# Changing the Default Directory for Opening Files

Reference Number: **KB-00054** Last Modified: **July 20, 2021** 

The information in this article applies to:



## QUESTION

I would like Chief Architect to default to a specific folder on my local machine's hard drive when opening files. How do I do this?

### ANSWER

In Chief Architect, you can specify the location on your computer that the program opens when a plan or layout is either opened or saved using Save As.

The method of specifying the default Open and Save As directory in Chief Architect depends on the version being used.

Working on files over a network server, external hard drive, or USB flash drive device is not supported as this can lead to file corruption and data loss.

#### To change the default Open and Save As directory

- 1. Select **Edit> Preferences** if you're on a Windows PC or **Chief Architect> Preferences** if you're on a Mac.
- 2. Click on the NEW PLANS panel, and in the lower right side under the **Open and Save As** section, you have two options:

Preferences		
Appearance	New Plans and Layouts	
Colors	U.S. Units	
Font	Plan Template:	
Library Browser		
Text	Residential Template.plan	Browse
General	Layout Template:	
File Management	ArchD 24x36 Layout Template.layout	Browse
Folders		bronsen
Ruby	O Metric Units	
New Plans	Plan Template:	
Unit Conversions	Residential TemplateM.plan	Browse
Time Tracker	Residential remplaces plan	Drowsen
Architectural	Layout Template:	
CAD	ISO1A 594x841 Layout Template, layout	Browse
Edit		
Behaviors	Open and Save As	
Snap Properties	O Use Last Folder	
Materials List		
Report Style	Use This Folder	
Master List Render	C: \Users \joshua \Documents \Projects \Smith Revision \	Browse
Ray Trace Video Card Status		
Reset Options		

- Use Last Folder instructs the program to open the last directory or folder used when File> Open Plan
  File> Open Layout 
   or File> Save As
   was used.
- Use This Folder instructs the program to open a specific folder, as specified by the user. When Use
  This Folder is selected, the path name field and Browse button become active to allow the user to either type or Browse to the location they wish to set.
- 3. Click the Browse button to open the Select a Plans Folder dialog.
- 4. Browse to the location on your computer where you would like Chief Architect to refer every time you select **File> Open Plan**, **File> Open Layout** or **File> Save As** from the menu, then click **Select Folder**.
- 5. Click **OK** to close the dialog and apply your change.

#### Related Articles

Enabling or Disabling Project Management (https://www.chiefarchitect.com/support/article/KB-03210/enablingor-disabling-project-management.html)

- Exporting Projects and Disconnected Files (https://www.chiefarchitect.com/support/article/KB-03212/exportingprojects-and-disconnected-files.html)
- <u>Analoging Your Archive Files (/support/article/KB-00775/managing-your-archive-files.html)</u>

Organizing your Plan and Layout Files(/support/article/KB-00562/organizing-your-plan-and-layout-files.html)

Sharing Projects in a Work Environment that is Utilizing Cloud/Network Services (/support/article/KB-

 $\underline{03155/sharing-projects-in-a-work-environment-that-is-utilizing-cloud-network-services.html)}$