

# Client Installations & Updates

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The instructions in this article contain important information relating to StrataMax Client Installations and Updates for Version 5.6+ of StrataMax. These functions would be best carried out by your IT Support or the StrataMax Administrator in the office. If you require further guidance please reach out to our Support Team.

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## Minimum Computer Specifications

StrataMax is designed to run on a Windows base computer system which is required to meet a minimum software and hardware standard. If the new computer (or rebuild) does not meet minimum specifications StrataMax should not be installed. Please note that a higher specifications machine will gain better performance from StrataMax, even above our preferred specifications.

ITEM	MINIMUM	PREFERRED
Operating System	Windows 10	Windows 11
RAM	8GB	16 GB
CPU	4 cores	8 cores
Microsoft Office	Office 2019	Office 365
Hard Drive	HDD	SSD

## .NET Desktop Runtime 8.0

The latest version is required as a prerequisite run the StrataMax software.

StrataMax should attempt to automatically download and run this software at time of install, but if this fails for any reason this will need to be installed manually.

The minimum version is 8.0.17. This framework should be kept up to date by Windows Update once it is installed. However it is strongly recommended to regularly check that the version is current every 3 months on all StrataMax endpoints to avoid issues with the StrataMax software.

URL to .NET Desktop Runtime from Microsoft:<https://dotnet.microsoft.com/en-us/download/dotnet/8.0>

**.NET Desktop Runtime 8.0.17**

The .NET Desktop Runtime enables you to run existing Windows desktop applications. **This release includes the .NET Runtime; you don't need to install it separately.**

OS	Installers	Binaries
Windows	<b>x64</b>   x86   Arm64   <a href="#">winget instructions</a>	

We also strongly recommend using the below registry setting to avoid removing old .NET versions until a member of the Administrators group has logged in next.

This will avoid crashes when the .NET runtime is updated (I.E. by Windows Update) while StrataMax is still running: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/core/install/windows#choose-when-previous-versions-are-removed>

## Choose when previous versions are removed

The installer executables always install new content before removing the previous installation. Applications that are running might be interrupted or crash when older runtimes are removed. To minimize the impact of updating .NET, you can specify when a previous .NET installation should be removed using a registry key.

[Expand table](#)

.NET version	Registry key	Name	Type	Value
All	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\.NET	RemovePreviousVersion	REG_SZ	<code>always</code> , <code>never</code> , or <code>nextSession</code>
.NET 9	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\.NET\9.0	RemovePreviousVersion	REG_SZ	<code>always</code> , <code>never</code> , or <code>nextSession</code>
.NET 8	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\.NET\8.0	RemovePreviousVersion	REG_SZ	<code>always</code> , <code>never</code> , or <code>nextSession</code>

- `never` retains previous installations and requires manual intervention to remove previous .NET installations.
- `always` removes previous installations after the new version is installed. This is the default behavior in .NET.
- `nextSession` defers the removal until the next logon session from members in the Administrators group.
- Values are case-insensitive and invalid values default to `always`.

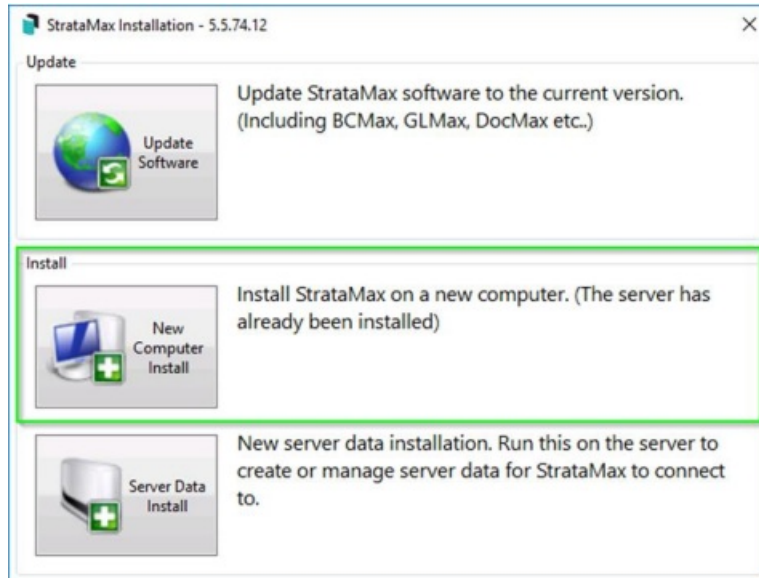
When the removal is deferred, the installer writes a command to the [RunOnce](#) registry key to uninstall the previous version. The command only executes if a user in the Administrators group logs on to the machine.

## Installing StrataMax

1. To install StrataMax, your user account will require administrative permissions on the PC.
2. To install StrataMax on a new PC you need to identify which network drive holds your StrataMax files, and browse to that location. You may need to ask your IT Technicians where this location is.
3. If you open a Windows Explorer menu, and type the below in the address bar, substituting your server name and share name as appropriate.

\\SERVER\_NAME\SHARE\_NAME\

4. Once you are here, browse to the “BCM” folder, and into the “Setup” folder.
5. Under this directory there is an executable file (.exe) called **BCMaxInstallation.exe**.
6. Right click this and select ‘Run as Administrator’. Once you have verified this is allowed to be run as an administrator, you will be prompted with the following splash screen:



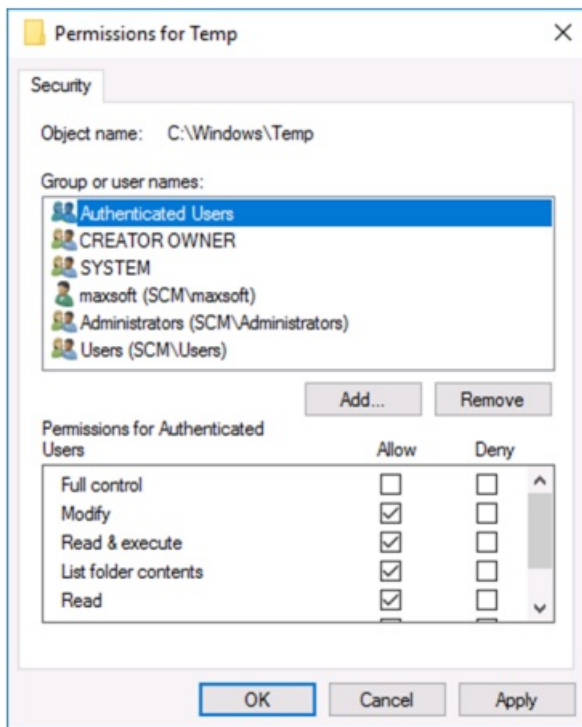
7. From this screen select the middle option; **“New Computer Install”**.
8. Once this is complete, the StrataMax Software Suite has installed successfully and you should find StrataMax and DocMax shortcuts located on your desktop.
9. A [StrataMax User Account](#) will need to be created by your office StrataMax Administrator for new users to access StrataMax.

## Important | Local NTFS Permissions

In order to allow the StrataMax software to receive regular patch updates, any user that can run the StrataMax application must have ‘modify’ permissions on the below two directories:

- **C:\BCMax**
- **C:\Windows\Temp**

Usually it is easiest to achieve this by giving built-in group “Authenticated Users” modify access on these folders, or by using a dedicated Active Directory Group, which all StrataMax end users are a member of.



## Update a StrataMax Endpoint by Command Line

To update a StrataMax user's machine/endpoint via Elevated Command Prompt, use the below command, where the {drive} refers to the StrataMax network share on your environment. Please note this command is case sensitive.:

```
{drive}\bcm\setup\BCMaxInstallation.exe UPDATE
```

## PowerShell Script to Version Check and Update a StrataMax Endpoint

This script can be run at startup of a StrataMax user's PC:

```
$sourceExePath = "{drive}\BCM\SETUP\BCMaxInstallation.exe"

$targetExePath = "C:\BCMax\BCMax.exe"

$sourceVersion = (Get-Item $sourceExePath).VersionInfo.FileVersion

$targetVersion = (Get-Item $targetExePath).VersionInfo.FileVersion

if ($sourceVersion -ne $targetVersion) {

    Write-Output "Versions are different. Running target file..."

    & "{drive}\bcm\setup\BCMaxInstallation.exe" UPDATE

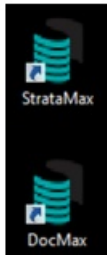
} else {
```

Write-Output "Versions are the same. No action needed."

}

## FAQ & Troubleshooting | StrataMax Shortcuts

If you accidentally delete the shortcuts to access the StrataMax software, simply re-run the above "New Computer Install" process and the shortcuts will be created for you.



## Queries & Further Troubleshooting

If you have any other queries or concerns with the above, please contact the StrataMax Support team. View our information here on [Logging a Support Case](#).

Email - [support@stratamax.com.au](mailto:support@stratamax.com.au)

Phone - (07) 5575 7422