



Sage 50 Accounting U.S. Edition

Important Installation and activation instructions

Read this first

- This guide is separated into two parts. First, complete the installation instructions and then follow the steps to activate your product (see page 6). **Important:** you will need to install **and** activate your Sage 50 Accounting software to avoid disruptions or delays in accessing support.
- During the installation of Sage 50 Accounting 2026–U.S. Edition, you'll be asked for your serial number. If you purchased a digital download from a retailer, the retailer will provide you the serial number via an email or a digital locker. Alternately, if you purchased a box product from a retailer, you will find the serial number in the case under the disk.
- Be sure to follow directions for any notifications regarding your firewall programs. Certain Sage 50 Accounting files may trigger an alert message in Windows®; you must allow these Sage 50 Accounting files to run for a successful installation.
- Sage 50 Pro Accounting should only be installed on a single computer as it is a single user version only.
- If you are installing on a network, you must first install Sage 50 Accounting on the computer that will store your Sage 50 Accounting company data files. This computer will act as the server for the other workstations. All Sage 50 Accounting transactions and records (for all workstations) will be stored on the server.

Single computer installation

Program files vs. data files



Program files:

The Sage 50 software that is installed on every user workstation and server



Data files (primary Sage 50 company data):

The information that you enter and track in the Sage 50 program, such as customers, vendors, employees, and inventory

When installing on a single computer, the data files are stored on the same computer where you install the software. When installing on a network with multiple workstations, one computer acts as the server and holds the company data files that all workstations access.

Installing on a single/standalone computer

Note: it is recommended to install the program path at

C:\Program Files(x86)\Sage\Peachtree

1. Visit sage.com/us/sage50-2026 to download Sage 50 Accounting, or insert the install disk.
2. Run the installation file.
3. If prompted, install the requirements for Sage 50 Accounting.
4. Turn off your anti-virus, and then click **Next**.
5. Agree to the license agreement, and then click **Next**.
6. Select **Auto configure the Windows Firewall to allow install and run Sage 50**, and then click **Next**.
Note: if the Windows Firewall is disabled, the box will be grayed out.
7. Verify or enter your serial number, and then click **Next**.
Note: If you purchased a digital download from a retailer, the retailer will provide you the serial number via an email or a digital locker. If you purchased a box product from a retailer, you will find the serial number in the case under the disk.
8. Under **Will this be the only computer running Sage 50?** Select **Yes**, and then click **Next**.
9. Verify the install options and click **Install** to complete the installation.
10. Open each company and allow the data to be converted to the new version.

After your installation is complete, follow the **Activation instructions to activate your product.**

Network installation

Server vs. workstations



Server:

Install here first, on a local drive.
Data folder must be a shared folder
(you can share it during install).



Workstations:

These must point to the data folder you
shared when installing on the server.

Installing on a network

- First, install Sage 50 Accounting on the computer that will store your Sage 50 Accounting company data files, which are the files that record your Sage 50 Accounting transactions and records. This computer is the server.
- Install Sage 50 Accounting on each workstation after installing on the server.

Server installation

Note: it is recommended to install the program path at
C:\Program Files(x86)\Sage\Peachtree

1. Visit sage.com/us/sage50-2026 to download Sage 50 Accounting, or insert the install disk.
2. Run the installation file.
3. If prompted, install the requirements for Sage 50 Accounting.
4. Turn off your anti-virus software, and then click **Next**.
5. Agree to the license agreement, and then click **Next**.
6. Select **Auto configure the Windows Firewall to allow install and run Sage 50**, and then click **Next**.
Note: If the Windows Firewall is disabled, this box will be grayed out.
7. Verify or enter your serial number, and then click **Next**.
Note: If you purchased a digital download from a retailer, the retailer will provide you the serial number via an email or a digital locker. If you purchased a box product from a retailer, you will find the serial number in the case under the disk.
8. Under **Will this be the only computer running Sage 50?** Select **No**, and then click **Next**.
9. Select **This computer is the server**, and then click **Next**.
10. Verify the install options and click **Install**.
11. On the **Sharing Company Data** screen, select **Share the Folder** to share the folder with other users on your network. Then, click **Next**.

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12. Verify the shared folder and click **Next**.
 13. Click **Finish** to complete the installation.
 14. Open each company and allow the data to be converted to the new version.

Quick Tips for Network Install

- Always install on the server first.
- The program must be installed on each computer that will use Sage unless you are in a Terminal Services environment.
- You can use the Network Installation Manager to install on multiple PCs simultaneously: start the installation at the first workstation, and then move on to the next.
- The Network Installation Manager will not work over wireless networks.
- When installing using the downloaded Sage 50 installer, the Destination folder is where the install files will be extracted; this is not the program location.
- If operating in a domain environment, it may be necessary to set correct Windows permissions on the PeachtreeInstaller2026 folder in order to run the network installation manager.

Workstation installation

After installing Sage 50 Accounting on the server, follow the instructions for installing Sage 50 Accounting on your workstations. These instructions are saved on the server in a file on the desktop called Sage 50-Network Installation Manager Instructions.htm.

1. At the server, set folder permissions on the PeachtreeInstaller2026 shared folder (located by default in the Program Path).
2. At the workstation, press the **Windows+R** keys to open a Run line.
3. Type **\\ServerName** (where ServerName = the actual computer name of your server) and click **OK**.
4. Double-click the **PeachtreeInstaller2026** folder.
5. Double-click the **Peachw** folder and then double-click the **Install** folder.
6. Right-click **_setup.exe** and select **Run as administrator**.
7. The setup will begin selecting the settings from the Server.

Note:

- If you have multiple workstations, you can start installing on the other computer(s) before the installation on one is complete.
- The server was installed as a workstation if the PeachtreeInstaller2026 directory is not found on the server.

See back side for more instructions.

Network installation (continued)

Advanced options: install to a desired data location and/or change the program path

1. Follow Steps 1 through 4 under **Workstation installation** on the previous page to access the **PeachtreeInstaller2026** shared folder.
2. Right-click **Setup.exe**, and then select **Run as administrator**. The installation wizard will appear.
3. Follow steps 3 through 8 under the **Server installation** section.
4. On the **Company Data Files Storage** screen, select **A different computer on the network is the server and will store Sage 50 company data**.
5. Confirm that Sage 50 has already been installed on the server and click **Next**.
6. On the **Company Data Files Location** screen, you can select a mapped drive. Click **Find a Computer** to map the drive to a network share. You may also use a UNC path for the data path.
7. Click **Next** and select the program files directory. It is usually best to leave this as the default directory.
8. Confirm that the company data location is correct and click **Install**.

Note:

- It is important to verify the desired mapped drive or server share is the installed data path that is local to the server.
- If you have any problems using the network installation manager, you can install Sage 50 Accounting on each workstation by visiting sage.com/us/sage50-2026. Alternatively, if your purchase includes an install disk, insert the disk and select **Install Sage 50 Accounting**.

After your installation is complete, follow the **Activation instructions to activate your product.**

Activation (required to use your product)

Before you begin:

If you have purchased Sage 50 previously (i.e., this is not your first Sage 50 product), please call **1-877-481-0341** for assistance with your product activation.

1. After installation is complete, select **Finish** to launch Sage 50 Accounting.
2. From within Sage 50 Accounting, go to **Help, Sage 50 Activation, Licensing and Subscription Options**.
3. The Product Activation window will launch.
4. Select **Activate Online Now**.
5. The Activation Form window will launch.
6. Enter valid company information, then click **OK**.
7. The Activation Complete window will launch.
8. Verify successful activation by going back to **Help, About Sage 50 Accounting**.
9. The presence of a Serial Number, Customer ID, and Plan Level indicates Sage 50 is now activated.

If you have questions during the activation process, please call Support and Service at **1-877-481-0341**.