

RedSDK Plug-in for TurboCAD 2026

The RedSDK Plug-in switches on the Redway RedSDK engine inside TurboCAD: fast, GPU-accelerated realistic display and rendering, with RedSDK materials, luminances (lights) and environments.

1. Check you can run it

- **TurboCAD 2026 64-bit (2026.1, build 33.0.65.1 or later)**, Platinum, Professional or Deluxe edition.
- A graphics card with current drivers that supports OpenGL. RedSDK uses the graphics card heavily.
- This plug-in is for TurboCAD 2026 only. Earlier TurboCAD versions need their own RedSDK plug-in.

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. Right-click the installer (`RedSDK_TurboCAD_2026_r2.exe`) ► **Run as administrator**.
3. Pick the installer language and accept the licence agreement.
4. The installer finds your TurboCAD 2026 folder. If you have more than one TurboCAD installed, choose **TurboCAD 2026** in the list.
5. **Enter your licence key when asked**. It is one line of five groups, for example `RWPEN-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX`. Copy and paste it from your order email. You need to be online for this step.
6. Click **Finish**.

Upgrading from the 2025 RedSDK plug-in? Your upgrade key works with the current installer, `RedSDK_TurboCAD_2026_r2.exe`. If an installer you downloaded earlier says the key is invalid, download the installer again from your order link.

3. Turn it on in TurboCAD

1. **Restart TurboCAD** so the plug-in is picked up.
2. Go to **Options** ► **Program Setup** ► **Native Draw** and choose **Redsdk** instead of GDI. Click **OK**.
3. TurboCAD warns you and asks whether to **restart now**. Click **Yes**. If you click **No**, TurboCAD does not keep the setting, and you have to choose Redsdk again.
4. After the restart, open the camera settings: on the **View** tab, click **Camera Options** ► **Properties** (menu: **View** ► **Camera** ► **Camera Properties**). The pages for each rendering mode are listed on the left. Set:

Page	Rendering type	Mode
Draft	Redsdk	Redsdk Draft
Quality	Redsdk	Raytrace Standard

All RedSDK materials, luminances and environments now appear in the **Properties** dialogs, the **Palettes** and the **Render Manager**.

4. Your first RedSDK render

1. Open a 3D drawing, or draw a simple solid in a 3D view.
2. Open the Materials palette with **Tools ▸ Palettes ▸ Materials**, set its render-engine filter to show RedSDK materials, and drag a material onto the object.
3. Optional: open **Options ▸ Render Manager** to pick a RedSDK environment or luminance.
4. Choose **View ▸ Visual Styles ▸ Draft Render** to work interactively. RedSDK updates the shaded view as you orbit.
5. Choose **View ▸ Visual Styles ▸ Quality Render** (the teapot button on the **View** tab) for the final image. The status bar shows **Rendering Complete** and the time taken.
6. To save the image, choose **File ▸ Save As**, set **Save as type** to **BMP** or **JPG**, click **Setup** and tick **Use Render**.

5. If something goes wrong

Problem	What to do
The installer says it cannot find TurboCAD	Install TurboCAD 2026 first, then run the plug-in installer again.
The key is refused	Paste the whole key with no spaces. Upgrade keys need the current installer (<code>RedSDK_TurboCAD_2026_12.exe</code>). Contact support if it still fails.
Redsdk is not offered under Native Draw	Restart TurboCAD. If it is still missing, run the installer again (Repair).
Native Draw went back to GDI	You clicked No when TurboCAD asked to restart. Choose Redsdk again and click Yes .
"Unable to create material properly ... The RED file could not be found"	TurboCAD has a RedSDK version of only some of its materials (the RedSDK metals and a shadow material). Other materials in a drawing, such as the stones in some samples, show this message. Click OK : the render still completes, but that material is not shown at full RedSDK quality. For full RedSDK quality, give those objects RedSDK materials from the Materials palette. Tick Don't show this message again to stop the message.
Black or flickering views	Update the graphics driver. Set Native Draw back to the default to keep working, and contact support.

6. Help

- TurboCAD User Guide: *Rendering*, *Render Camera Properties* and *Drawing Setup*.
- Forum: <https://forums.turbocad.com>
- Support: support@imsidesign.com