Tip Sheet

This TIP Sheet has been updated from February 2008

ArchiCAD 12
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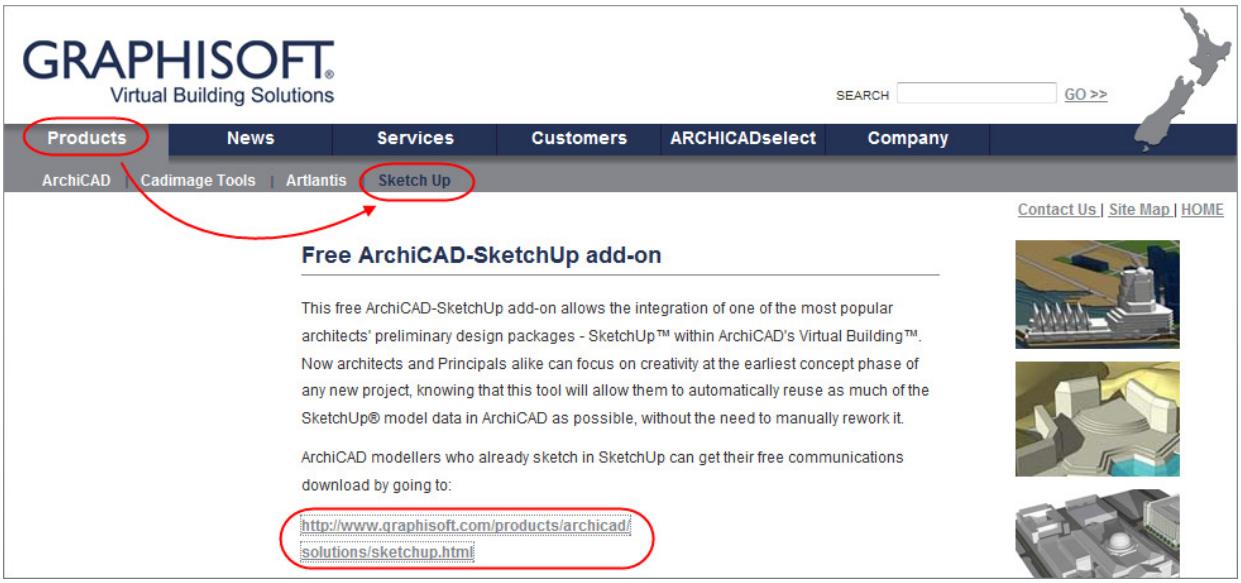
SketchUp in ArchiCAD 12

The ArchiCAD-SketchUp Add-On allows the integration of one of the most popular Architects' preliminary design packages - SketchUp™ within ArchiCAD's Virtual Building™. Now Architects and Principals alike can focus on creativity at the earliest concept phase of any new project, knowing that this tool will allow them to automatically reuse as much of the SketchUp® model data in ArchiCAD as possible, without the need to manually rework it.

Note for Mac users: Due to an error in underlying (non-Graphisoft) technology necessary to develop the Add-On, a Macintosh version is not currently available for ArchiCAD 10/11/12.

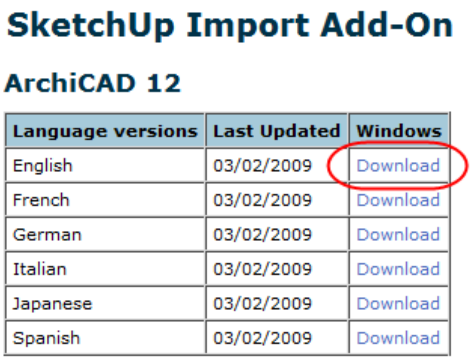
Installing the Add-On

Go to www.graphisoft.co.nz > **Products** > **SketchUp**. From here you can download the Add-On from the link provided.



From this new page, click on **Download Add-On**

From this new page, select to **Download** the **English** version, and select a save path. This will save a file called *SU12-INT.exe*



SketchUp Import Add-On

ArchiCAD 12

Language versions	Last Updated	Windows
English	03/02/2009	Download
French	03/02/2009	Download
German	03/02/2009	Download
Italian	03/02/2009	Download
Japanese	03/02/2009	Download
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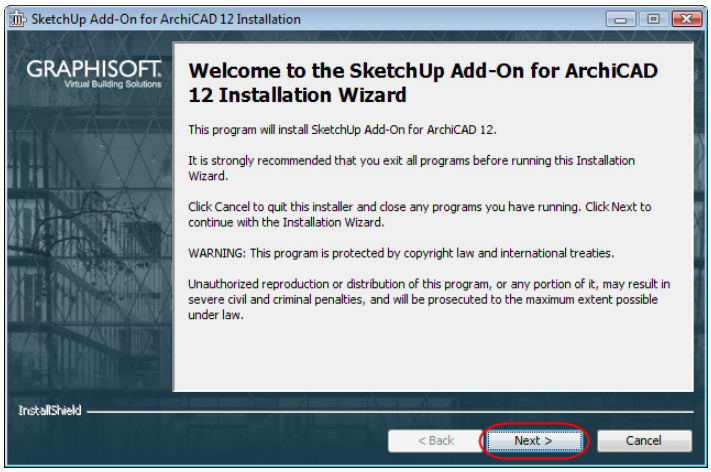


Run the .exe file to start the installation program.

Note: This is a self extracting compressed file, so it will ask firstly for a temporary location to unpack the files. These temporary files will be deleted after installation.

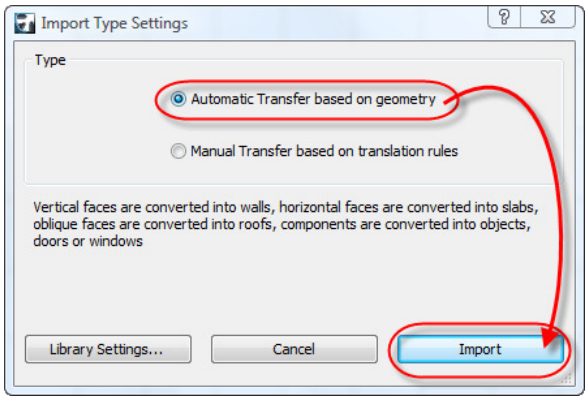
Click through this process until the Add-On is installed.

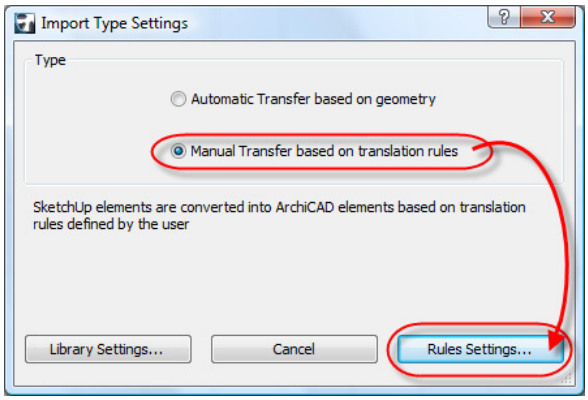
Importing a SketchUp file into ArchiCAD 12

Once the Add-On is installed the next time you start ArchiCAD 12 you will be able to import a SketchUp file.

Go to **File > Open**, change the **Files of Type** to **SketchUp File (*.skp)** and search for your SketchUp file. Click **Open**.
NOTE: Depending on the complexity of your SketchUp model, this process can take some time.

In the next dialog you can choose either: **Automatic Transfer** or **Manual Transfer**.



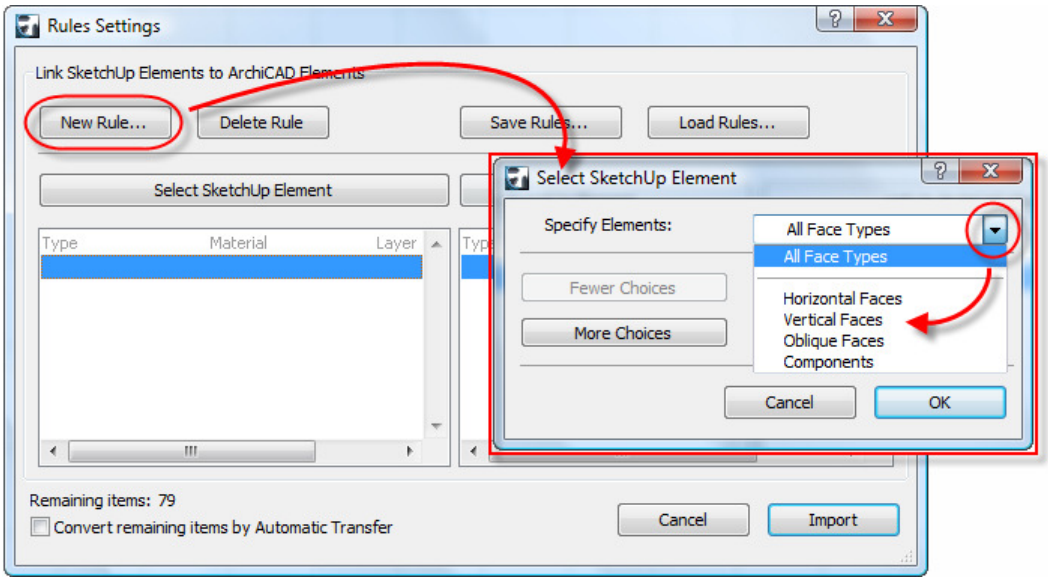


Choose the **Automatic Transfer based on geometry** option and click the **Import** button to automatically import the SketchUp file into ArchiCAD. With this option all vertical faces are converted into walls, horizontal faces into slabs, oblique faces into roofs and components into GDL objects, windows or doors. The parameters of the ArchiCAD elements are obtained from the default settings of the respective elements.

Choose the **Manual Transfer based on translation rules** option and click the **Rules Settings...** button to configure the transfer manually. Based on user-defined translation rules, each SketchUp element (faces, components) can be transferred into a specific ArchiCAD construction element type (wall, slab, roof, object etc.). To choose the folder in which to place ArchiCAD library parts created from SketchUp components, click the **Library Settings...** button.

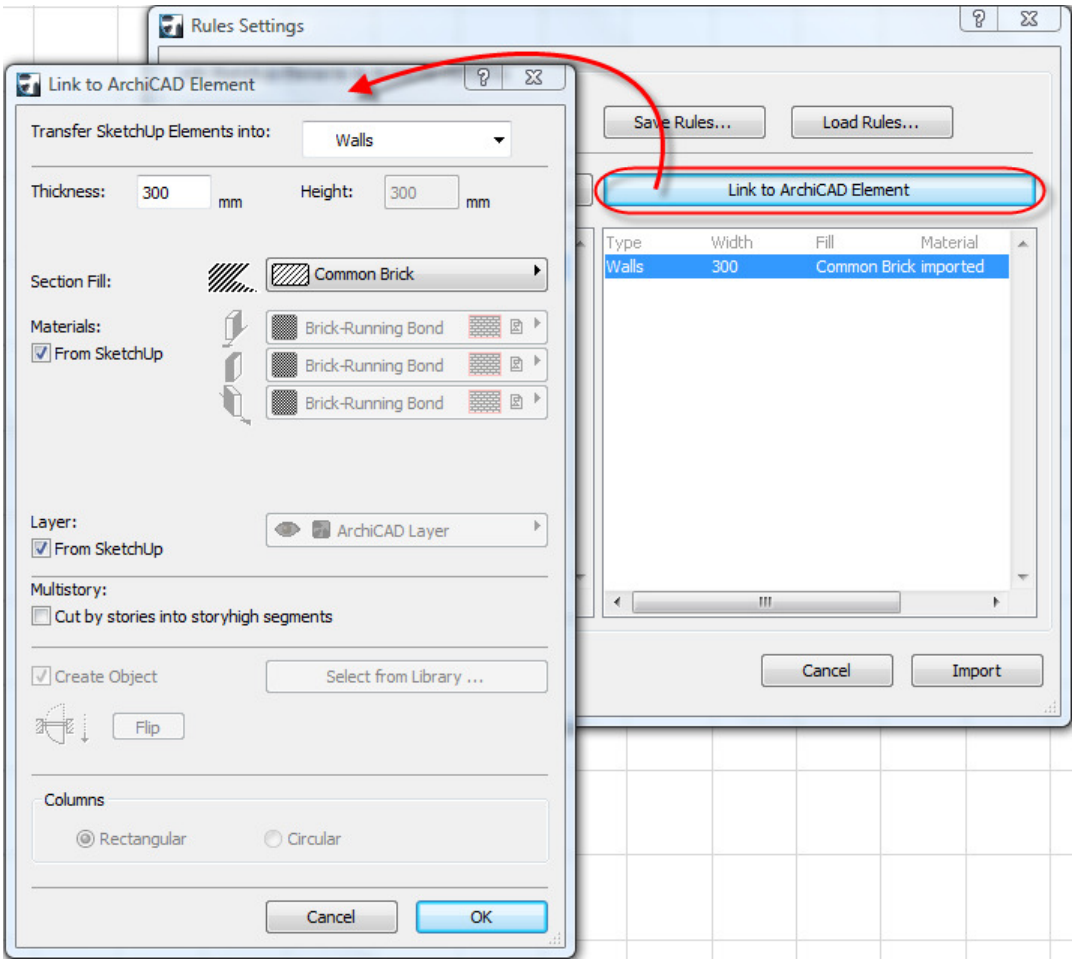
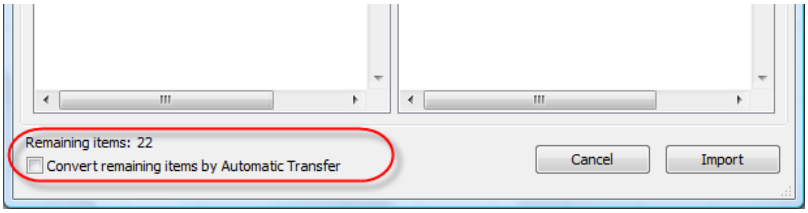
If you are using the Manual Transfer method, selecting the **Rules Settings...** button will bring up the Rules Settings dialog. Within this, select **New Rule...** From the new dialog, choose the SketchUp element that you want to link; Horizontal Faces, Vertical Faces, Oblique Faces or Components.

Horizontal Faces
Horizontal faces can be transferred into ArchiCAD slabs, beams or columns.
Vertical Faces
Vertical faces can be transferred into ArchiCAD walls or beams.
Oblique Faces
Oblique faces can be transferred into ArchiCAD roofs.
Components
Components can be transferred into ArchiCAD objects, doors or windows.



In our example we have selected Vertical Faces (i.e. Walls)

Select the **Link to ArchiCAD Element** button then within the new dialog select the ArchiCAD Thickness, Section Fill, Material and Layer (with Wall you also get the choice to set the walls to Multistory Walls)



Hit the **New Rule...** button again and set the other Faces. Once you have linked all your desired elements you may have some left-overs; tick the **Convert remaining items by Automatic Transfer** button. To complete the custom import click the **Import** button.