

Proposed



TIP

**Saving Assemblies
as Parts**

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Save Assemblies as Parts

- One of the many useful features of SolidWorks is being able to export files to many formats.
 - Normally this is a method of communicating with other CAD programs.
 - *There is an unusual option when you save a SolidWorks assembly is you can pick a SolidWorks part.*



What Are You Hiding?

- This feature is very handy if your user needs to drop your Original Equipment Manufacturer product into their design but you don't want them seeing how your product is built.
 - Single file also simplifies the need to load a lot of individual part files before loading the assembly.



Behind door number...

- When you do save an assembly as a part file you have three distinct options:

Assembly geometry to save in part file:

- Exterior faces
- Exterior components
- All components



Exterior Faces

- This option creates a single part file from an assembly and only retains the faces that are visible from the outside of the assembly.
- The part tree is made up of only surfaces.
- This option creates the smallest output file.



Exterior Components

- This option creates a single part file from an assembly and only retains the parts that are visible from the outside of the assembly.
- The part tree is made up of solid bodies and surfaces.



All Components

- This option creates a single part file from an assembly and retains every part in the assembly.
- The part tree is made up of solid bodies and surfaces.
- This option creates the largest output file.



Consider E-drawings

- If you are going to use the all components option, you aren't trying to hide anything so a better option may be to save the assembly as an E-Drawing (EASM) option.
- The viewer is free and the size of the resulting file is much smaller.



Comparison of File Size

- Original Sample Assembly Only: **100%**
- Resulting Part Files:
 - Exterior Faces: **57%**
 - Exterior Components: **94%**
 - All Components: **414%**
- E-drawing: **43%**



One Warning

- Just like E-drawings, parts created from assemblies have no link to the original data.
- Change the assembly and part you saved 10 minutes ago is now obsolete.





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