

IDX Beam Analysis Tool for TurboCAD 2026

The IDX Beam Analysis Tool checks deflection and stress on a beam. You define the beam, its cross-section, material, supports and loads, and the tool draws the diagrams for you. It is a **plug-in that runs inside TurboCAD**. The result goes into your drawing as a parametric object that you can edit later.

1. Check you can run it

- **TurboCAD 2026 64-bit (2026.1)**. This 2026 plug-in (version 3.0.1) is built for TurboCAD 2026.
- **TurboCAD Professional or Platinum**.
- You need your **Beam Analysis Tool license key** from your order. It starts with the letters **BAP**.

2. Install

1. Close TurboCAD. If you installed this plug-in before, uninstall it first in **Windows Settings** ► **Apps** ► **Installed apps** (your license stays activated).
2. Run the installer, `Beam_Analysis_Tool_2026_r2.exe`. It installs **IDX Beam Analysis Tool 64-bit**.
3. If the installer asks which TurboCAD to use, pick **TurboCAD 2026**.
4. **Enter your license key in the installer's activation step**. Copy and paste it from your order email. You do not enter it again inside TurboCAD.
5. Finish the installer, then start TurboCAD.

The tool's files go into the `Program64\Draggers` and `Program64\Regens` folders of your TurboCAD folder.

3. Find it inside TurboCAD

After installing, open the **Add-Ons** tab of the ribbon. It is the one spelled with a hyphen, next to **Modify**; the separate **AddOns** tab further right holds other tools. It has three buttons:

- **Add Beam** — start a new beam.
- **Edit Beam** — reopen a beam that is already in the drawing.
- **IDX on the Web** — the developer's web page.

The manual shows the older menu bar, where the same commands are under `IDX` ► `Beam Tool`.

The **IDX Beam Analysis Tool** window has a beam diagram at the top and these tabs below it: **Beam**, **Supports**, **Loads**, **Cross-Sections**, **Diagrams**, **Units** and **Options**. Its toolbar has **Open**, **Save**, **HTML**, **Help**, **About** and **OK**.

4. Your first beam: a simple beam with one load

This example is a 20 ft steel beam on two supports with a 1,000 lb load in the middle.

1. On the **Add-Ons** tab click **Add Beam**, then click in the drawing where you want the diagrams. The **IDX Beam Analysis Tool** window opens. It starts with a sample beam (30 ft, a fixed end and a roller, 100 lb at mid-span) that you change in the next steps.

2. On the **Units** tab, check that **Axial** is set to feet and **Load** to pounds. (The defaults are fine if they already match.)
3. On the **Cross-Sections** tab, click **Edit Section**, choose **Standard Sections**, and pick a W-Steel section from the list (the default is **W_10x19**). Click **OK**.
4. On the **Beam** tab, click in **Beam length**, type **20** and press **Enter**.
5. On the **Supports** tab, click **Add Support**. In the **Supports** dialog choose **Pin**, set **Support Location** to **0** and click **OK**. Add a second support: **Roller** at **20**, then **OK**.
6. On the **Loads** tab, click **Add Load**. In the **Loads** dialog choose **Point load**, set **Load** to **1000** and **Location** to **10**, click **Normal load** (straight down) and click **OK**.
7. Open the **Diagrams** tab. Click **Normal** (shear force), **Deflect**, **Moment** and **Stress** to read the results. The beam diagram at the top shows each support and load with its force.
8. To keep a copy outside the drawing, click **Save** (XML file) or **HTML** (a web page with the diagrams).
9. Click **OK**. The beam model and its diagrams are placed in the drawing where you clicked in step 1.

Hand check: with **Add beam weight to calculations** turned off (on the **Beam** tab), each support should carry 500 lb, and the largest moment should be 5,000 lb·ft at mid-span.

The table already has supports or loads? You cannot put two supports at the same spot, and you cannot make the beam shorter than its furthest support or load. Select the row and click **Delete Support** or **Delete Load** (or **Edit Support** / **Edit Load**) first.

Five things worth knowing early

Drag to adjust	Drag a load or support along the beam diagram. Double-click a symbol to open its dialog.
Torsion needs a fixed support	Torsion diagrams appear only if at least one support is Fixed for torsion and you add a torsion load.
Diagrams to place	The Options tab chooses which diagrams go into the drawing and sets precision.
Edit later	Use Add-Ons ► Edit Beam and click the beam. Or open its Properties , go to the Other tab and select BAT Beam Object .
Sharing drawings	Exploding the beam turns it into plain lines and text that anyone can open, but you can no longer edit it as a beam.

If something goes wrong

"I installed it but there is no Add Beam button." Restart TurboCAD and look on the **Add-Ons** tab. Check that you installed into TurboCAD 2026 64-bit with the 2026 installer (**Beam_Analysis_Tool_2026_r2.exe**); older installers put the tool in a folder TurboCAD 2026 does not load.

"My key is invalid." A Beam Analysis Tool key starts with **BAP**. Paste the whole key with no spaces. If it still fails, contact support with your order number.

"A diagram is grayed out." That force does not exist in your beam. For example, with no torsion load the torsion diagrams are not available.

Where to go next

- **The full manual** covers every load type (point, linear distributed, moment, torsion moment), custom cross-sections, units, precision, HTML publishing and editing beams through **Selection Info**. It is installed with the

plug-in as *IDX Beam Analysis Tool for TurboCAD Pro.pdf* in the **Beam** folder of your TurboCAD folder (normally `C:\Program Files\IMSIDesign\TCW2026\Beam`).

- **Support:** email support@imsidesign.com with your **order number** and the **exact text** of any error message.