

SoftMax® Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software Installation Guide

Computer System Requirements for Version 7.0.1

Table 1-1: Minimum and Recommended Requirements

Item	Minimum	Recommended
Processor	Single-core, 2 GHz or faster	Quad core or faster
Operating system (SoftMax Pro Software requires the Professional Edition of the operating systems listed.)	Windows 7 (SP1 or newer), 32-bit or 64-bit (x86 or x64) and .NET Framework 4.6 (.NET Framework 4.6 is installed automatically by the SoftMax Pro Software installer if required.)	Windows 7 (SP1 or newer), 32-bit or 64-bit (x86 or x64), Windows 8, 32-bit or 64-bit (x86 or x64), or Windows 10, 32-bit or 64-bit (x86 or x64) The SoftMax Pro MiniMax Imaging Edition must be installed on a 64-bit operating system.
Data connection	RS-232 serial port or USB 2.0 port Network port (depending on the instrument)	USB 2.0 ports For instruments that require an RS-232 serial port, you can use a USB 2.0 port with a Keyspan USB-to-serial adapter. Keyspan USB-to-serial adapters have been field tested and given approval by Molecular Devices. Network port
Memory	2 GB RAM	4 GB RAM If running on a virtual machine, Molecular Devices recommends a minimum of 6 GB RAM. For automation, Molecular Devices recommends a minimum of 8 GB RAM.
Hard drive	500 MB of available space	1 GB of available space, or more
Graphics display	Graphics display adapter 1024 x 768 or higher-resolution display	32-bit graphics display with 256 MB video RAM 1280 x 1024 or higher-resolution display
Software activation	Internet connection or external USB drive	Internet connection or external USB drive

Imaging Cytometer Computer System Specifications

The SpectraMax® MiniMax™ 300 Imaging Cytometer is shipped with a computer that meets greater minimum computer system specifications than those required for the standard SoftMax Pro Software installation.

The supplied computer must be used as the acquisition computer connected to the instrument. You can do data analysis or protocol development on a separate computer that meets the requirements in [Computer System Requirements for Version 7.0.1 on page 1](#).

Optimizing the Computer Settings

Allowing your computer to hibernate or turn off during data acquisition can interrupt the transfer of data from the instrument to the software and result in data loss.

To prevent data loss, turn off all sleep and hibernation settings for the hard disk, the CPU, and the USB ports. Also, disable automatic Windows Updates. You can update Windows manually when the instrument is not being used by the software.

You can set these options in Windows Control Panel.

Installing the SoftMax Pro Software



Note: Molecular Devices recommends that you disable your anti-virus program before installing the SoftMax Pro Software, as it might interfere with the installation process.

1. Make sure that all connected instruments are powered off.
 2. Start the installation program.
 - If you downloaded the software installation, double-click the **SoftMaxPro7.0.1Setup.exe** file to start the installation program.
 - If you are installing from a USB flash drive, insert the SoftMax Pro Software flash drive into a USB port, and then navigate to the flash drive and double-click **SoftMaxPro7.0.1Setup.exe**.
 3. Select the edition of the SoftMax Pro Software that you need to install.
 - The **SoftMax Pro Standard Edition** supports most Molecular Devices microplate readers. This edition does not support the SpectraMax MiniMax 300 Imaging Cytometer.
 - The **SoftMax Pro MiniMax Imaging Edition** must be installed to support the features of the SpectraMax MiniMax 300 Imaging Cytometer. This edition requires a 64-bit operating system.
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Note: You must have the correct license for the edition of the software that you need to install.

4. Follow the on-screen instructions to finish installing the software.
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Note: SoftMax Pro Software Version 7.0.1 installation includes the QuickSync Tool for use with the SpectraMax® iD3 Multi-Mode Microplate Reader. For more information, see the *SpectraMax iD3 Multi-Mode Microplate Reader User Guide*.

5. Before starting the software, power on the connected instruments.
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Note: If you have anti-virus programs installed, Molecular Devices recommends that you add the SafeNet HASP License Manager Service (hasplms.exe) to the list of trusted applications.

SoftMax Pro Software Installation Guide

Activating Your Software License

If your license is inactive or is ready to expire, then the **Software License Activation** dialog is displayed when you start the SoftMax Pro Software.

If the software is already running, click the **Help** tab in the ribbon and then click **Software License**.

The **Software License Activation** dialog lists the current status for each of the available licenses. For information about the features of your license or to obtain a new license key, contact your Molecular Devices representative.

To activate your SoftMax Pro Software license, click **Activate** to open the **Activate Online** dialog.

- If you have access to the internet, type the **Product Key** in the field, click **Activate Online**, and then follow the on-screen instructions to activate your license.
- If you do not have access to the internet, then click **Activate Offline** and follow the on-screen instructions to activate your license.

To activate offline, you need your product key, a computer that has access to the internet, and a USB drive for transferring files between the computers.

On the Internet-enabled computer, go to:

<https://smplicensing.moleculardevices.com>

Follow the on-screen instructions to activate your license.

Getting Help

For more information about using the SoftMax Pro Software, see the SoftMax Pro Software application help or user guide.

The software user guide, the formula reference guide, and user guides for the supported instruments can be found in the Windows Start menu at:

Start > All Programs > Molecular Devices > SoftMax Pro 7.0.1

To view the user guides, use a PDF viewer such as Adobe Reader.

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