



PRODROADS

IT Validation Guide

Deployment, data handling, network behavior, and release verification for ProdRoads Editor and ProdRoads Reader.

WINDOWS DESKTOP

Standard per-user installation. No administrator privileges required.

LOCAL-FIRST

Project and workspace data remain in files controlled by the user or studio.

PREVIEW 0.1.0

Current validation material for the August 2026 preview packages.

Document status

Updated August 2026. This guide describes the current Preview 0.1.0 Windows packages. Public availability, code signing, and VirusTotal publication are tracked separately and must not be inferred from this document.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Fast facts for IT approval

ProdRoads is a local-first Windows desktop application composed of a full Editor and a free read-only Reader. The standard workflow does not depend on ProdRoads-hosted infrastructure.

Local project data

Roadmaps and workspace data are stored in files controlled by the user or studio.

Offline-capable

Opening and editing roadmap data does not require a cloud service or account.

No telemetry

The current desktop applications do not send usage analytics or product telemetry.

No background service

No service, scheduled task, driver, shell extension, or startup entry is installed.

Per-user deployment

Standard installation targets the current user and does not require administrator privileges.

Reader is read-only

Reader opens .pr roadmap files without saving or modifying project content.

Verifiable packages

Published installer names and SHA-256 hashes are provided for independent verification.

Explicit external actions

Websites, documentation, and roadmap links open only after a user action.

CURRENT RELEASE BOUNDARY

Preview 0.1.0 is functional and has locally scanned installers with published hashes. Code signing and a public VirusTotal report are planned and are not claimed as available today.

APPLICATION BEHAVIOR

What ProdRoads does - and does not do

BEHAVIOR	DOES	DOES NOT
Store roadmap data in local .pr files	YES	-
Open or create reusable .prw workspace files (Editor)	YES	-
Open approved external links after user action	YES	-
Upload project data to a ProdRoads server	-	NO
Require a cloud service or user account	-	NO
Collect usage analytics or product telemetry	-	NO
Run a background service or scheduled task	-	NO
Modify roadmap files without user action	-	NO

Network behavior

ProdRoads does not automatically contact a ProdRoads service at startup or while opening roadmap files. Network-capable actions occur only after explicit user interaction.

ACTION	BEHAVIOR
Official website and documentation	Opened in the default browser after a user clicks the corresponding command.
Roadmap links	A roadmap editor can attach a link to a block. The link opens only when a user clicks it.
Allowed schemes	HTTP, HTTPS, mail, and approved custom schemes are handed to the operating system.
Blocked schemes	Unsafe schemes such as file:, javascript:, data:, cmd:, and powershell: are rejected before opening.

DATA AND FILES

Studio-controlled storage

ProdRoads does not provide or require a hosted project server. Studios choose where roadmap files live and which access controls, backup policy, retention policy, and synchronization provider apply.

ITEM	PURPOSE	CONTENT AND LOCATION
.pr	Roadmap container	Roadmap data, workspace data, and embedded developer portraits. External roadmap files remain references and are not embedded.
.prw	Workspace file	Reusable workspace data such as teams, people, portraits, and key dates.
Preferences	Per-user settings	Recent file references and application preferences stored in the current user's application data.
Startup log	Diagnostic file	Written only if the application cannot start. Project content is avoided and paths are sanitized.

Project container integrity

Current .pr containers use a ZIP-compatible structure with a manifest and compact application payload. ProdRoads verifies the declared payload, SHA-256 hash, and HMAC-SHA-256 integrity signature before loading the project. Missing, duplicated, oversized, or modified entries are rejected.

IMPORTANT PROTECTION BOUNDARY

The integrity signature detects corruption and basic tampering of the local container structure. It is not a user identity signature and does not authenticate the human author. Current version 3 project files are compacted and lightly obfuscated, but they are not password-encrypted. Confidentiality must therefore be enforced by the studio's chosen storage and access controls.

Supported storage models

Roadmap and workspace files can be stored on local disks, managed shared drives, NAS, SharePoint, OneDrive, Git, or other studio-controlled storage. Compatibility with a provider depends on the provider preserving ordinary files and access permissions.

INSTALLATION AND DEPLOYMENT

Standard Windows application

AREA	CURRENT BEHAVIOR
Install scope	Per-user installation in the current user's local application data.
Privileges	No administrator privileges required for standard installation.
Windows integration	Start menu shortcut, optional desktop shortcut, and file associations under HKCU\Software\Classes.
Not installed	No Windows service, scheduled task, startup entry, driver, or shell extension.
Uninstall	Available through Windows Apps. Installer-created program files and registered associations are removed.
Runtime	Packaged Python desktop application using bundled application components. No runtime dependency download or package installation is required.

Editor and Reader

CAPABILITY	EDITOR	READER
Primary purpose	Create, edit, and maintain roadmaps	Open and review roadmap files
.pr files	Open, create, modify, and save	Open read-only
.prw files	Open, create, import, and export	Not associated
File association	Owns .pr and .prw when installed	Owns .pr only when Editor is absent
Coexistence	Can coexist with Reader	Can coexist with Editor
License model	Paid application	Free application

READ-ONLY READER

Reader can navigate, filter, search, inspect dependencies, and open approved links, but it does not write project changes back to the .pr file.

RELEASE VERIFICATION

Preview 0.1.0 package evidence

Use the hashes below to verify the current installer files independently before deployment. Hashes are uppercase SHA-256 values.

INSTALLER	SHA-256
ProdRoadsEditorSetup-0.1.0.exe	28FA09359543ADE524EE73BF37F7A8834BBF1ACBFEC5131615A017CA1C38377
ProdRoadsReaderSetup-0.1.0.exe	A7B514719CEF4701FBFB03C1F75A08B4D96ED581BB732EC70ACADB026DA19D9A

Independent verification

Run the following command from PowerShell in the directory containing the installer:

POWERSHELL

```
Get-FileHash .\ProdRoadsEditorSetup-0.1.0.exe -Algorithm SHA256  
Get-FileHash .\ProdRoadsReaderSetup-0.1.0.exe -Algorithm SHA256
```

EVIDENCE	STATUS	NOTES
Version history and release notes	AVAILABLE	Published with the website documentation.
SHA-256 installer hashes	AVAILABLE	Published above and in release notes.
Local antivirus scan	AVAILABLE	Current packages scanned locally with Microsoft Defender.
Code signing	PLANNED	Not claimed as available for Preview 0.1.0.
VirusTotal report	PLANNED	Will be linked when available.

VALIDATION PRACTICE

A local antivirus scan is supporting evidence, not a replacement for your studio's own malware analysis, application allow-listing, sandbox testing, or deployment policy.

APPROVAL CHECKLIST

Suggested studio validation steps

- 01 Confirm the installer filename and SHA-256 hash against the release notes.
- 02 Run the installer through the studio's antivirus, EDR, or sandbox workflow.
- 03 Test standard installation with a non-administrator user account.
- 04 Confirm no service, scheduled task, startup entry, driver, or shell extension is created.
- 05 Review outbound network behavior and approve only the explicit browser/link workflows required by the studio.
- 06 Choose an approved storage location and apply studio access, backup, retention, and synchronization controls.
- 07 Test .pr and .prw file associations, including Reader and Editor coexistence if both are deployed.
- 08 Verify Reader opens the approved test roadmap without modifying the source file.
- 09 Review the file-format integrity and non-encryption boundary for confidential productions.
- 10 Record the approved package hash and version in the studio's software inventory.

Official review resources

RESOURCE	URL
Security overview	https://prodroads.com/security/
Privacy	https://prodroads.com/privacy/
Release notes	https://prodroads.com/docs/release-notes/
Installation guide	https://prodroads.com/docs/installation/
File format	https://prodroads.com/docs/file-format/

SECURITY AND IT CONTACT

For deployment, security review, package verification, or studio approval questions:

support@prodroads.com

This document is a technical summary of the current desktop application behavior. It does not replace a studio's internal security assessment, deployment policy, or legal privacy review.