

3ds Max vs. 3ds Max Design Comparison Matrix

Autodesk® 3ds Max® 2011 and Autodesk® 3ds Max® Design 2011 software share core technology and are data and plug-in compatible. Choose either Autodesk 3ds Max for games, film, and television artists or 3ds Max Design for architects, civil engineers, and 3D visualization specialists. See how the two compare.

LEGEND	Autodesk 3ds Max	Autodesk 3ds Max Design
✓ Feature supported		
RENDERING, COMPOSITING & DISPLAY		
Lighting Simulation & Analysis Simulate and analyze sun, sky, and artificial lighting with Exposure™ lighting analysis technology.		✓
INTEROPERABILITY		
Autodesk® Civil Visualization Extension* Dynamically link to data from AutoCAD® Civil 3D® and other software products, such as Bentley® MXROAD® software, to more easily turn complex civil design geometry into more accurate and compelling 3D design visualizations. Available to 3ds Max Design 2011 and 3ds Max Design 2010 customers who have active Subscription contracts.		✓
EXTENSIBILITY		
3ds Max SDK Extend and implement many aspects of the 3ds Max application.	✓	
PRESETS		
Entertainment-Supporting Materials & Workflows Dark UI theme and user defaults with tutorials targeted to visual effects and game workflows.	✓	
CAD Visualization-Supporting Materials & Workflows Light UI theme and user defaults with tutorials targeted to working with CAD data.		✓

* Available only to customers with current 3ds Max Design or AutoCAD® Civil 3D Autodesk® Subscription.

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