



AUTODESK UNIVERSITY 2015

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Fabrication: Beginner's Implementation Lab

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Learning Objectives

- Learn how to take a local database installation and copy it to the network
- Learn how to implement user security to a database configuration
- Learn how to upgrade software and keep your existing database
- Learn how to implement best practices for database administration

Description

If you are new to Fabrication software, there's a lot of road between installing the software and deploying and implementing the product across an enterprise. How do you point all your users to the same database? How do you implement security so that not everybody can change your database? How do you upgrade a Fabrication software database to the next release? All these common questions have easy answers that are not easy to come by if you are a new user. This lab will walk you through taking the configuration that installs to deploying the software to all users in your company in a safe and effective manner.

Your AU Experts

A Midwestern transplant now based in Southern California, veteran Autodesk University speaker Darren Young has held a variety of positions over the last 20 years, including CAD and CAM engineer, CAD administrator, and CAD/CAM systems developer. Currently Darren is the systems integration manager for Southland Industries, one of the largest mechanical engineering and construction companies in the United States. Darren manages one of the largest installations of Fabrication software licenses in the world. While Darren's true interest is the automation of manufacturing systems, his experience ranges from lean manufacturing to architecture, and this has led him to projects varying in scope from dress patterns to gas turbine piping. He has founded a consulting and development business, and he has been a technical editor and publication author.

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Default Fabrication Database

File Locations

Autodesk Fabrication products store data in 3 locations. (examples)

Database Configuration Root: (changeable)

`C:\Users\Public\Documents\Autodesk\Fabrication <version>\<configuration>\<config version>`

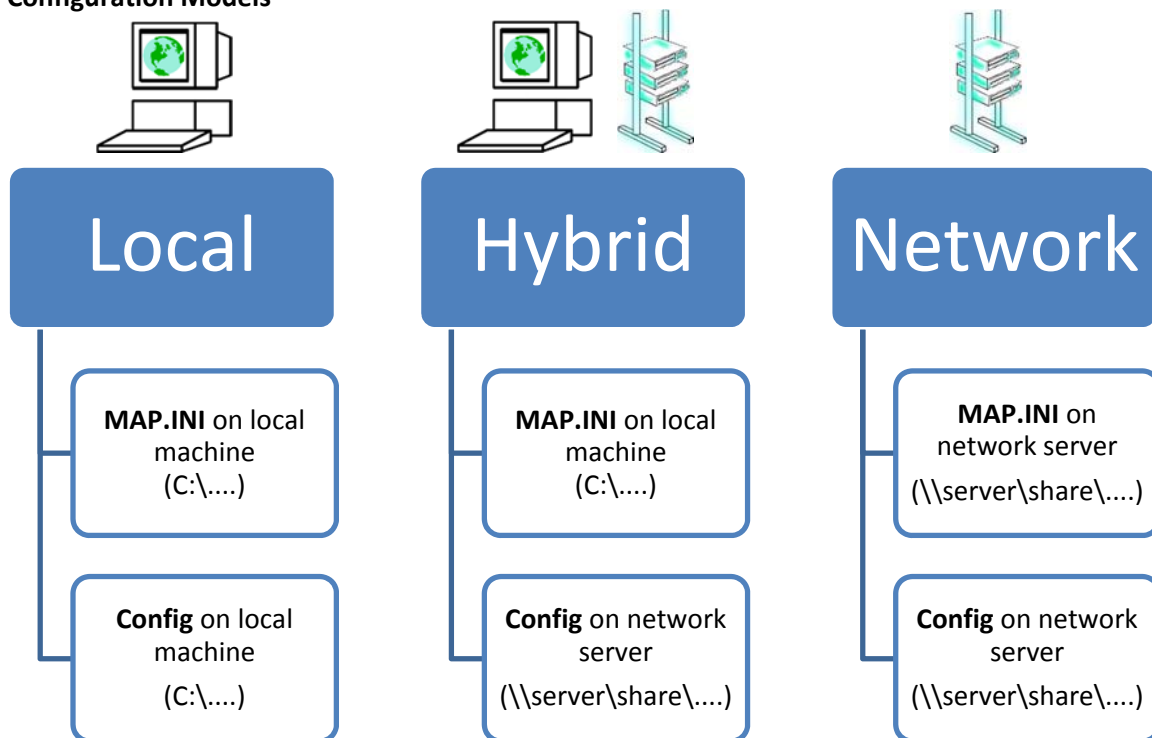
MAP.INI location (changeable)

`C:\Users\Public\Documents\Autodesk\Fabrication <version>\<configuration>\<config version>`

User specific: (unable to control)

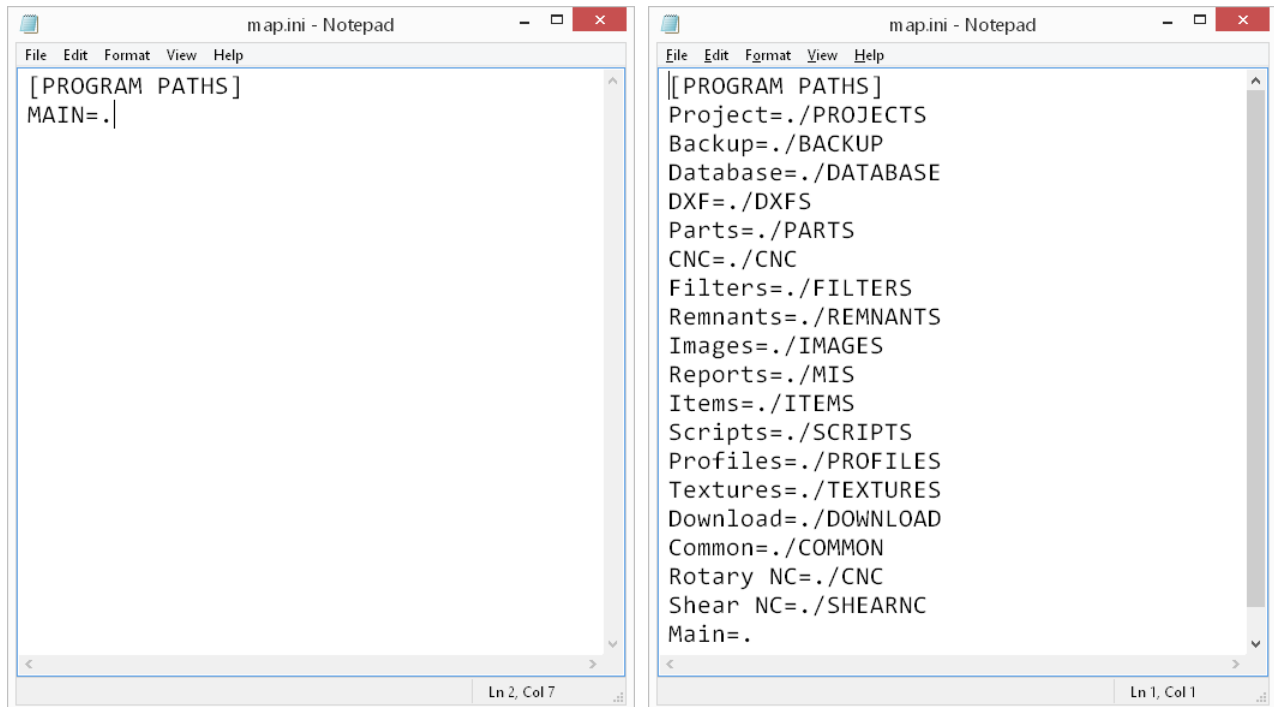
`C:\Users\<user>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication <version>\<product>`

Configuration Models



MAP.INI Pathing

Fabrication products look for a MAP.INI to define a database configuration. The MAP.INI tells the software where to find the parts of the database.



You can specify a “full path”...

Database: C:/Users/Public/Documents/Autodesk/Fabrication 2014/Imperial Content/V2.05/Database

Or a relative path...

Database: ../Database

Relative Pathing 101...

. = From the existing directory

.. = Step back 1 directory

User Security

Use the “Configure Users” program to manage users.

File Locations

<Configuration Path>\Database\Users

2015 and earlier - Rename “Users1” to “Users” to implement User Security with the default accounts

Admin Account	User Name	Password
Yes	mapadmin	Map
No	mapcad	Map
No	mapcam	Map
No	Mapest	map
No	Mapconstruct	map

2016 - Create “Users” folder.

Will create a default admin account. Use the following account info...

Admin Account	User Name	Password
Yes	Administrator	admin

Create accounts as needed. Only 1 account enforcing single login should ever be used for Administration.

Software Upgrades

There is no “Upgrade” to your database. New versions ship with completely “new” database. Simply point the new version to your existing database.

Each version does include new, updated or changed content. Export / Copy content from new versions database into your existing database.

Consider a “test” or Development” database to test.

Use “DBIMPORT/DBEXPORT” to import/export data.

Database Administration Best Practices

- Use “VIPS” (Validate Item Paths) command to “fix” drawings to point items that were renamed/moved in your database.

- Use “Button Path Repair Tool” to keep buttons on services in satisfactory state
- Use a second copy of your database for “Admin” purposes. Once you’ve made your changes, copy to “production”
- Never, EVER, open an existing drawing while logged in as an Admin. Always start with a fresh session of CADmep, CAMduct / ESTmep with no data loaded.
- Use the PURGEDB command to keep your database clean.
 - ITEMS made permanent (or deleted)
 - Compact to recover wasted space
- Backup your production database prior to pushing out updates
- Treat your database with respect, it’s very fragile
- Don’t be afraid to manage your database (fear of messing something up)
- Use IMPORTSYS/EXPORTSYS to share services/service templates between databases
- Make a blank database for testing.

