:



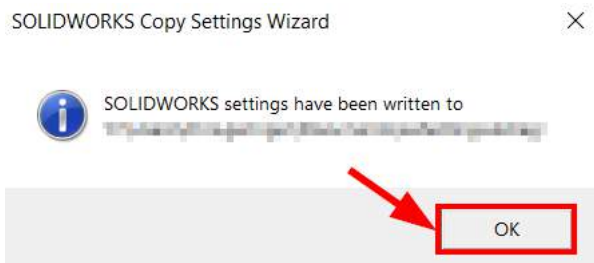
B) When the Copy Settings Wizard opens, click **Next**:



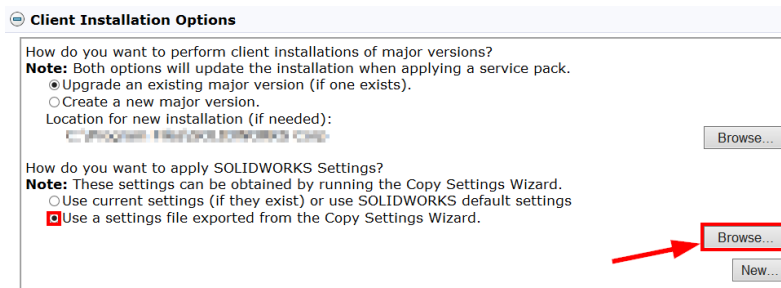
C) Enter a noted save location (so it can easily be found later), select desired options and click **Finish**:



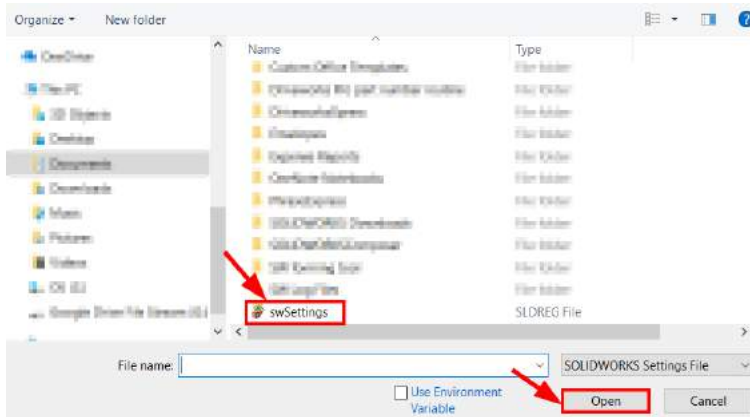
D) Click **OK** to finish:



E) From the Options Editor, select a settings file from Copy Wizard and click **Browse** to find file from steps above.



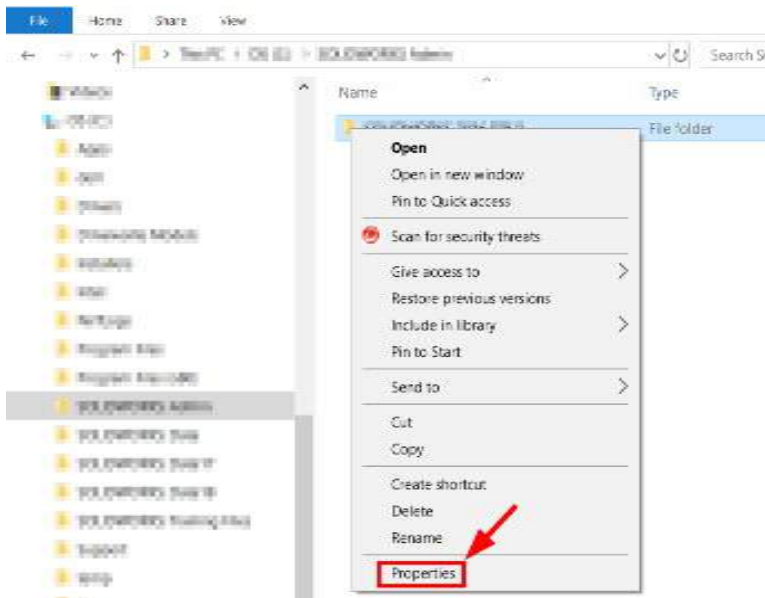
F) Browse to the previous swsettings.sldreg file and click **Open**:



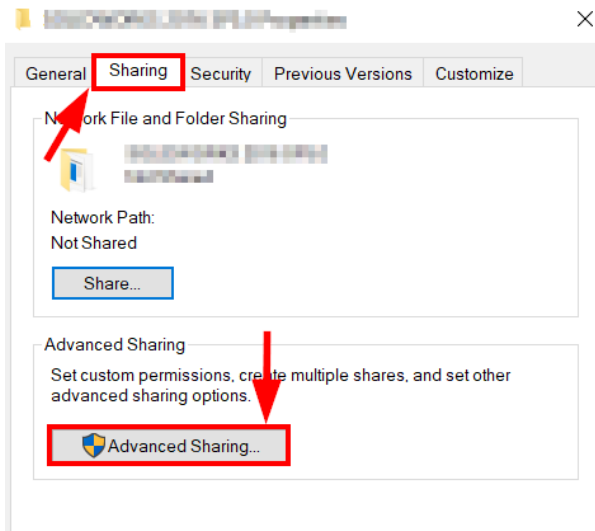
Pre-Deployment

To finalize the admin image for deployment, the directory where it was created must be shared.
(Auto or Manual Deployment) – Create a Network Share Folder:

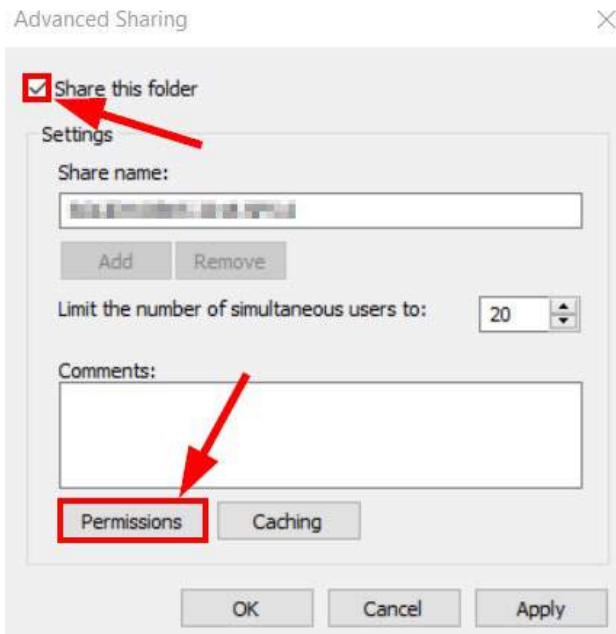
A) Select folder where admin image is stored, right-click and click on **Properties**:



B) Click the Sharing tab and choose **Advanced Sharing**:

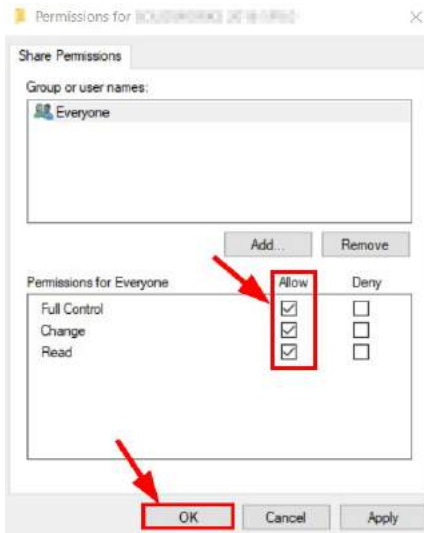


C) Make sure “Share this folder” is checked and choose **Permissions**:



D) Ensure that Everyone has all permissions and click **OK**:

***Note:** It's always possible to double-check the folder is shared by accessing it from a client computer (Windows Explorer > Network > Admin Computer, and the Admin Image folder should be there).



Part 2a: Deploy the Image Manually (Preferred)

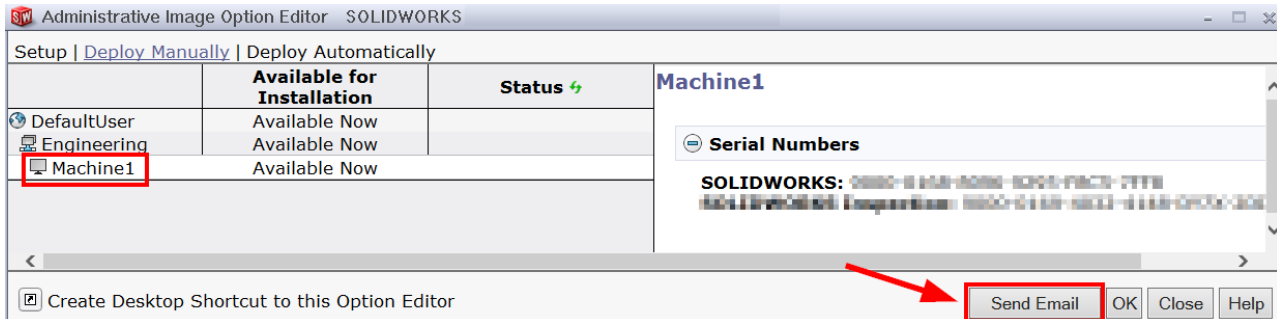
A manual install of SOLIDWORKS with a specific configuration based on the Admin Image created in Part 1. This is many times the preferred option for deployment and is used when the clients have administrative rights to their profile. It is created from the server/host computer and sent to clients.

STEP 1: From the main Option Editor window, select **Deploy Manually**:

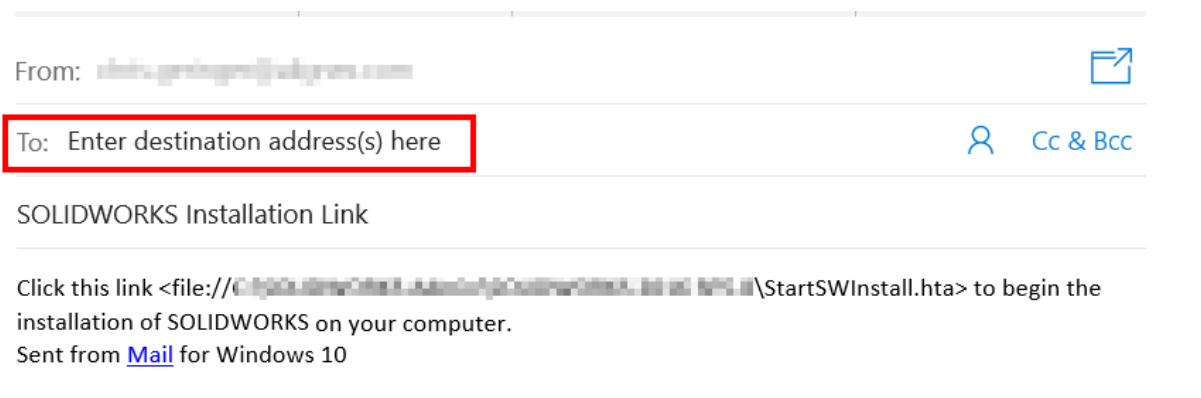


STEP 2: Select the **Machine** or **Group** preferred and click **Send Email**:

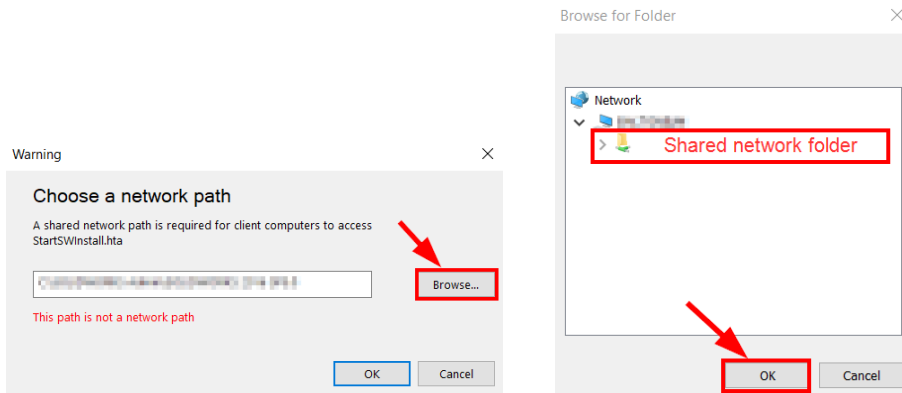
***Note:** To deploy to multiple Groups, repeat this process for each of them.



STEP 3: This is the link that the client PC users will see and open to install manually. **Add addresses** you wish to send link to:

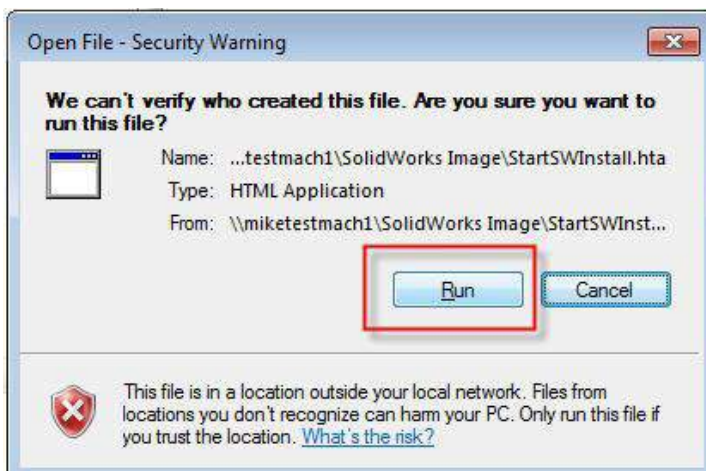


***Note:** Before you've sent the email, you may see this window pop-up. Select your **shared Network Folder** (that was saved to during image creation and shared in previous step, Pre-Deployment) and hit **OK**:



Part 2b: Manual From Client Side

STEP 1: Access the email from the client machine. The link will open this window (if the link doesn't work from your email window, copy and paste into Windows Start search bar). Click **Run**:



STEP 2: Choose Install SOLIDWORKS Products now (it may take a moment while it accesses server):

How to start the SOLIDWORKS software installation

SOLIDWORKS

Click **Install SOLIDWORKS products now** to start the installation of SOLIDWORKS on the local computer:

Install SOLIDWORKS products now

Click **Uninstall SOLIDWORKS products now** to start the uninstall of SOLIDWORKS on the local computer:

Select the types of items to remove from the client computer. Unselected items will remain on the computer.

Program Files and Folder

Program Files and folders are removed by the standard uninstall.

Registry Entries

This will remove serial numbers and custom settings from the registry.

Data Files and Folders

This will delete custom files stored in the data folders on the client computer, such as Toolbox. It will not delete and files or folders from other folders, other computers, or network locations.

Uninstall SOLIDWORKS products now

STEP 3: Click Finish to complete installation (activation should be automatic from here on):

Installation is Complete

Join the SOLIDWORKS Customer Experience Improvement Program

Participation helps improve the quality and stability of SOLIDWORKS products. SolidWorks Corp. does not access or collect model data or information about any of your other software applications. Participation does not impact the performance of SOLIDWORKS products.

[Tell me more](#)



- Yes, I want to join
- No, thank you
- Remind me later

Thank you for joining!

Finish

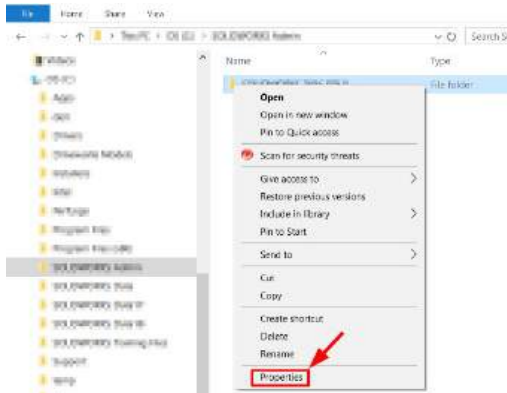
Part 3: Deploy the Image (Auto – Not Recommended)

An automatic (push) install of SOLIDWORKS with specific configuration based on the Admin Image made in Part 1.

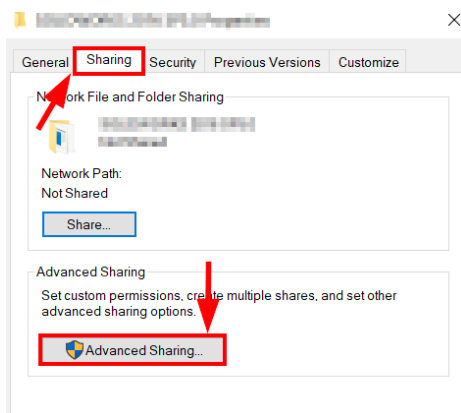
***Note:** In order to deploy automatically, both the clients and host machines need to be on the same Active Directory. This can be a long process if installing on many machines. This guide will show the extra step necessary in granting proper permissions to client computers to allow for the Task Scheduler install.

Adjust Permissions Manually:

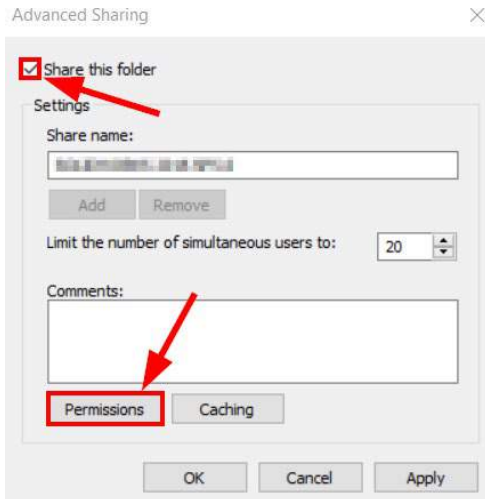
STEP 1: Access Admin Image folder, right-click and **Properties**:



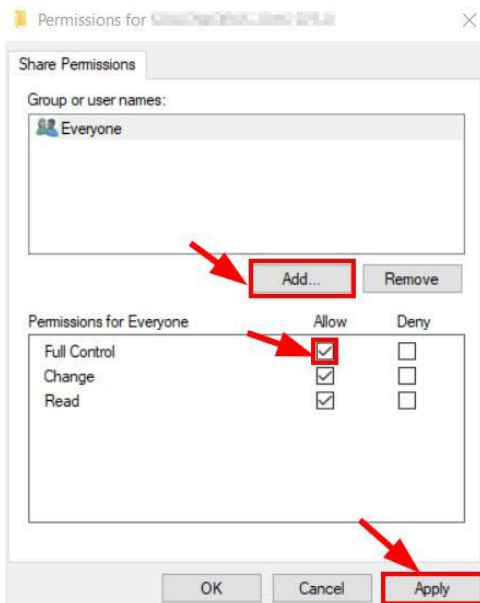
STEP 2: Under the Sharing tab, select **Advanced Sharing**:



STEP 3: Click the **Permissions** button (after checking Share this folder) and select **OK**:



STEP 4: Then check **Allow Full Control** and **Apply**, then click **Add**:



STEP 5: From this window (Figure 1), click **Object Types** and select computer checkbox (Figure 2):

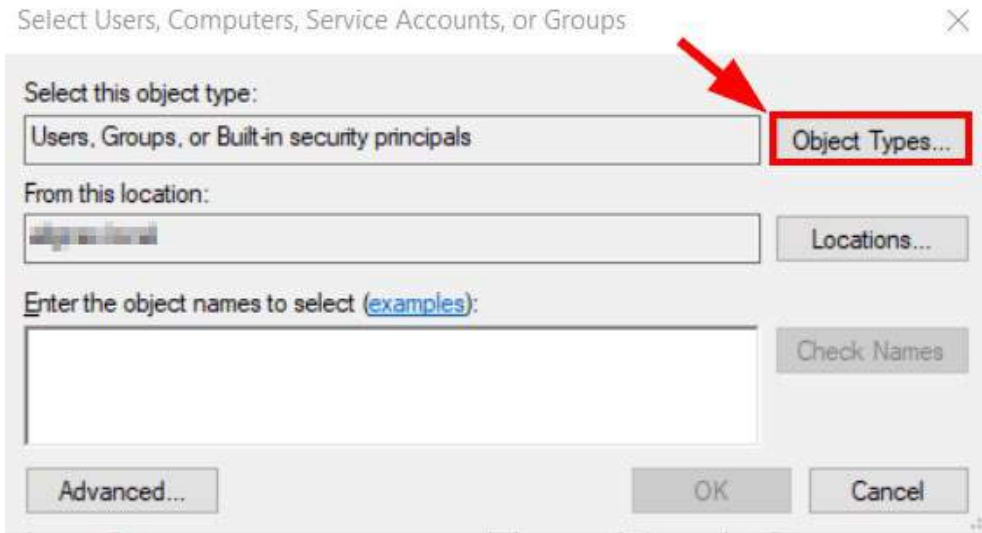


Figure 1

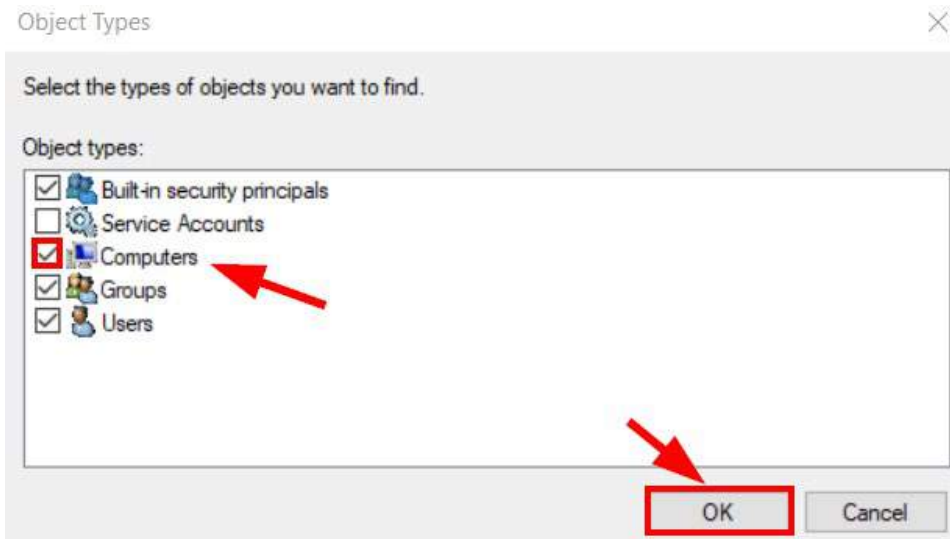
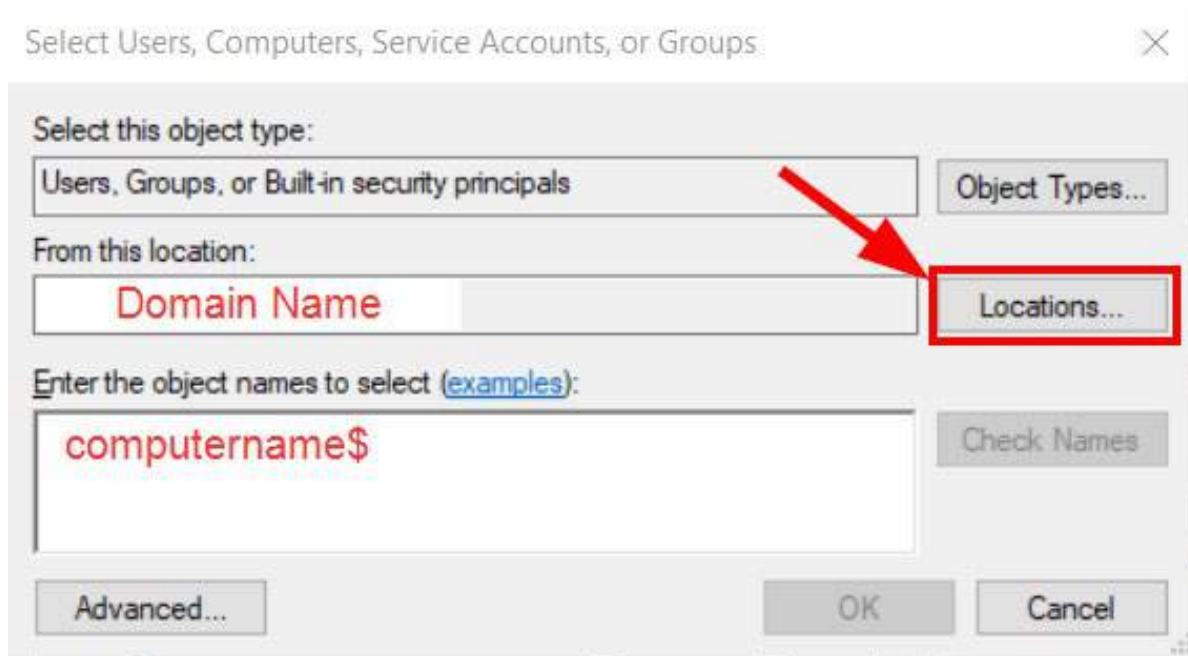


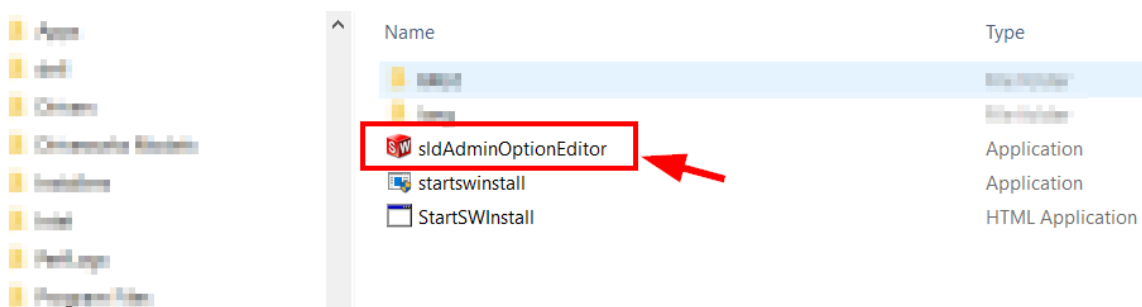
Figure 2

STEP 6: From the main window, enter your computer name with \$ after. Then choose your domain location from the pop-out **Location** button and select **OK** to exit:

***Note:** Workgroup networks may not be supported.

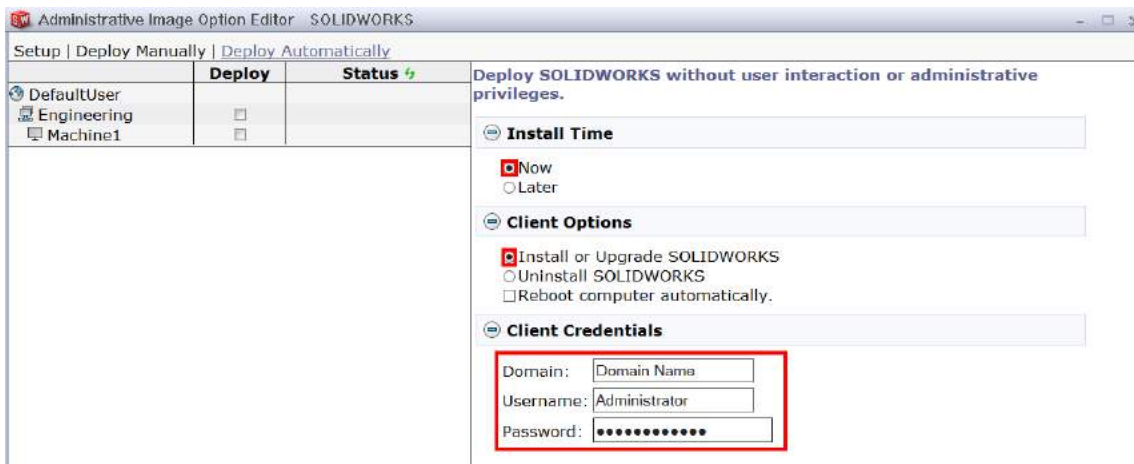


STEP 7: Browse computer for `sldAdminOptionEditor.exe` at location you specified (usually within Program Files on local disk):



STEP 8: Select preferred options and enter **Network Domain, Username** and **Password** of client to install and click **Deploy**:

***Note:** This should be an account that has administrative privileges to the client PC.



***Note:** After deploying, you may see this window pop-up (Figure 1). Select your **shared Network folder** through the network browsing window (Figure 2) that was saved to during image creation, and hit **OK**:

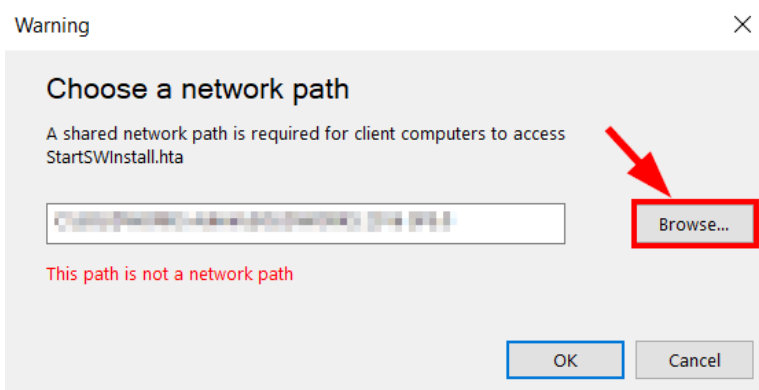


Figure 1

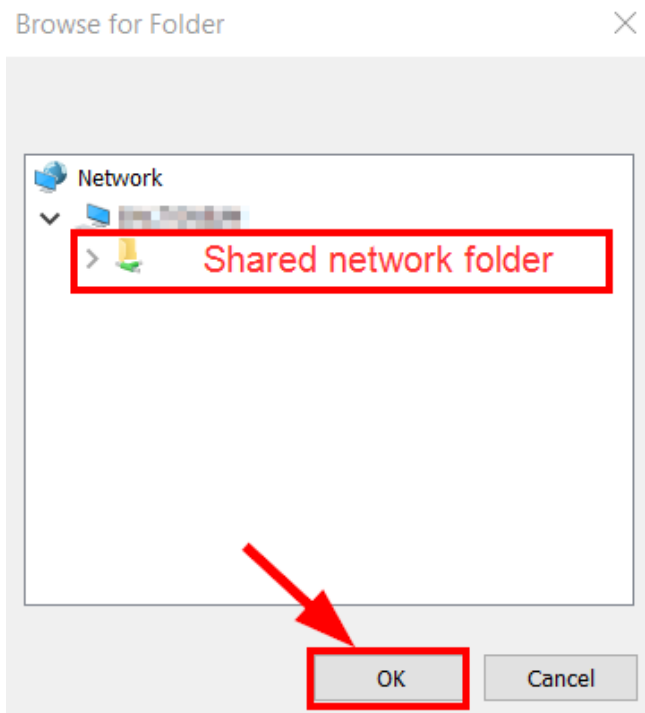


Figure 2

STEP 9: This window will pop up on the client machine, and will close and start installing automatically after 5 minutes:

***Note:** After hitting **Deploy**, watch the status in the main window. It may say scheduled for quite some time before it will say successful install, as it will be a silent installation using less PC resources.

