

Phoenix FD for Maya

Linux

Setup and Installation

Overview

This guide serves as a reference for the installation of Phoenix FD for Maya. You can download the latest official version of Phoenix FD from <http://www.chaosgroup.com> with the account supplied to you by Chaos Group or your reseller.

This page covers installation of Phoenix FD through the Phoenix installer. For additional setup and troubleshooting, see the following pages:

- [Trial Installation of Phoenix FD for Maya](#) - Includes details on how to sign up and use the trial version of the software.
- [Installation Troubleshooting](#) - Provides solutions to common installation issues.
- [Silent Install and Uninstall](#) - Instructions for silently installing or uninstalling Phoenix FD through the command line.
- [Uninstalling Phoenix FD](#) - Instructions for manually uninstalling Phoenix FD through the included Phoenix uninstaller.
- [Set Up Your Phoenix FD License](#) - Instructions for setting up and managing the Phoenix floating licensing system.

If you experience any problems, please check the [Installation Troubleshooting](#) page.

In order to run Phoenix FD for Maya, you need to have access to the License Server (installed on your machine or a connection to one over your network).

System requirements

Please make sure that your system fulfills these requirements before installing Phoenix FD. Note that Phoenix FD is only supported for 64 bit operating systems and 64 bit versions of Maya.

Phoenix FD for Maya comes in 2 build types - compatible with V-Ray 3 and V-Ray Next. If you don't have V-Ray, it does not matter at all which one you install - Phoenix would still be able to

simulate, load, save and preview caches. If you do have V-Ray 3 or V-Ray Next, please take care to install a matching Phoenix build.

Note that reading textures during simulation, e.g. by Sources, Mappers, etc, would be faster if you also have V-Ray installed.

Processor	Intel® Pentium® IV or compatible processor with SSE4.2 support.
RAM	8 GB RAM and 8 GB swap minimum – recommended 32 GB or more RAM, 32 GB or more swap file
USB port	Required for dongle licensing, USB 2.0 or newer
TCP/IP	Only IPv4 is supported. IPv6 is currently not supported.
V-Ray	Oldest supported V-Ray Next is Update 1, and the oldest supported V-Ray 3 is 3.60.05

The following table shows the versions of Autodesk Maya and operating systems on which Phoenix FD is supported. Note that Phoenix FD is only supported for 64 bit operating systems and 64 bit versions of Maya.

Version of Maya	Supported Operating System
Maya 2017	Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® 6.5 and 7.2 WS, or CentOS 6.5 and 7.2
Maya 2018	Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® 6.5 and 7.2 WS, or CentOS 6.5 and 7.2
Maya 2019	Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® 6.5 and 7.2 WS, or CentOS 7.2
Maya 2020	Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® 6.5 and 7.2 WS, or CentOS 7.2

Hardware Advice for Faster Simulating

Here's some tips to help make sure your Phoenix sims calculate as fast as possible.

Hardware	Recommendation
Bus speed	Phoenix transfers huge amounts of data between memory and the CPU. The entire simulation grid gets processed tens to hundred times per simulation step, so the bus speed is the bottleneck in most simulations.
CPU speed	Processor speed is more important than core count. Also, NUMA and multiprocessor architectures do not perform well with Phoenix. Simulating on one NUMA node is often faster than waiting for multiple nodes to synchronize.
Fast Storage	Both large and small simulations take significant time just to write the cache files from the simulation and to read them back for the preview, so good storage speed can help decrease simulation times up to 30%. Turning off the preview for all grid and particle channels during large simulations could also help speed up the simulation.
GPU	GPUs are currently only used for the GPU preview of fire/smoke simulations.

Software Advice for Faster Simulating

On some machines, the Anti-Virus software may treat Phoenix FD's files *.aur*, *.f3d* and *.vdb* as a potential risk and consume significant processing power to scan them. Since cache files are often hundreds of Megabytes or more, this could cause the simulation to slow down several times.

Consider adding an exception in your Anti-Virus software for these file formats.

You may also add Phoenix FD log file extension (**.log**) or the log file directory (accessible through the [Phoenix Preferences](#)) to the exceptions of the Anti-Virus software.

It may also be beneficial to add an exception for the **Maya** process (maya.exe under Windows).

Here is a short step by step guide by Microsoft on [Adding an Exclusion for Windows Defender](#).

Installation of Phoenix FD

If you plan to render your Phoenix FD simulations with V-Ray, and V-Ray is currently not installed on your machine, please make sure to first run the V-Ray installer before running the Phoenix FD installer.

The Phoenix FD installer will automatically remove any previous installations. This will allow you to seamlessly upgrade from older versions of Phoenix FD. If you experience problems, you can manually uninstall the previous versions to perform a clean install. For more information, please refer to the [Uninstalling Phoenix FD](#) page.

Before running the installation, make sure your Windows account has administrative privileges and the dongle is not plugged in.

Linux

1. Unpack the contents of the installation archive to a temporary folder (called *phoenix_install_dir* below);
2. Open a console and navigate to that folder;
3. Make sure you have root permissions or use the **su** or the **sudo** command and run the installation file in the directory for the respective OS and Maya version:

Maya Version	Installer Name
Maya 2017	phoenixFD_adv_40000_maya2017_vray_30_centos6
Maya 2018	phoenixFD_adv_40000_maya2018_vray_30_centos6
Maya 2019	phoenixFD_adv_40000_maya2019_vray_30_centos6
Maya 2020	phoenixFD_adv_40000_maya2020_vray_30_centos6

4. Follow the instructions of the installer.
5. You will be presented with the License Agreement. Please take a few minutes to review it and then continue
6. In the next step, you can choose what to install. The available options are
Workstation (full) – Includes the Phoenix FD for Maya and sample scenes.

Render slave – Includes the Phoenix FD plugin for V-Ray Standalone. Pick this option if this machine is going to be used as a render slave only.

7. Pick an option and finish the installation

For example:

```
$ cd phoenix_install_dir
```

```
$ sudo ./phoenixFD_adv_30400_maya2018_vray_30_linux_x64
```

follow installer instructions

```
$ exit
```

Completing the installation

Please skip the steps that are not relevant for your installation type.

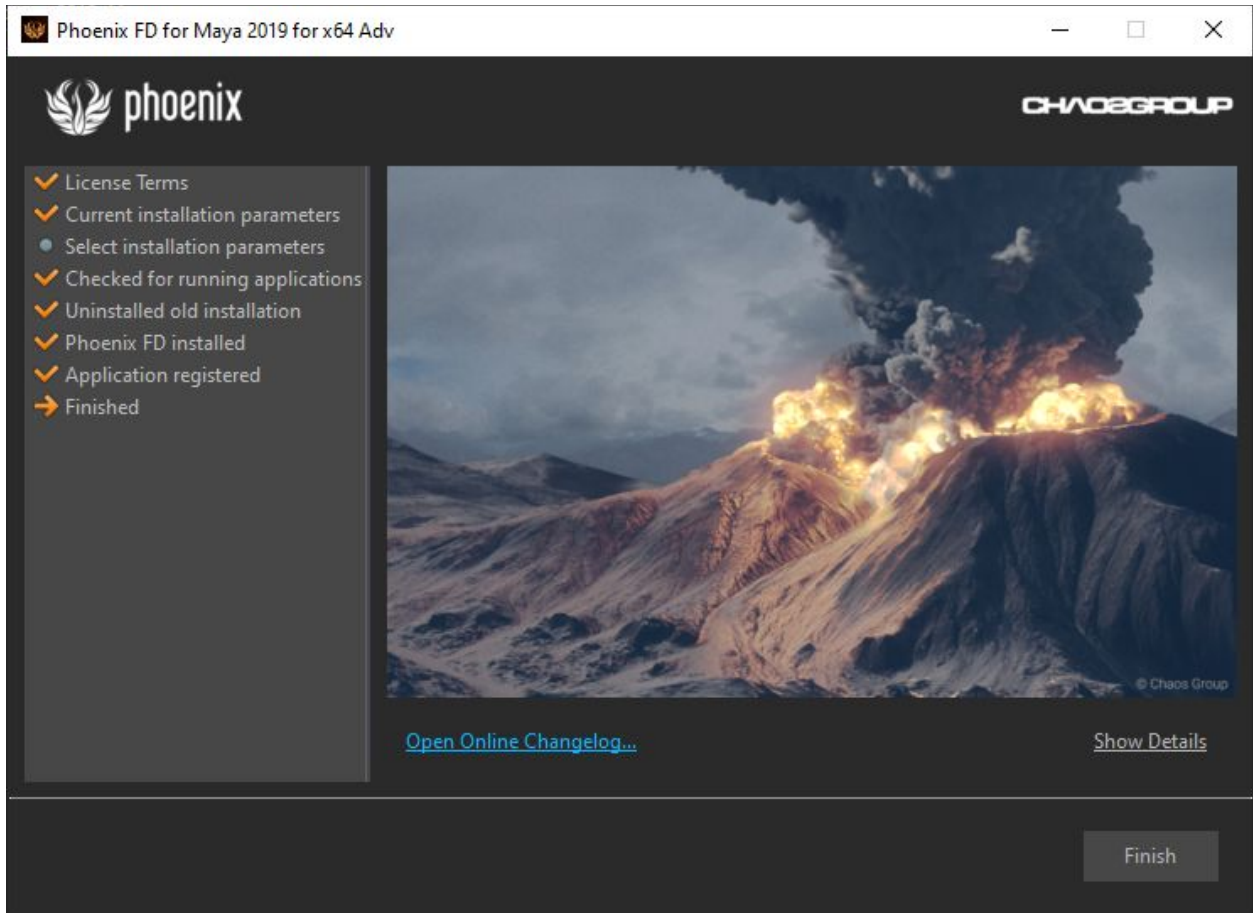
1. After you click the Install Now button, the installer will proceed to uninstall any previous versions and install Phoenix FD on your machine.

2. If the installation was successful, you will get this screen.

Visit our online documentation site will open a new browser window/tab to the [Phoenix FD for Maya Docs](#).

Open the changelog file after the installation will open the text file with changes broken down by releases (also available through the [Version Change Logs](#)).

Click the **Finish** button:



3. If you don't already have a ChaosGroup License Server installed on your machine or if you have an older version, you should install the one included with the zip package of Phoenix for Maya (*vrlservice_installer.exe* or *vrlservice_installer.bin* for Linux), or download the latest License Server from chaosgroup.com. To make sure that your license server is up and running and you have the necessary licenses, please proceed to the [Set Up Your Phoenix FD License](#) page.