

Tableau Software Installation Instructions

Tuesday Mueller-Harder - 2026-03-27 - Comments (0) - Tableau

Users with a [Tableau Creator license](#) can follow the instructions below to download and install Tableau software on up to 2 machines.

[Install Tableau Software on a Brown-Owned Computer](#)

Tableau Desktop

Windows

To install on a Brown-owned Windows computer:

1. From the [software catalog](#), download Tableau Desktop for Windows .
2. Right-click the downloaded file, and then select **Run as Administrator**. If you do not have administrator permission on your computer, please see your IT Support Consultant for help with installation.
3. Accept the license terms and click **Install**.
4. Click **Finish**.
5. Open Tableau Desktop.
6. If promoted, click **Activate by signing into a server**.
7. Sign into server: tableau.brown.edu
Your license is activated.
8. Uninstall older versions of Tableau Desktop.

MacOS

To install on a Brown-owned macOS computer, follow the steps below OR install from the [Self Service app](#).

1. From the [software catalog](#), download Tableau Desktop for MacOS.
2. Double-click on the downloaded file to start the installer.
If the installer “cannot be opened because Apple cannot check it for malicious software,” then follow these additional steps:
 - a.) Open the pull down from your Apple icon > System Preferences > Security & Privacy > General
 - b.) Click **Allow** for Tableau to be installed, and then proceed to the next step.
3. Accept default install options.
4. Click close when the installation is complete.
5. Open Tableau Desktop.
6. If promoted, click **Activate by signing into a server**.
7. Sign into server: tableau.brown.edu

Your license is activated.

8. Uninstall older versions of Tableau Desktop.

Tableau Prep

NOTE: As of March 2026, Salesforce does not offer a Tableau Prep version that is compatible with our current version of Tableau Server. We recommend downloading [Tableau Prep 2025.3.4](#) and understand that you cannot use it to run Tableau Prep flows in the current version of Tableau Server. This incompatibility is temporary and will be resolved in the next upgrade.

Windows

To install Tableau Prep on a Brown-owned Windows computer:

1. From the [software catalog](#), download Tableau Prep for Windows .
2. Right-click the downloaded file, and then select **Run as Administrator**. If you do not have administrator permission on your computer, please see your IT Support Consultant for help with installation.
3. Click **Start** to expand and install Tableau Prep for Windows
4. Once complete, a new desktop shortcut icon will appear.
5. Open Tableau Prep.
6. If prompted, click **Activate by signing into a server**.
7. Sign into server: tableau.brown.edu
Your license is activated.
8. Uninstall older versions of Tableau Prep.

MacOS

To install Tableau Prep on a Brown-owned macOS computer, follow the steps below OR install from the [Self Service app](#).

1. From the [software catalog](#), download Tableau Prep for MacOS.
2. Double-click on the downloaded file to start the installer.
3. Click close when the installation is complete.
4. Open Tableau Prep.
5. If prompted, click **Activate by signing into a server**.
6. Sign into server: tableau.brown.edu
Your license is activated.
7. Uninstall older versions of Tableau Prep.

Install Tableau Software on a Personal Computer

To install Tableau Desktop or Tableau Prep on a personally-owned computer:

1. Look up the current Tableau Desktop version number in the [Software Catalog](#).
2. Download and install the same version number from [Tableau's website](#).

This will ensure you are using a version compatible with Tableau Server. Be mindful to maintain the same version as Tableau Server.

3. Open the Tableau application.
4. If prompted, click **Activate by signing into a server**.
5. Sign into server: tableau.brown.edu
Your license is activated.
6. Uninstall older versions of Tableau software.