

Membership Pro

Installation Guide

Version 2.1.0 · July 2026

Product	Membership Pro
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Document	Installation Guide
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1. Before You Install

This guide covers installing Membership Pro v2.1.0 on a Windows PC, activating it, and upgrading an existing v2.0 installation. It is written for whoever administers the computer.

1.1 What you need

Windows 10 or Windows 11, 64-bit. Membership Pro is a 64-bit application — there is no 32-bit build.

Microsoft .NET Framework 4.8. This ships with current Windows; the installer tells you if it is missing.

Administrator rights on the PC, to run the installer.

Your licence number and activation code, or a .mplic licence file.

No separate database server is needed for single-computer use. Microsoft SQL Server is supported for shared, multi-computer installations and is configured during first-run setup.

1.2 Check the publisher before you run anything

Before running the installer, right-click it, choose Properties, and open the Digital Signatures tab. The signature must read:

Computer Aided Business Systems L.L.C.

Windows shows the same name in its User Account Control prompt. If it shows anything else, or the file is unsigned, do not run it — obtain a fresh copy from your supplier.

Note The name on the signature is the signing entity. The company you contract with, named in the licence agreement, is Computer Aided Business Systems of Lagos, Nigeria. They are sister companies under common ownership, so the two names differ slightly by design.

2. Installing

Run the installer and accept the licence agreement.

Accept the installation folder, or choose another.

Complete the installer and launch Membership Pro.

The first launch runs a short setup wizard covering your organisation details, currency and regional format, where data is stored, and the first administrator account. It then prepares the database.

Important Your organisation type and terminology are fixed during setup and cannot be changed afterwards, because they affect wording throughout the application. Choose the type that matches your organisation.

3. Where Membership Pro Keeps Its Data

Application files go to the installation folder you chose. Everything else lives under a single data directory:

%PROGRAMDATA%\MembershipPro\

MembershipPro.db is the database, when you are using the built-in database.

Backups\ is the default target for backups and the home of the safety copy taken automatically before a restore.

Logs\ holds diagnostic logs.

Reports\ holds generated reports.

Licensing\ holds the installed licence for this computer.

Terminology\ holds any site-specific wording overrides.

Note Back up the database, not just the folder. Use the backup option inside the application, which produces a consistent copy; copying a database file while the application is running does not.

4. Data Protection

4.1 Encryption at rest

When you use the built-in database, it is encrypted on disk. The key is generated per installation and held in a protected store tied to this computer, so the database opens normally for everyday use without anyone typing a passphrase.

The practical consequence: the database file is bound to the machine it was created on.

Copying MembershipPro.db to another PC will not open it there. That is deliberate — and it is why the Recovery Key matters.

4.2 The Recovery Key

At setup you are shown a Recovery Key. It is the only way to open your data on a different computer — after hardware failure, for example.

Print it or write it down, and store it somewhere separate from the PC and from your backups.

Do not store it in the same place as the backup files. Either one alone is not enough to recover, and keeping them together defeats the point of both.

It is shown once. Record it then.

Important Recovering data on new hardware needs BOTH a backup and the Recovery Key, kept apart. Without the Recovery Key, an encrypted backup cannot be opened by anyone, including your supplier. No copy of it is held for you.

4.3 SQL Server installations

Where the data is held in Microsoft SQL Server, protection at rest is the database server's responsibility and is configured there by your database administrator. The Recovery Key applies to the built-in database only.

5. Activation

Membership Pro is licensed per computer: every PC is activated separately, and an activation belongs to the machine it was performed on. Open Help › Licence... to activate or to check the current status.

5.1 Online

Enter the licence number and activation code supplied with your purchase.

Choose online activation. The PC contacts the licensing service, and the licence is checked and installed.

5.2 From a licence file

For a PC with no internet access, your supplier can issue a .mplic file. Paste its contents into the activation screen, or load the file from disk. It is verified on this computer before being accepted.

Important A .mplic file is a credential. Anyone holding it can install the licence, so transfer and store it as carefully as a password, and do not forward it.

5.3 Moving to another computer

Deactivate on the old PC first, which returns the activation for re-use, then activate on the new one. Retiring a PC without deactivating it first leaves the activation consumed.

6. Upgrading from v2.0

Upgrading is an in-place install. Your data stays where it is.

Take a backup from inside v2.0 first, and confirm it completed.

Close Membership Pro on the PC being upgraded.

Run the v2.1.0 installer over the existing installation.

Launch Membership Pro. The database is updated automatically on that first launch.

The first launch after an upgrade applies the database changes v2.1 needs, so it may take slightly longer than usual. Let it finish. Your existing licence and settings are retained — upgrading does not require re-activation.

Note Where several PCs share one SQL Server database, upgrade them together. The first upgraded PC updates the shared database, and PCs still on v2.0 should not be used against it afterwards.

7. Getting Help

There are two different addresses, and using the right one saves a round trip:

Licensing and activation, including moving a licence between computers:

support@cabsystemsapp.com.

Everything else about using the product: the general support address given in the User Guide and on the About screen.

The Help menu carries the Quick Start Guide, User Guide, Training Manual and Release Notes.

Help › About shows the installed version and the code-signing identity.