

THE AI THAT WORKS INSIDE REVIT.

PULSE

Installation and configuration guide

FOR AUTODESK® REVIT® 2023-2027
SINGLE INSTALLER • AUTOMATIC CONFIGURATION
JULY 2026 • v1.2.0

01 // PREREQUISITES

01

Prerequisites

Pulse runs locally on Windows and connects to your AI client over the MCP protocol. Before installing, make sure you have:

On your PC

- Autodesk Revit 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 or 2027 (full edition, not LT)
- Windows 10 or 11
- no additional .NET or Node.js runtime: the distributed MCP server is self-contained
- PowerShell 5.1+ (bundled with Windows, used by the installer)

A desktop MCP client

Pulse speaks standard MCP (stdio): it works with any compatible client — Claude Desktop, Claude Code, the ChatGPT desktop app (Codex), Codex CLI, opencode, Cursor, Continue, Cline, Gemini CLI — including local open-weight models (e.g. via opencode with Ollama or LM Studio).

WARNING — the AI client must run on the same machine as Revit: Pulse is a local MCP server. Web apps (claude.ai, chatgpt.com) cannot connect to local MCP servers and are not supported.

02 // INSTALLATION

02

Installation

Download Pulse Free from the official pulse-ai.it website: submit the form and use the link received by email. The ZIP package contains Pulse-Setup.exe, this guide, the user manual, the Power BI visual and the knowledge base for the AI assistant (see section 05). Close Revit and Claude Desktop first: the installer cannot replace locked DLLs or open configs.

Recommended procedure

1. Fully extract the ZIP to a local folder.
2. Make sure Revit and Claude Desktop are closed.
3. Run Pulse-Setup.exe and approve the UAC prompt.
4. When it finishes, restart Revit first and then the AI client.

Within a few seconds the installer:

- auto-detects every installed Revit version (2023 → 2027)
- copies the plugin to C:\ProgramData\Autodesk\Revit\Addins\<version>\Pulse\
- installs the MCP server to %USERPROFILE%\pulse\server\
- configures Claude Desktop and Codex automatically when detected

TIP — the installer tries machine scope for the Revit plugin and has a user-scope fallback. The current launcher still requires UAC approval; managed PCs may require IT assistance.

WARNING — the installer is not digitally signed: Windows SmartScreen may show a "Windows protected your PC" prompt. This is expected for unsigned software — choose "More info" > "Run anyway".

03 // VERIFYING THE MCP CLIENT CONFIGURATION

03

Verifying the MCP client configuration

With the single installer you don't configure anything by hand. When installation finishes, Pulse has already registered the MCP server (named pulse-revit) in every compatible client it found on the PC. This section only helps you VERIFY that it succeeded and, in the rare case a client isn't configured, fix it.

The installer configures automatically, when it detects them:

- Claude Desktop (classic path and MSIX installs)
- Claude Code, if the claude command is on the PATH
- Codex (ChatGPT desktop app / Codex CLI), if .codex is present
- Cursor, Windsurf, VS Code (Copilot), Cline, LM Studio, opencode, if installed

Each client is touched ONLY if detected: the installer never creates configs in apps that aren't installed, and it always backs up the file before adding the pulse-revit entry, preserving preferences and other MCP servers already present.

TIP — fastest way to verify: open the client, ask for the list of MCP servers (in Claude Code the /mcp command, or claude mcp list) and check that pulse-revit appears. If it does, you're done: skip to First check.

How to verify per client

- Claude Desktop: Settings > Developer > Edit Config; the pulse-revit entry must appear under mcpServers. Restart Claude Desktop after installing.
- Claude Code: in the terminal run claude mcp list (or /mcp in a session) and confirm pulse-revit is listed.
- Codex / opencode / Cursor / Windsurf / VS Code / Cline / LM Studio: open the client's MCP or Connectors panel and check that pulse-revit is present and enabled.

Note on Claude Code: installation type

If you installed Claude Code natively or via global npm, the claude command is on the system PATH: the installer detects it and configures pulse-revit for you, with no action needed. If instead you use the 'local' install (~/.claude/local) or invoke claude through a shell alias, the command may not be visible to the installer's elevated process: in that case Claude Code isn't configured automatically and you add the server once with the command below.

```
claude mcp add pulse-revit "C:\Users\<you>\.pulse\server\Pulse.Server.exe"
```

TIP — to check which install you have, run claude doctor (it shows the installation type and path). If claude mcp list already lists pulse-revit, everything is fine and you don't need to add anything.

Only if a client isn't configured

Use the blocks below only when the checks above show a client does NOT have the pulse-revit entry (client installed after Pulse, Claude Code 'local' install, a different user profile). Don't repeat a configuration that is already there: you risk duplicating it or breaking the file. Close the client before editing its config.

TIP — all paths in MCP configs must be absolute: tilde (~) and %USERPROFILE% are not expanded by every client. Write the full literal path.

Claude Desktop — Settings > Developer > Edit Config (opens the file actually read by the app; the installer handles both the classic path %APPDATA%\Claude\claude_desktop_config.json and the MSIX one):

```
{
```

```
"mcpServers": {
  "pulse-revit": {
    "command": "C:\\Users\\<you>\\.pulse\\server\\Pulse.Server.exe"
  }
}
```

WARNING — do not paste a second JSON document inside existing braces. If the file already contains preferences or mcpServers, add only the pulse-revit entry and keep a single outer pair of braces. Fully quit Claude before saving.

Claude Code (CLI) — a single command, as above:

```
claude mcp add pulse-revit "C:\\Users\\<you>\\.pulse\\server\\Pulse.Server.exe"
```

Codex (OpenAI), ChatGPT desktop app or CLI — edit %USERPROFILE%\.codex\config.toml (the web version chatgpt.com does not support local MCP servers):

```
[mcp_servers.pulse-revit]
command = "C:\\Users\\<you>\\.pulse\\server\\Pulse.Server.exe"
```

WARNING — config.toml allows only one [mcp_servers.pulse-revit] section. If it already exists, edit its command line instead of pasting a second block: TOML forbids duplicate keys and Codex would fail to load the file (a 'duplicate key' error).

opencode — a free, open-source client that also works with local open-weight models (Ollama, LM Studio or any OpenAI-compatible endpoint). Edit %USERPROFILE%\.config\opencode\opencode.json (or the project's opencode.json):

```
{
  "mcp": {
    "pulse-revit": {
      "type": "local",
      "command": ["C:\\Users\\<you>\\.pulse\\server\\Pulse.Server.exe"],
      "enabled": true
    }
  }
}
```

TIP — with local models pick a recent model with tool/function calling support: answer quality depends on the model. For write operations we recommend the strongest tiers, or a cloud model such as Claude.

Cursor / Cline / Gemini CLI — same mcpServers block as Claude Desktop, with the pulse-revit key, in the client's config file (.cursor/mcp.json, Cline settings, %USERPROFILE%\.gemini\settings.json).

04

For IT managers

Installation and endpoint policy

- Pulse-Setup.exe is not Authenticode-signed: SmartScreen, AppLocker, or WDAC may require an explicit allowlist. There is no need to disable antivirus protection.
- The installer requests UAC, writes the plugin to ProgramData (with an AppData fallback), and installs the server under %USERPROFILE%\pulse\server.
- Claude/Codex configs and the .pulse folder are per-user: on multi-user workstations, each Windows profile must be configured separately.
- Uninstall removes the plugin, server, and pulse-revit entry, but retains settings, logs, and audit data in %USERPROFILE%\pulse for diagnostics; IT may delete them manually.

Network and data

- Revit bridge: TCP 127.0.0.1:8080, loopback only; no inbound firewall rule is required.
- Outbound HTTPS: dl.pulse-ai.it for the manifest, updates, and licensing.
- Optional Premium Power BI: login.microsoftonline.com and api.powerbi.com; local localhost:27016 listener for Power BI Desktop control.
- Pulse does not publish the model directly, but model data included in prompts is processed by the selected AI client under that provider's policies.
- Pulse telemetry is off by default and requires explicit consent in Settings.

TIP — for managed deployment, close Revit and Claude, install in each user's context, verify Pulse.Server.exe, and check the client under Connectors/Developer settings.

05 // FIRST CHECK

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First check

After installing:

1. Restart Revit: the Pulse ribbon tab appears, with the Pulse Switch and Settings buttons.
2. Open a Revit project.
3. Click Pulse Switch in the ribbon to start the server (off by default).
4. Restart the client (Claude Desktop) or run `/mcp` to confirm pulse-revit is listed.

Then try a safe, read-only request:

TRY

```
> Run a health check on the model and show me the main warnings.
```

In 10 seconds you see how the dialogue works: Pulse executes and shows you what it did.

What the package contains

Besides Pulse-Setup.exe and this guide, the ZIP contains three things worth knowing about:

- the user manual (IT and EN, in two variants: screen and print), with the full command catalogue and one example request for each
- the Power BI custom visual (.pbviz), installed by hand in Power BI Desktop -- see section 06
- the knowledge base for the AI assistant (optional), in the ai-skills folder

The knowledge base (optional)

The ai-skills folder holds the Pulse usage doctrine: detecting Revit's language before naming a category, preferring the language-independent OST_ codes, picking the most targeted command instead of the broadest one, asking for a preview before a destructive change, reading the project's units instead of assuming them.

It is OPTIONAL and the installer does not install it. Pulse works without it: the same doctrine reaches the client on its own as an MCP resource (`pulse://doctrine`), exposed by the server with no configuration. Clients that support MCP resources read it at the start of the session; if yours does not list them, nothing is broken -- the assistant simply has less context on how to use Pulse well.

To install it as a skill in your client, copy the package's ai-skills\pulse folder to:

- Claude Code: `%USERPROFILE%\claude\skills\pulse`
- Codex CLI: `%USERPROFILE%\codex\skills\pulse`

Then restart the client. The folder is also simply readable: they are Markdown files, usable without installing anything.

06

Editions and Premium integrations

Pulse uses one installer. Without a valid Keygen license it runs as Pulse Free, never expires, and contains 113 read-only commands. Read-Only Mode is permanently enabled: editing settings.json cannot enable writes, Power BI, Dynamo, or custom C#.

Moving to Pulse Premium

To use the 198 Premium commands, no reinstall is needed: open Pulse > License in the ribbon, enter the serial, and complete Keygen activation. The same installation unlocks writes, Power BI, Dynamo, and optional custom C# in place.

Power BI

Power BI and the custom visual are available only with an active Pulse Premium license. After Keygen activation, open the Power BI panel in the ribbon and complete Microsoft device-code sign-in.

Installing the custom visual (manual)

The .pbviz file ships in the package, in the powerbi-visual folder, but the installer does NOT install it: you do it by hand, in under a minute. Two equivalent ways.

Way A — from inside Power BI Desktop (recommended):

1. Open Power BI Desktop.
2. In the Visualizations pane click "..." and choose "Import a visual from a file".
3. Point to the .pbviz file in the package's powerbi-visual folder.

Way B — by copying the file:

1. Copy the .pbviz into Documents > Power BI Desktop > Custom Visuals (create the folders if they do not exist).
2. Restart Power BI Desktop: the visual appears among the imported visuals.

The visual follows the Power BI language: Italian when Power BI is Italian, English for any other language.

TIP — with OneDrive, "Documents" may live under the OneDrive folder rather than in C:\Users\<you>. If you are unsure of the path, use Way A: Power BI itself puts the file where it belongs.

Dynamo Integration

Dynamo is available only in Pulse Premium and requires a compatible Dynamo for Revit. The integration remains off by default: enable it under Settings > General only when you need to generate or run .dyn graphs.

07 // TROUBLESHOOTING

07

Troubleshooting

The Pulse icon doesn't appear in Revit

The plugin was not loaded. Check Pulse.addin and the Pulse folder under either %ProgramData%\Autodesk\Revit\Addins\<version> or %APPDATA%\Autodesk\Revit\Addins\<version>.

"Connection refused" in the client

The MCP server didn't start. Launch %USERPROFILE%\pulse\server\Pulse.Server.exe manually and check for errors. Make sure Pulse Switch is ON in Revit.

Port 8080 already in use

Edit %USERPROFILE%\pulse\settings.json adding "Port": 8081, then restart the plugin and the server.

pulse-revit doesn't appear in the client after installing

First check with /mcp (or claude mcp list) whether pulse-revit is already listed. If it's missing, typical causes are: client installed after Pulse, a Claude Code 'local' install (the claude command isn't on the installer's PATH), or a different Windows user profile. The server executable is in place regardless: just register it once.

```
claude mcp add pulse-revit "C:\Users\<you>\.pulse\server\Pulse.Server.exe"
```

The MCP server disappears after a client update

Claude Desktop/Code updates can wipe the registration. The executable is still in place: re-register it with the same command shown above.

08 // UNINSTALLING

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Uninstalling

Right-click `uninstall.ps1` > Run with PowerShell. It removes the plugin from every Revit version, the pulse-revit entry from the client configuration, and the server folders under `%USERPROFILE%\pulse`. Settings, logs, and audit data remain under `.pulse` for diagnostics and may be deleted manually. Revit models are left untouched.