



PCB Artist Links

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Installation

Basic Installation

Installation is straight forward for PCB Artist. Double click on the executable to install.

PCB Artist requires to be installed and ran under an Administrator's account, which may require right clicking on the executable and selecting "Install as Administrator". An internet connection is suggested for the initial install, as the software will download specific information when it is activated the first time. This download may be turned off after by going to Help>Check for Updates in the software. If the user still does not have permissions to be an administrator for the installation, they may need to involve whoever controls accounts for the computer. When running the software the first time, right click on the PCB Artist executable, and select again "Run As Administrator".

Other operating systems

At this time only Windows systems from Windows 7 to Windows 10 are supported.

- Some users are successfully using PCB Artist on the following operating systems with emulation software:
 - Macintosh using Parallels
 - Macintosh using Virtual PC
 - Ubuntu Linux using Wine

Reinstalling Backed Up files

For schematic and PCB Files, one may associate the file extensions to PCB Artist by right clicking on the .sch or .pcb file, and selecting "Open With".

Personal libraries (*.cml, *.psl, *.ssl) may be reinstalled into the PCB Artist library by the Folders tab in the Library Manager (Ctrl+L). On the folders tab, select Add. Browse to the folder location that contains the personal library files and click OK. Other library files for PCB Artist may also include the *.Palib suffix. This suffix is downloaded from the online library and can be created from the Library as a part export option.

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Getting Started in PCB Artist

For new users we always recommend the tutorials for board creation and the tutorial for component creation found on the [PCB Artist Tips & Tools webpage](#). These same documents may be found in PCB Artist under the Help>Tutorials menu.

The FAQ is a good place to get answers to common questions, which may be found here: [Frequently Asked Questions](#). If the answers are not found there, one may search the help files at Help>Context Help inside PCB Artist. For instantly accessing a particular subject in the help files one may press the F1 key while using the function in question.

All this is also reflected in the document [Tips for Using PCB Artist](#), which has additional information for getting started with PCB Artist.

Tutorials

There are several tutorials available to learn the software.

The Basic Design tutorial may be found [here](#).

The Parts Creation Tutorial may be found [here](#).

Remaining tutorials are found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

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Ordering and Quoting

Quoting

One can get a quote through PCB Artist and will depend on the type of board that is being ordered. A basic spec board will have the pricing without shipping or tax in Settings>PCB Configuration, on the lower left. Basic spec boards have a discount for them as they are ordered online and are considered a "Hands Off" board. The full price will be available when ordering the board, after uploading the files, and selecting shipping options.

Expanded spec boards use the custom spec pricing matrix found online. To get a quote on an expanded spec board, one may go to Output>Submit Order. Because it is an expanded spec board, the option "Get Quote" will be available, but not the Place Order option. Make sure that you have no web browser open. If you have an online account, list the e-mail and password, then click the "Get Quote" button. This will lead to an online quote webpage that has a pricing matrix of quantity and Time. If you do not have an online account yet with Advanced Circuits, then please go here to sign up for one before trying to order or get a quote:

<https://www.my4pcb.com/Net35/newcustomerform.aspx>

Placing an Order

Actually, you can place this order completely online. Instructions are in the main menu of the application under Help>Placing Your Order.

There is a lot of documentation available on the [PCB Artist Tips & Tools](#) page, including the how to order for both Basic and Expanded service.

33 and 66 Specials

Information on ordering a \$33 each and \$66 each board is found here: <http://www.4pcb.com/33-66EachOrderProcess.pdf>

Please remember that \$33 specials and \$66 specials ordered through PCB Artist will have at least a .006" spacing and track size requirement. This is imbedded into PCB Artist, as they are both considered "Basic Spec boards". Otherwise it will follow the same manufacturing specs of a regular 33 and 66 special.

If you have multiple circuits on one panel, then you will need to state in Settings>PCB Configuration>Additional Requirements in the special requirements box to add a multipart charge. The \$33 each and \$66 special are intended for individual designs. Most of the fabrication industry will not accept multi-part orders. Only in the last decade did some begin accepting them at all. Rather than refuse them outright, we offer the \$50 multipart charge, which is applied per order. There is no internal routing in a \$33 each and \$66 each board. If internal routing for board separation is needed, the board will need to be ordered as an Expanded spec board.

Barebones

Information on ordering a Barebones board is found here: <http://www.4pcb.com/BarebonesOrderProcess.pdf>

Please remember that Barebones ordered through PCB Artist will have at least a .006" spacing and track size requirement. This is imbedded into PCB Artist, as they are both considered "Basic Spec boards". Otherwise it will follow the same manufacturing specs of a regular Barebones board.

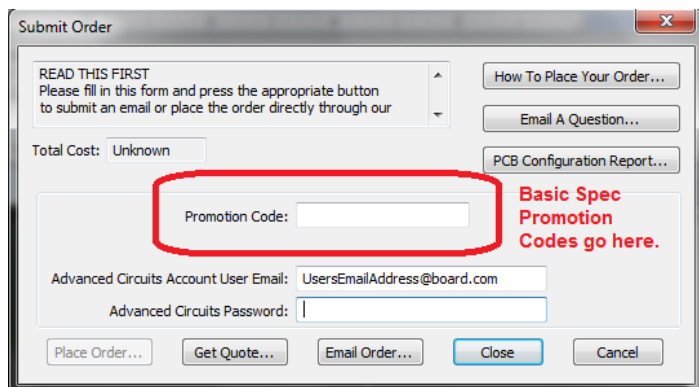
Student Orders

Directions for ordering a Student Special board may be found here: [Student Specials](#). Student orders follow the same specs as 33 and 66 specials. You may order less than 4 boards on a student order.

Promotion Codes

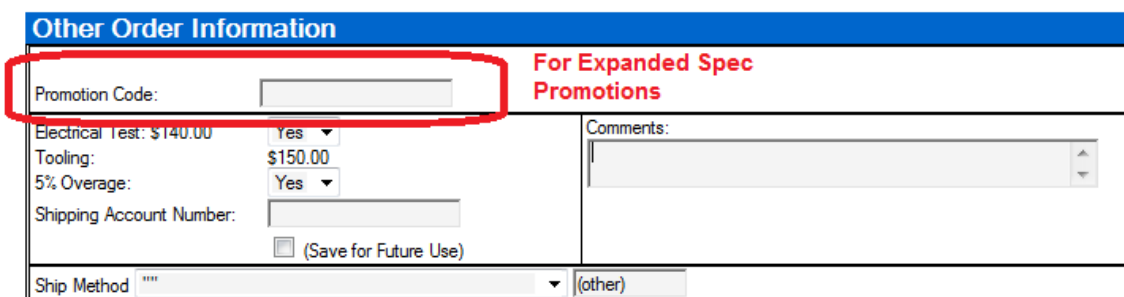
The location of a promotion code being applied to one's order will appear differently in the software, depending on the spec of the board.

Basic spec boards will only have Barebones, 33 Special, 66 Special, and Student Special promotions available to them. These are placed here:



Student specials will have other steps to take to ensure the correct promotion will activate. Be sure to review their respective directions (Links are in this Order Processing section).

Other promotion codes are placed when ordering Expanded Spec boards through PCB Artist. The option will appear on step "3 of 5" of the ordering process, just after uploading files.



If the user wishes to have the promotion added to a Standard spec board, they will have to contact a sales representative to have the board quoted Standard spec.

FreeDFM

PCB Artist does not interact with the Advanced Circuits Freedfm Service. The Design Rule Check Section of the Frequently asked questions covers how to view any possible errors with the design that may reflect on the manufacturability of the board.

Errors when ordering

The submit order process automatically runs the Design Rule Checks as part of Submit Order to prevent the possibility of not running them before ordering and also to catch accidental edits that the customer may not have been aware of.

- If the Design Rule Checks have not been run, it is critical to check them before submitting the order.
- If the checks have been run and the number of errors is verified as per design, click to ignore the errors and continue the order process.

Other Errors when ordering:

- Missing Revision or File Name or Number

In Settings>PCB Configuration on the Production section there are two values that will need to be filled out. The Board Part Number and Revision are required to order. Once done, click finish and submit the board again.

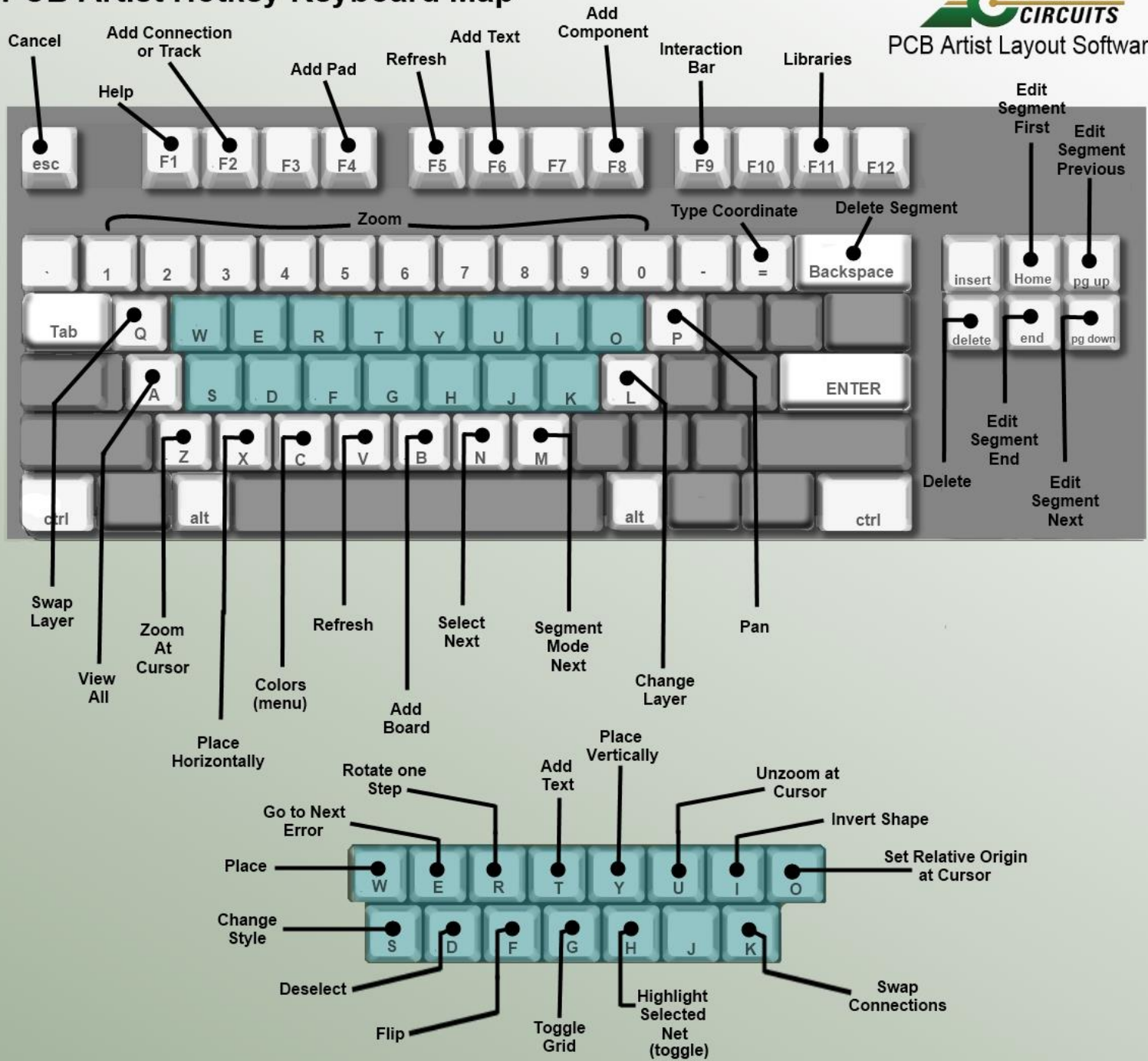
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Layouthelp@4pcb.com

PCB Artist Hotkey Keyboard Map



PCB Artist Layout Software



Alt+ Commands:

Alt+Backspace Undo
Alt+Enter Properties
Alt+F10 Check Design
Alt+F11 Fix Design
Alt+I Support Info
Alt+R Rotate Step Back

Shift+ Commands:

Shift+1 View Side - Top Only
Shift+2 View Side - Inner Only
Shift+3 View Side - Bottom Only
Shift+= Type Offset
Shift+A Add Corner
Shift+C Change Cursor
Shift+D Delete Corner
Shift+Delete Cut
Shift+E Goto Previous Error
Shift+F1 Design Technology
Shift+F4 Add SMD Pad
Shift+Insert Paste
Shift+L Next Layer
Shift+O Goto Relative Origin
Shift+R Switch Rel/Abs Coords
Shift+X Cross Probe Mode
Shift+Z Reset Delta Coords

Ctrl+ Commands:

Ctrl+1 Switch Top On/Off
Ctrl+2 Switch Inner On/Off
Ctrl+3 Switch Bottom On/Off
Ctrl+C Copy
Ctrl+D Optimize All Nets
Ctrl+F Frame View
Ctrl+F11 Preferences
Ctrl+G Change Grid Snap
Ctrl+Insert Copy
Ctrl+L Libraries
Ctrl+N New
Ctrl+O Open
Ctrl+P Print
Ctrl+S Save
Ctrl+U Unroute Track Segments
Ctrl+V Paste
Ctrl+X Cut
Ctrl+Y Redo
Ctrl+Z Undo