

## designPH – 3D Passive House design tool



Setup manual


# 1. Installation & Setup of *designPH*

## 1.1. System requirements

*designPH* is a 'plugin' for Trimble or Google SketchUp, therefore you must have SketchUp installed on your computer first before you can install *designPH*. It is being developed and tested on both Mac OS X and Windows to ensure cross-platform compatibility.

Please let us know about any potential hardware or software incompatibilities you may encounter (see **bug reporting**).

For the installation of *designPH*, the following software is required:

OS	Microsoft Windows 7, 8.1 or 10	Mac OS X
PHPP Version	you have to use <b>PHPP Version 9</b>	if you already use PHPP 7 or PHPP 8, please <a href="#">upgrade</a> to <b>PHPP Version 9</b>
SketchUp Free or Pro	<p><i>designPH</i> requires a minimum version of:  <b>SketchUp 8.0.11751 (8.0 M2)</b> was tested with <i>designPH</i> 1.1.0 and is stable.  <small>Note: The "Install Extension" feature in SketchUp is only available from SU 8 maintenance release M2 onwards. For earlier versions no more install of the plugin is provided.</small></p> <p>Trimble <b>SketchUp 2013</b> Make or Pro (8.0.15 and onwards) was tested with <i>designPH</i> 1.1.0 and is stable.</p> <p>Trimble <b>SketchUp 2014</b> Make or Pro was tested for compatibility with <i>designPH</i> 1.1.0 and is stable.</p> <p>Trimble <b>SketchUp 2015</b> Make or Pro was tested for compatibility with <i>designPH</i> 1.1.0 and is stable.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><a href="#">Download SketchUp</a> - all OS &amp; languages  <small>Info: Downloadable SU 2013 Pro turns after 8 hours of work automatically back to free Make version.</small></p>	
	<p>There is no compatibility with Google <b>SketchUp 7</b> version.</p> <p><b>designPH version 1.1.0</b> is not yet compatible with Trimble <b>SketchUp 2016</b></p> <p>(See also <a href="#">FAQ</a>).</p>	

### 1.1.1. Downloading SketchUp

Download link for latest Google SketchUp Version 8: [Google SketchUp V8 Free on the Internet](#)

You can download the latest version of Trimble SketchUp from [www.sketchup.com](http://www.sketchup.com)



### 1.1.2. Learning SketchUp

All of the documentation for the plugin assumes that you have a basic working knowledge of SketchUp and its tools for creating 3D models. There is a wide variety of online help available for learning SketchUp. The software is generally quite intuitive to use and also has a built-in interactive help facility (see Window => Instructor panel).





## 1.2. Installing *designPH*

You can install the *designPH* plugin on SketchUp (minimum requirements see chapter 1.1 above) through the following steps:

1. Unzip your download from [www.designph.org](http://www.designph.org) into a folder on your computer.

Name	Typ	Größe
 designPH_1.1.0_PRO.zip	zip Archive	1.347 KB
 designPH_1.1.0_PRO	Dateiordner	

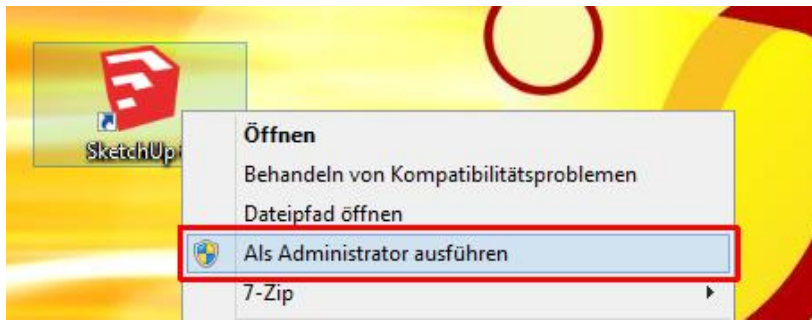
2. Within the unzipped folder on your computer you should be able to find an **rbz**-file. That's the *designPH* SketchUp plugin which has to be installed.

Name	Typ	Größe
 example_modell	Dateiordner	
 designPH_1.1.0_installation manual_EN.pdf	PDF-XCha...	342 KB
 designPH_1.1.0_Installationsanweisung_DE.pdf	PDF-XCha...	342 KB
 designPH_1.1.0_PRO_extension.rbz	RBZ-Datei	625 KB

3. If you use SketchUp **2014 and above**, go to point 4 and skip point 3.1.

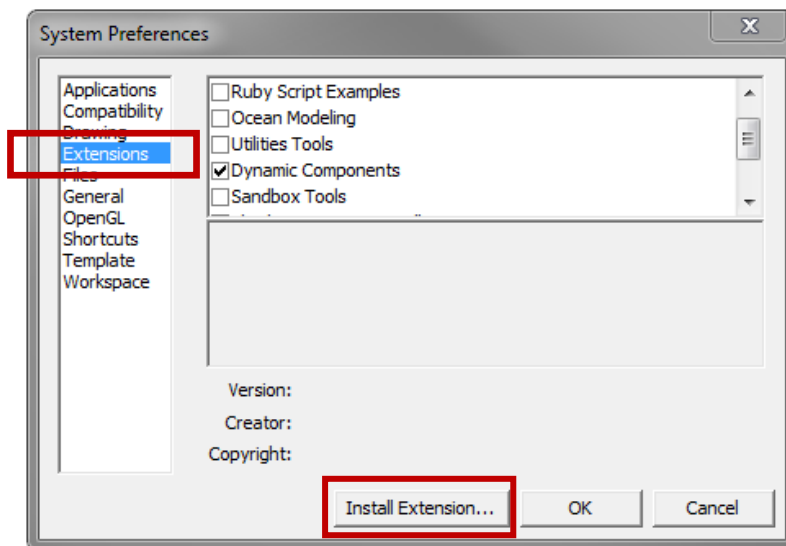
- 3.1. If you use SketchUp **2013 and below** go on here:  
On both **Microsoft Windows** and **Apple Mac** systems it is **always preferable** to start SketchUp with Admin rights for the *designPH* setup process. You have to do this just once you are installing *designPH*.

- 3.1.1. for **Microsoft Windows**: Easiest way to do it like that, is to right click on the SketchUp-icon in explorer or on desktop and use: "Start as Administrator" (with the little admin icon on left side)



**NB:** After setup of *designPH* you can start SketchUp as usual to use *designPH*.

4. At the already **started SketchUp**, go to “**Windows**” and click on “**Preferences**”.
5. Select “**Extension**” and click on the button “**Install Extension**”.



6. Then, select the **rbz**-file you have unzipped before and click on “**Open**”. In the upcoming dialog boxes of SketchUp you have to confirm several times to finalize the installation of the plugin.
7. Please close SketchUp now and restart it.

**NB:** If you have started SketchUp 2013 and below with admin rights please restart it now as normal user (not with admin rights).

8. **Finished!**
9. You can start using *designPH* by clicking the  $\phi$ -logo after entering your registration code.

**NB:** For your registration code, please refer to the file „designPH\_DEMO\_registration code.txt“ which is included in the download. The validation of the registration code starts every 1th of the month for a time period of 40 days.

## 2. Using [www.designph.org](http://www.designph.org) for news, support, updates and downloads

### 2.1. How to login into members area

You are a *designPH* owner, so please log in to the members area of [www.designph.org](http://www.designph.org). At the log in, provide your “first-name.last-name” as username (as registered when purchasing designPH) and your PHPP license number (from CD) as your password. You can have a look at these details also on your invoice.

You can find available updates, upgrades, add-ons and complementing products for your existing license in the *designPH* **members area**. We will assist you in using *designPH* and you have the opportunity to determine the further development of the plugin to better suit your needs. In the *designPH* **members area** you will find:

- the **community forum**  
where you can ask your questions and get your answers, find FAQs, General feedback, Bug reports, and feature requests.
- the **support area**  
with online manual, a lot of tutorials and "getting started" stuff, how to use the SketchUP sample files and much more.
- the **download area**  
with latest updates, patches and SketchUP sample files which you can use for immediately starting with designPH.

## 3. Have fun using *designPH* and PHPP!

During the development of *designPH* we always had in mind to make integrating energy-efficiency into the very first design-process more fun. With your ownership of *designPH* you support the ongoing development of the tool. We hope you have as much fun using *designPH* as we have had in developing it for you.

Your  
***designPH*-development team**