

## **Installation Guide**

This installation guide is intended for system administrators who plan to deploy Kuta Software products to multiple computers or who are supporting users with individual licenses.

## **General Requirements**

For the software to function normally, users will need permission to read and write values to the registry. User preferences, recently used files, and software activation data are stored in the registry. Activation data are stored in the following registry keys:

Activation Data:

Single-User License:

All: HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Kuta Software

Site License:

Vista: HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Kuta Software

Prior to Vista: HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Kuta Software

Preferences and other data are stored in:

HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Kuta Software

Mechanisms such as ghosting or drive re-imaging that *regularly* reset all user data are not recommended since the software would need to be activated after each reset.

## **Internet Access**

The software only requires Internet access at three times: activation, checking for updates, and deactivation. There are back-up methods for each of these that work through a web browser in case Internet access is available but the software itself is blocked.

## **Software Installation and Activation**

Before a user can use the software, it must be installed and activated. Installation can be automated, leaving the activation to be done by the user when the program is first run.

An activation of a single-user license is only good for the user that is currently logged-in. Activation should be left to the user that is going to use the software; it should not be done by the system administrator. An activation of a site license is good for all users on that machine.

Installation is done with an MSI-based installation that has been packaged into an EXE file (the installation CD also contains the original MSI files in a sub-directory). This EXE file passes all command line switches to `msiexec` (such as `/qb` or `/a`) after extraction.

Activation requires the user to enter a serial number and a description of the computer. The software then contacts the Kuta Software servers to validate the activation request. If the request is successful, the activation data are written to the registry (see above) in the `Auth` sub-key.

Unfortunately, activation data are unique to each computer. Copying the registry values from one computer to another will not yield a working copy. Each computer must be individually activated. As the software is meant only for math teachers, the scale of this issue is much smaller than for other types of software which are meant for all teachers or for students.

To deploy Kuta Software products to a number of machines, there are a few steps that can automate the lion's share of the process:

1. Install the software on the target machines.
2. On each target machine, write the software's serial number to the appropriate part of the registry (see the registry locations above). The key does not need a value under it. The serial number is the name of the key.

*Example:*

If installing a site license for Infinite Algebra 1 to Windows XP, and the product serial number is `1-A1Mx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx`, create the registry key:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Kuta Software\Auth\1-A1Mx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx
```

For Windows Vista, you would create:

```
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Kuta Software\Auth\1-A1Mx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx
```

Step 2 will prevent the software from asking for the serial number. The user will still need to enter a description of the computer the first time the software is run, but this description is unimportant, only for your own reference, and can even be left blank. If the software is allowed Internet access, then the rest of the activation should complete in seconds. If not, the user will be instructed on how to complete activation manually via a web browser.