Companion Deployment Guide

The tables below outline properties and switches that can be used to deploy Companion to your end-users.

EXE Switch Table

Command Line Switch	Description
/exenoui	Required for a silent install. Use with appropriate MSI switch for modified end-user experience (e.g., /qn, /qb, /passive).

MSI Switch Table (Common)

Command Line Switch	Description
/passive	Basic user interface, progress bar only
/qn	Quiet, no user interface
/qb	Basic user interface, the **Cancel** button will be active during installation
/qr	Reduced user interface, the **Cancel** button will be active during installation

Property Table

Property	Accepted Values	Description
APPDIR		Specify a custom installation directory
ACCEPT_EULA	1	Required property. By specifying a value for this property, you accept the terms of the end-user license agreement and privacy policy.
LICENSE_SERVER	server name or IP address	For use with a multi-user license to specify the server that hosts the Minitab License Manager. This property is not compatible with PRODUCT_KEY or LICENSE_PORTAL.
LICENSE_SERVER_PORT	27000 to 27009	For use with a multi-user license to *optionally* specify the listening port for the Minitab License Manager server.
PRODUCT_KEY	18-digit Product Key	Single-user licenses can be *optionally* activated by specifying a Product Key. If you do not specify a Product Key, a 30-day trial version will be installed. This property is not compatible with LICENSE_SERVER or LICENSE_PORTAL.
LICENSE_PORTAL	1	For use with a full product version of Companion.

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Property	Accepted Values	Description
DISABLE_ANALYTICS	0 or 1	With consent, Minitab collects application analytics to help us better understand our customers' needs. Examples of application analytics include: • Product information, including the types of files that are imported, the types and frequency of tools and commands, project characteristics, such as the amount of data and number of worksheets, and the frequency and duration of use. • Performance information about Minitab products and/or services and any issues you may experience while using them. Note: Minitab does not collect any user-entered data or statistical results. **Settings**: • To enable application analytics, enter 0 • To disable application analytics, enter 1 If you do not enter a value for this property now, you can do it later when you launch the application. If you are deploying software on behalf of your end users, these settings will apply to their installations: • 0 allows the end user to enable or disable application analytics on their computer • 1 automatically disables application analytics for all end users Note: These settings do not prevent Minitab from collecting other types of data from its websites and products, such as data necessary for managing licenses or accessing online Help. For more information, view our Privacy Policy.
DISABLE_WEB	1	For use with the desktop app to restrict web-based dashboard and repository access.
PERSONAL_FOLDER	A path to a location on the user's computer	The location where personal templates are stored. By default, the Personal folder is located in the user's Application Data folder.

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Property	Accepted Values	Description
WORKGROUP_FOLDER	A path to a commonly accessible location, such as a network folder	The location where shared templates are stored. The Workgroup folder does not have a default value.
DISABLE_UPDATES	1	When you specify a value for this property, you turn off the ability to check for software updates. Disabling this option prevents automatic and manual checks from occurring. We recommend that you enable this option on at least one computer.

Command Line Details

1. You must use the /exenoui switch when you use /qn, /qb, or /passive.

2. Verify that command line switches are in correct order.

   - EXE switches must precede MSI switches.
   - MSI switches must precede MSI properties.

3. If you do not specify licensing properties (PRODUCT_KEY, LICENSE_PORTAL, or LICENSE_SERVER), a 30-day trial will be installed.

4. If you install with a local license file, place it in the same directory as the installer and do not specify a license type property (PRODUCT_KEY, LICENSE_PORTAL, or LICENSE_SERVER).

5. If you have a previous version of Companion installed, the existing values will be used for APPDIR, LICENSE_SERVER, LICENSE_SERVER_PORT, PRODUCT_KEY, and DISABLE_MOVE if they are not specified during the upgrade.

Required Syntax

companion.x.x.xsetup.exe [EXE Switch Table] [MSI Switch Table] [Property Table]

Examples

Note The following examples do not contain line breaks.

Install silently, multi-user license:
companion.x.x.xsetup.exe /exenoui /qn ACCEPT_EULA=1

LICENSE_SERVER=MyServerName

Install silently, multi-user license setting server and port, setting workgroup and personal templates folder, and checking for updates disabled:
companion.x.x.xsetup.exe /exenoui /qn ACCEPT_EULA=1

LICENSE_SERVER=MyServerName LICENSE_SERVER_PORT=27000

WORKGROUP_FOLDER=\\server1\workgroup PERSONAL_FOLDER=c:\templates

DISABLE_UPDATES=1

Install Companion full product silently:
companion.x.x.xsetup.exe /exenoui /qn ACCEPT_EULA=1 LICENSE_PORTAL=1

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Install silently, single-user license with product key, and custom installation directory:
> companion.x.x.xsetup.exe /exenoui /qn ACCEPT_EULA=1
>
> PRODUCT_KEY=123456789012345678 APPDIR= "c:\New Companion"

Install silently, single-user license 30-day trial:
> companion.x.x.xsetup.exe /exenoui /qn ACCEPT_EULA=1

Upgrade Companion silently:
> companion.x.x.xsetup.exe /exenoui /qn ACCEPT_EULA=1

Uninstall silently using the Companion product code:
> msiexec /x {Product Code} /qn
>
> Product Code Registry Location:
> [HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\Companion by Minitab 5.x.x.x]
>
> String: UninstallPath

To deploy a Companion installation

If you use a software asset management tool for deployment, use the exe to deploy Companion.

If you use Active Directory/Group Policy for deployment, companion.x.x.xsetupgp.msi is also required. This file is provided with the Companion Mass Deployment Package at https://www.minitab.com/downloads/.

Group policy usage

1. When you use companion.x.x.xsetupgp.msi, the installation package must be in the same directory.

2. If you install with a local license file, place it in the same directory as the installation package and do not specify a license type property (PRODUCT_KEY, LICENSE_PORTAL, or LICENSE_SERVER).

3. Set the MSI REBOOT property to control reboot behavior on end-users' machines.