

Object Remapping

Reference Manual

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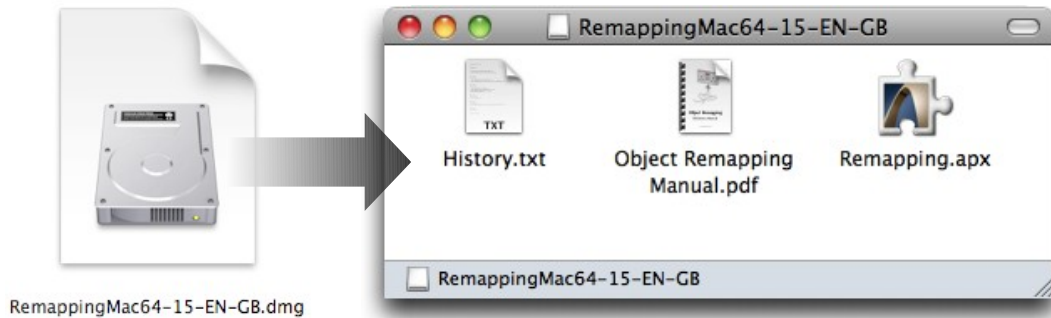
Compatibility

Version 1.00 is compatible with ArchiCAD 15 on
both the Mac and Windows operating systems.

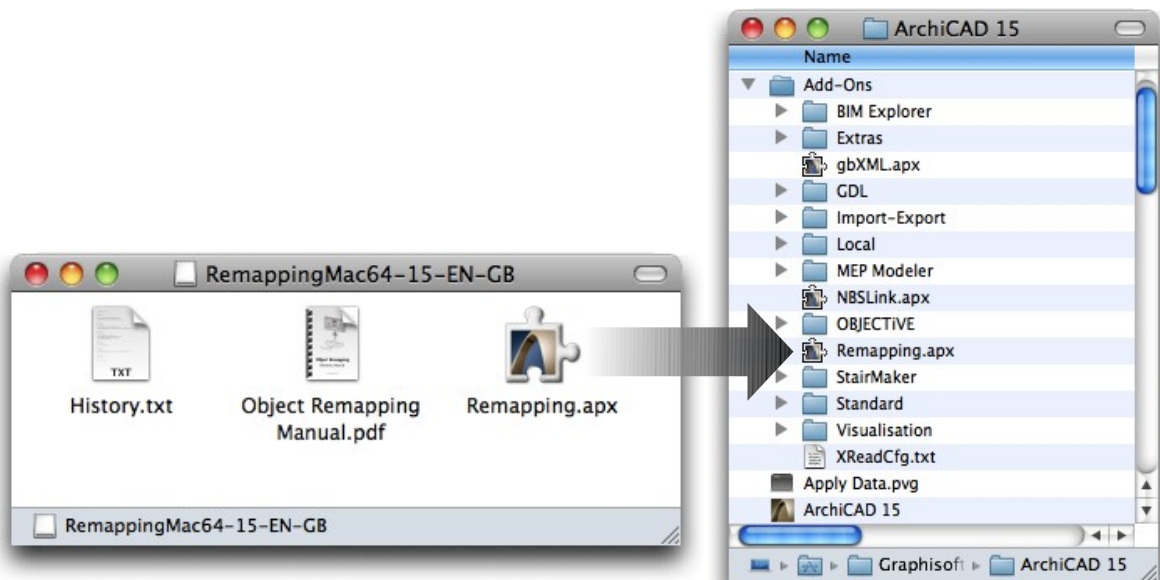
1. Setup

1.1 Mac Installation

The installation files are bundled in a DMG file. Double-click on it to view the contents - you should see a new volume mounted in the Finder.



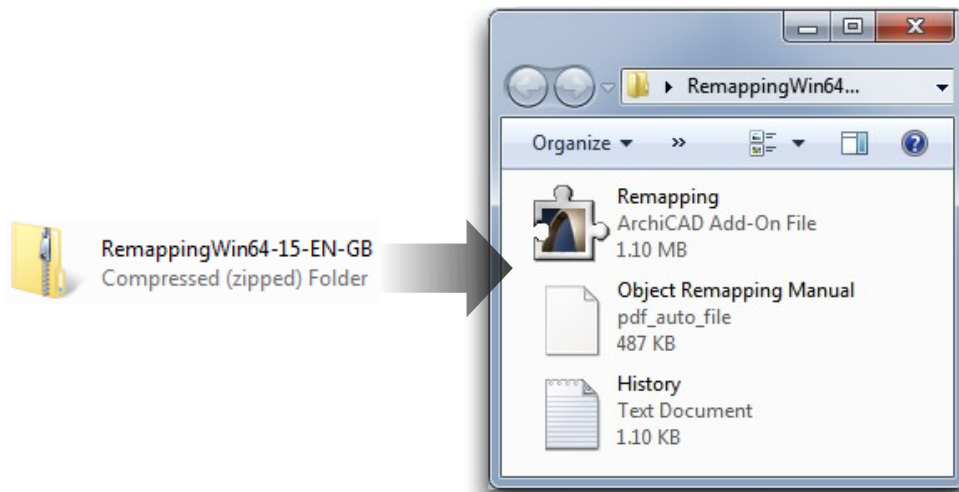
To install, simply drag *Remapping.apx* into the “Add-Ons” folder of your ArchiCAD installation.



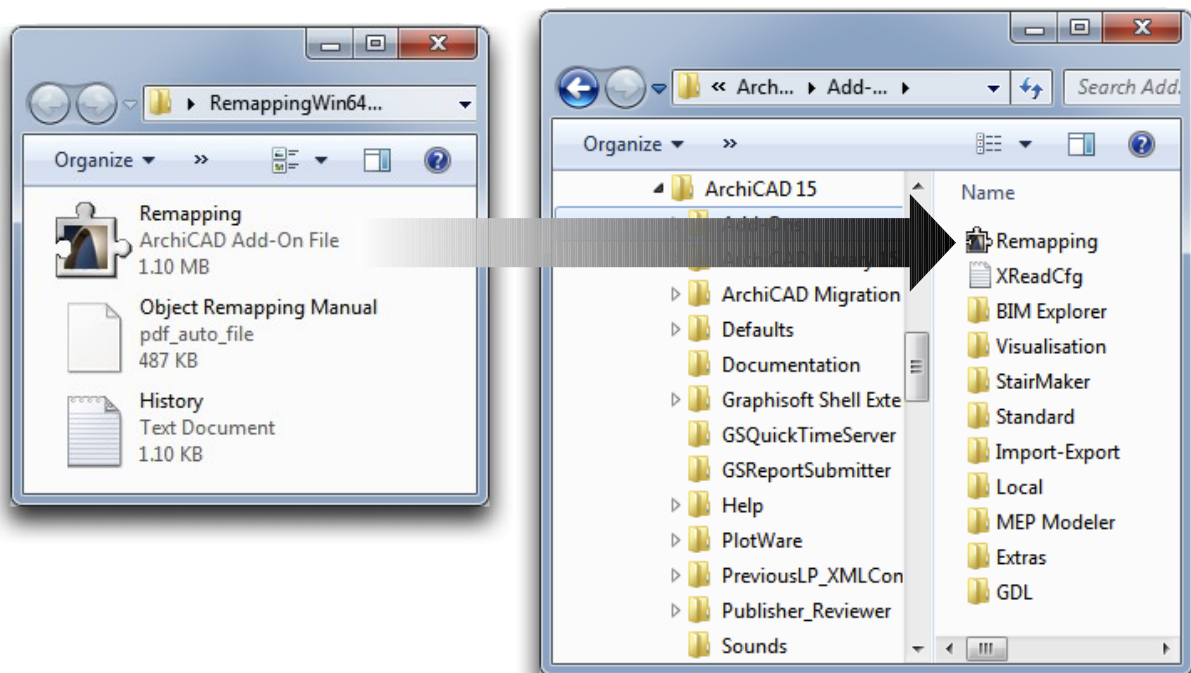
You may also wish to drag the Reference Manual into the “Documentation” folder to make it available in ArchiCAD’s Help menu.

1.2 Windows Installation

The installation files are bundled in a ZIP file. Double-click on it to view the contents - a new folder should open.



To install, simply drag *Remapping.apx* into the “Add-Ons” folder of your ArchiCAD installation.



You may also wish to drag the Reference Manual into the “Documentation” folder to make it available in ArchiCAD’s Help menu.

2. Using The Remapping Tools

2.1 Overview

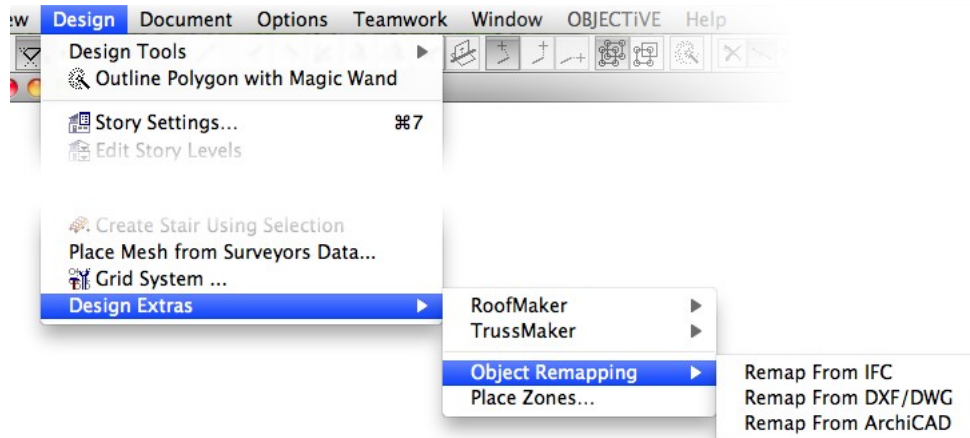
Objects imported from external sources, e.g. DWG, are inferior to native GDL equivalents, lacking parameters, listing information, or even a 3D representation. Although it is possible to exchange the objects, the process is slow, repetitive, and error prone. The substituted objects may not take on the correct size, position, or settings, requiring tedious, manual adjustments.

This tool automates the process, providing a high degree of control over the settings for each object and recording the configuration for future reuse. All the objects imported into an ArchiCAD project can be simultaneously exchanged for native library parts in a single step.

The add-on can also identify objects from specific sources, e.g. IFC or DWG, and the mapping tools are labeled according, e.g. *Remap From IFC*. This approach enables the software to make better use of the data embedded in the imported object, and allows the user to configure the object mapping settings for very specific uses, e.g. automatically exchanging electrical components imported from consultant's DWG files.

2.2 Starting The Remapping

The add-on tools can all be found in the *Design Extras* menu (under the *Design* menu).



Each menu item identifies the source of the objects to be targeted, e.g. *Remap From DXF/DWG* targets only objects imported from AutoCAD blocks.

When a menu item is selected, the add-on will first search for objects that can be remapped. Only visible, unlocked elements in the active drawing will be found. For the floor plan, all storeys will be searched. The tools operations can also be limited to specific elements by selecting them before clicking the menu, in which case only the selected elements will be remapped (*also refer the notes in Section 3*).

When the search is complete, the objects found will be listed in a dialog for mapping settings to be specified.

2.3 Specifying Mapping Settings

The add-on lists all objects in a colour-coded table before carrying out the remapping. The dialog contains tools for selecting the linked object and optionally entering detailed settings on an object-by-object basis (see below).

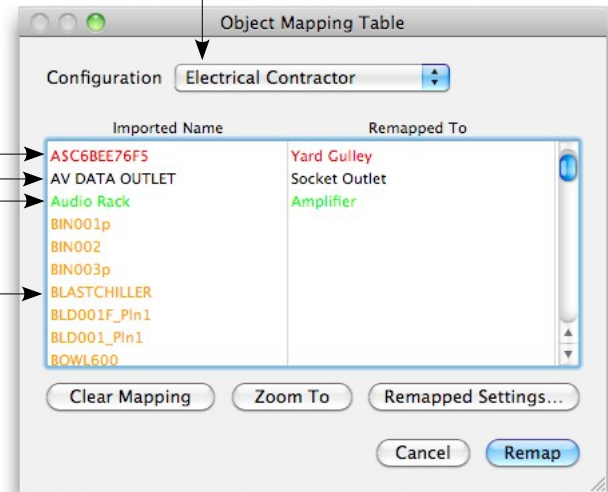
Items in red have been previously remapped, but the specified object is no longer in the loaded library. These objects will not be remapped unless another object is selected.

Items in black have been previously remapped, and the existing configuration can be successfully used again.

Items in green have been previously remapped in a different configuration. The mapping will be copied into this configuration if the remapping proceeds.

Items in orange have not been mapped to another object. These objects will be ignored if the remapping proceeds.

Select the active configuration here. This menu can also be used to create, rename, or delete configurations.



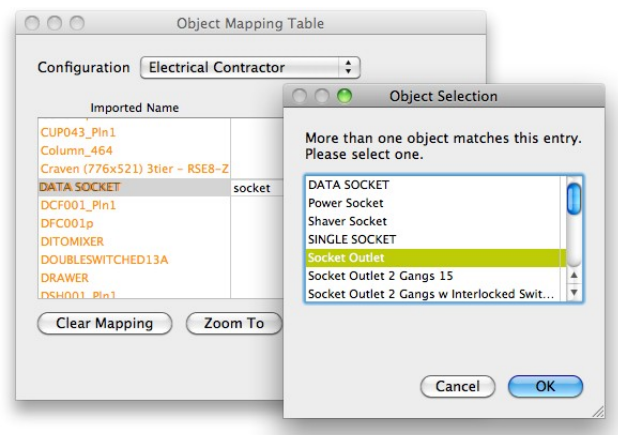
The first step is to select or create a configuration for the remapping. Click the Configuration menu at the top of the dialog to select a mapping table (or to create, rename, or delete configurations).



The add-on will always start with a default configuration. You can freely switch between configurations while editing the mapping table – all changes will be preserved.

The mapping table has two columns; the first is the names of imported objects, e.g. the names of AutoCAD blocks, and the second is the name of the replacement library part. The replacement can be selected in two ways:

1. Enter the name directly into the list. The list items are editable, so you can simply click in any row and type in a library part name. You can enter any part of the name - if multiple items contain the specified text, the add-on will list all the matching items and prompt for one to be selected (see right).
2. Click the *Remapped Settings* button to select an object from the standard *Object Settings* dialog (more information below).



The buttons at the base of mapping table provide the following functionality:

Clear Mapping

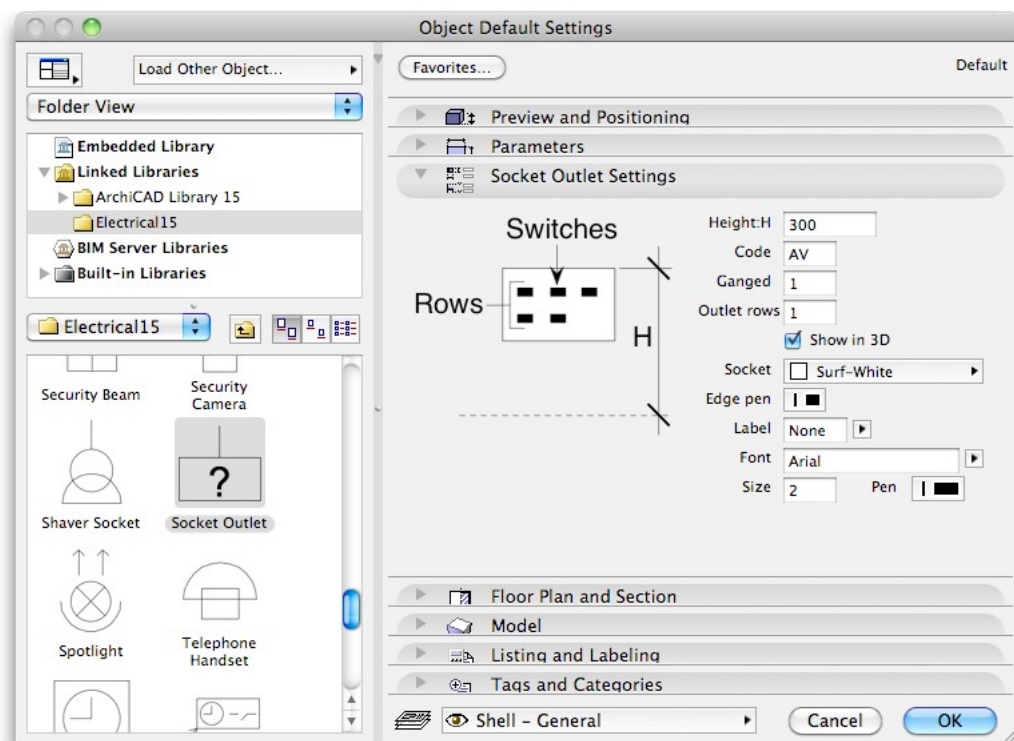
All mapping information (replacement object and settings) associated with the selected items will be discarded. The list allows multiple items to be selected.

Zoom To

The add-on will select an example of the imported object in the current view and zoom to it. This is useful when the imported objects don't have meaningful names. If multiple items are selected in the list, the add-on will only zoom to the item which is highest in the list.

Remapped Settings

Click this button to select a library part and/or enter the object settings using the standard ArchiCAD *Object Settings* dialog.



If more than one item is selected in the list, the changes will be applied to all of them. If an object and settings have already been specified for the selected item, these will be displayed and can be freely changed.

The add-on will only record the settings that are *changed* in the settings dialog. In all other cases, the default settings will be used. This only applies to the object parameters, including the bounding size, but not general settings like layer or floor plan appearance (these are easy to change using standard ArchiCAD tools).

The object size should only be specified if you want it to be a fixed size in every case. Otherwise, the remapping will adapt the object to the size of the imported element.

If you are remapping just a selection of elements and intend to use this feature, please refer to the *Troubleshooting* section for additional information.

3. Frequently Asked Questions & Troubleshooting

Question Once an object mapping has been specified, can that configuration be distributed to others?

Answer Yes. The configuration is stored in an XML file called *ObjectMap.xml*. On the Mac OS, this file can be found in a folder called *Remapping* in the user's *Library/Preferences* folder. On Windows, this can be found in a folder called *Remapping* in the user's *Application Data* folder. The configuration can be transferred to other installations by simply copying this file into the equivalent folder on the target workstation.

Question When remapping only the selected objects, the button to specify the replacement object and settings (*Remapped Settings*) isn't correctly recording my selection. Why isn't this working?

Answer There is a bug in the ArchiCAD API that changes the behaviour of the Object Settings dialog box if an object is selected and displayed in the Info palette. There is an easy workaround, fortunately - select all the objects you want to remap, and then select one extra element that is not a GDL object, e.g. a line, wall, or slab, so the info palette displays the settings of something other than an object. Then carry on with the remapping process - the add-on will simply ignore anything in the selection that it can't work with.