

Installing/Reinstalling Dragon NaturallySpeaking version 7.x/8.x or 9.x

Prior to installing Dragon on a system, confirm the following specifications have been met or exceeded: **(These recommendations are for DNS 9.x.)**

- Intel® Pentium 4, 3.4 GHz processor or *faster*
- 512 MB RAM if used on Windows XP combined ONLY with Microsoft Word®
OR
- 1024 MB RAM recommended if used on Microsoft Windows® XP combined with Microsoft® Word and two other applications
- 700 MB dedicated hard disk space
- Microsoft Windows® 2000, NT 4.0, XP Home or Pro
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster®16 or equivalent sound card supporting 16-bit recording*
- Administrative rights to hard drive—Dragon routinely access the hard drive during normal operation. When possible, installation on the local hard drive is recommended
- Internet Activation is REQUIRED

***Creative Labs SoundBlaster®128 PCI, Live 5.1 cards or ScanSoft® certified sound cards are recommended over "onboard" or "integrated" sound cards. Laptop computers should meet comparable specifications when possible.**

Next, remove the MS Office XP or 2003 Speech Component:

When using Windows 2000 or XP (Home/Pro):

1. Close all open applications, including AntiVirus software.
2. Click "Start > Settings > Control Panel." (or "Start > Control Panel" in Windows XP)
3. Under "Add/Remove Programs" > "Change or Remove Programs", select "Microsoft Office XP or Microsoft Office 2003"
If you're using a single version of an Office application, select it in the list.
4. In the next screen choose "Add or Remove Features," and click "Next."
5. (Office 2003 users will have an extra dialog box, click "advanced setup")
6. Click the plus sign beside "Office Shared Features" to expand it.
7. Click the icon next to "Alternative User Input", and then select "Not Available."
8. Click "Update."
9. This will free up additional hard drive space as well as remove the speech component.

Whenever there is a Windows or Office update, check Microsoft Word in the "Tools" menu for the word "Speech". If you see this word in the drop down menu, then repeat the steps above to remove the speech component.

Next, install Dragon NaturallySpeaking: (This varies depending on version number and whether the version is a full version or an upgrade version). [For upgrading, see below.*](#)

Place the CD in the CD ROM drive, follow on screen directions starting with clicking the "Accept" box to accept the license agreement then,

1. When asked whether to do the typical or custom installation, I choose "custom", then click "next" and then select the "tutorial files". If you are using a different version of English, please click the appropriate option.
2. Give Dragon sufficient time to install and when the files have almost finished installing, Dragon will seem to "freeze" while a message pops up prompting you to select some form of registration. Select the "print" option, save it to "My Documents" or other folder you designate, then close the form (click the "X") and the installation will finish.
3. The last step is that "quick launch" option--be sure to **UNCHECK** the box.

[*When installing an upgrade, always backup voice file components \(Pro series\) and, if necessary, all voice folders stored within Dragon's "User" folder. Install full version license, followed by upgrade versions—reboot system after installation. For PRO users, we generally find that a new voice file with custom vocabulary and commands offers better recognition than "upgraded" voice files.](#)

Once Dragon is installed:

1. Double click the program icon or select it from the program list
2. When prompted, start a new voice file.
3. Read whichever piece most closely matches your dictation vocabulary.
4. When done, click on the check box to "SKIP" the document review process. This has a message "not recommended" to scare off the faint of heart, but fear not--you're a true Dragon user!
5. In the last screen, select "begin dictating"
6. Click the "Finish" button.

Uninstalling/Reinstalling Dragon:

While every effort is made to offer advice for restoring a voice file, end users assume all responsibility for voice file maintenance and recovery. Please contact CHESS (614) 861-0972 if you would prefer to have assistance through this process.

Prior to uninstalling/reinstalling Dragon Professional, create a command file backup and vocabulary backup in addition to making a copy of the folder

containing the voice file components. Review the “**Voice File Maintenance**” help note thoroughly and complete the necessary steps to save your command file and vocabulary files BEFORE uninstalling/reinstalling Dragon.

Prior to uninstalling/reinstalling Dragon Preferred, make a copy of the user voice file to a different (non-Dragon) folder.

When uninstalling Dragon versions 5-8, you will likely be prompted to save your voice file(s). While this is usually recommended, there are circumstances where the voice file should be discarded for a “clean install”. Please contact CHES for further details.

Additional setup/backup notes:

Never install the QuickLaunch or QuickStart feature—unless advised by CHES to do so. This feature continues to cause networking and memory issues for the majority of users—particularly those with computers just meeting the minimum system requirements.

Complete the configuration of the voice file with the help of the “Add A Voice file” help note. (Versions 7, 8 and 9 vary slightly)

Internet Activation is required for Dragon 8.x and 9.x—no personal information is transmitted. Registration is optional and we recommend **printing** the registration for your records.

Make every effort to coordinate the voice file archiving process with your network or IT support person/department. If you do not have this resource, then **be sure to make copies of all voice files and components to CD-R** or other “recoverable” media that is separate from your computer.