



SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software

Standard Edition and MiniMax Imaging Edition
Version 7.1.2

Installation Guide

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Computer Requirements SoftMax Pro Software - Standard Edition

You can install the SoftMax Pro Software - Standard edition on a computer with the following system specifications.

SoftMax Pro Software - Standard Edition

Item	Minimum	Standard Performance
Operating system	Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise, 64-bit	
Processor	Intel Core i3 with 2 cores or equivalent	Intel Core i5 with 8 or more cores or equivalent
Memory	8 GB RAM	16 GB RAM
Hard drive	50 GB of available space, or more	



Note: Microsoft no longer supports the Windows XP, Windows 7, and Windows 8 operating systems. Molecular Devices no longer tests or validates the SoftMax Pro Software on these operating systems.

You should install the SoftMax Pro Software on the computer before you set up the instrument. Please be aware that some updates to the SoftMax Pro Software require a purchase. To download the latest version of the software, visit: www.MolecularDevices.com/SMPdownloadsite.



Note: You must have the correct license for the edition you select to install.

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.

You must use the supplied computer as the acquisition computer you connect to the instrument. You can do data analysis or protocol development on a separate computer that meets the requirements listed previously.

Required Computer Settings



Note: Disable your anti-virus program before you install the software. Anti-virus programs can interfere with the installation process. If your computer hibernates or turns off during data acquisition, the transfer of data from the instrument to the software can be interrupted.

To prevent data loss turn off all sleep and hibernation settings for the hard disk, the CPU, and the USB ports.

To define computer settings in the Windows Control Panel:

1. Open **Control Panel**.
2. Click **Hardware and Sound**.
3. Under **Power Options**, click **Change When the Computer Sleeps**.
4. Click **Change advanced power settings**.
5. In the Power Options dialog, set **Hard disk > Turn Off Hard Disk After** to **Never**.
6. Set **Sleep > Sleep After** to **Never**.
7. Set **Sleep > Hibernate After** to **Never**.
8. Set **USB Settings > USB Selective Suspend Setting** to **Disabled**.
9. Click **OK**.

Decimal Symbol Must be a Period

For the SoftMax Pro Software to parse or execute calculations, the regional options for the computer must use the period symbol (".") for the decimal symbol. This can be an issue if the Region and Language setting for the computer is something other than English.

To set custom regional settings, go to **Control Panel > Clock and Region**.

SoftMax Pro Software Installation

The installation instructions in this section are for the SoftMax Pro Software - Standard edition and the SoftMax Pro Software - MiniMax Imaging edition. To install the SoftMax Pro Software - GxP edition, see the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software - GxP Edition - Installation Guide for the Multi Computer Setup* or *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software - GxP Edition - Installation Guide for the Single Computer Setup*.

To install the SoftMax Pro Software - Standard edition:

1. Power off the instrument that is connected to the computer.
2. Start the installation program.
 - If you install from a USB drive, insert the USB drive into a USB port. Navigate to the USB drive and double-click **SoftMaxPro<n.n.n>Setup.exe**.
 - If you use an alternate installation media, double-click the **SoftMaxPro<n.n.n>Setup.exe** file to start the installation program.
3. Wait while the initialization process occurs until the Installation Wizard appears. On the Installation Wizard Welcome page, click **Next** to display the License Agreement page.
4. Select the **I accept the terms of the license agreement** check box and click **Next**.
5. Select the software edition to install.
 - **SoftMax Pro Software - Standard Edition** supports most Molecular Devices microplate readers. The SoftMax Pro Software - Standard edition does not support the SpectraMax® MiniMax™ 300 Imaging Cytometer.
 - **SoftMax Pro Software - MiniMax Imaging Edition** supports the features of the SpectraMax MiniMax 300 Imaging Cytometer. Install the SoftMax Pro Software - MiniMax Imaging edition version 7.1.0 or earlier for the SpectraMax MiniMax 300 Imaging Cytometer.
 - **SoftMax Pro Software - GxP Edition** For steps to install the SoftMax Pro Software - GxP edition, see the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software - GxP Edition - Installation Guide for the Multi Computer Setup* or *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software - GxP Edition - Installation Guide for the Single Computer Setup*. The SoftMax Pro Software - GxP edition does not support the SpectraMax MiniMax 300 Imaging Cytometer.
6. Follow the prompts through the Installation Wizard to finish the software installation. Installation can take several minutes.

7. Before you start the software, power on the instrument that is connected to the computer.



Note: You should add the SafeNet HASP License Manager Service (hasplms.exe) to the list of trusted applications for the anti-virus programs on the computer.


SpectraMax® iD3 Multi-Mode Microplate Reader and SpectraMax® iD5 Multi-Mode Microplate Reader QuickSync Tool

When you use the SpectraMax iD3 or SpectraMax iD5, you need to install the QuickSync Tool. See [Installing the QuickSync Tool](#).

Activating the Software License

The Software License Activation dialog displays when your SoftMax Pro Software license is inactive or is ready to expire. The SoftMax Pro Software package includes your software product key. For information about the features of your license or to obtain a new license key, contact Molecular Devices.

To activate your software license:

1. In the Ribbon, select the **Help** tab, and then click  **Software License** to display the Software License Activation dialog.
2. Click **Activate** to display the Activate Online dialog.
3. In the **Product Key** field, enter the product key.
4. If the computer has access to the Internet, click **Activate Online**.
If the computer does not have access to the Internet, see the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software User Guide*.
5. Wait for the *Activation Success* message and click **Finish**.

Connect the Software to the Instrument

See the instrument user guide for how to connect the cables between the computer and the instrument. You can use the software in Offline mode or in Simulator mode without a physical connection between the computer and the instrument to create protocol files. After you connect the cables and power on the instrument, you then start the SoftMax Pro Software and the icon for the instrument displays on the Home tab in the software. For additional details and troubleshooting steps, see the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisitions and Analysis Software User Guide*.

The icon displays the connection status between the software and the instrument.



- Instrument connected



- Instrument disconnected



- Instrument in Simulator mode

If the instrument status displays as disconnected, check to make sure that the instrument is powered on and that the connections between the instrument and the computer are secure.

To select the instrument:

1. Select the Home tab and click the **Instrument** icon to display the Instrument Connection dialog.
2. From the **Available Instruments** list, select the communication port to which you connect the instrument.
If the communication port does not appear in the list, click **Refresh**.
3. Click **OK**.

Installing the QuickSync Tool

When you use the SpectraMax iD3 and SpectraMax iD5, use the QuickSync tool to use the raw data the instrument collects in the SoftMax Pro Software for further analysis.

The QuickSync Tool is a separate software application that you install and run on the computer running the SoftMax Pro Software.

To install the QuickSync Tool:

1. Insert the SoftMax Pro Software installation medium into the computer slot or use alternative media.
2. Locate and double-click **QuickSyncInstaller.exe** file to start the install.
3. When the *Do you want to allow this app to make changes to your computer?* message displays, click **Yes**. The installation starts.
4. On the Completing the Setup page, click **Finish**.

The QuickSync Tool icon  appears on the computer desktop.

Getting Help

For more information about how to use the SoftMax Pro Software, see the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software User Guide* or the application help.

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 <n.n.n>

Obtaining Support

Molecular Devices is a leading worldwide manufacturer and distributor of analytical instrumentation, software, and reagents. We are committed to the quality of our products and to fully supporting our customers with the highest level of technical service.

Our Support website, support.moleculardevices.com, has a link to the Knowledge Base, which contains technical notes, software upgrades, safety data sheets, and other resources. If you still need assistance after consulting the Knowledge Base, you can submit a request to Molecular Devices Technical Support.

You can contact your local representative or Molecular Devices Technical Support at 800-635-5577 X 1815 (North America only) or +1408-747-1700. In Europe call +44 (0) 118 944 8000.

To find regional support contact information, visit www.moleculardevices.com/contact.

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