

WorkshopLedger Pro

Installation Guide

Version 1.0.0

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This guide takes you from the installer file to a working, activated WorkshopLedger Pro — including first-run setup, your Recovery Key, licence activation, printer setup, and what to do when you move to a new PC.

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1. Before You Begin

You will need:

- The installer file, **WorkshopLedgerProSetup-1.0.0.exe**, supplied by CABS.
- Your **licence number**, supplied with your purchase.
- A Windows 10 or 11 **64-bit** PC with administrator rights for the installation step.
- An **internet connection** for the activation step (day-to-day use does not need one).

Installing an update or reinstalling? Your data is kept — see section 9.

2. Installing

1. Double-click **WorkshopLedgerProSetup-1.0.0.exe**.
2. If Windows shows a security prompt, confirm the publisher reads **Computer Aided Business Systems L.L.C.** before continuing. If a different publisher is shown, or the file is reported as unrecognised, do not proceed — contact support.
3. Read and accept the licence agreement.
4. Accept the suggested installation folder unless you have a reason to change it, choose whether you want a desktop icon, and click **Install**.
5. Click **Finish**. WorkshopLedger Pro starts.

3. First Run — the Setup Wizard

The first time WorkshopLedger Pro runs, the Setup Wizard walks you through preparing the workshop's database.

3.1 Workshop details

Enter your workshop name, address, and phone number. These appear on every printed document — estimates, invoices, receipts, and statements — so enter them exactly as you want customers to see them. They can be changed later under Settings.

3.2 Where your data lives

- **This PC only** (the usual choice): everything is stored in an encrypted database on this computer, under **C:\ProgramData\WorkshopLedgerPro**. No server or network is needed.
- **Workshop network (SQL Server)**: for workshops running several workstations against one shared database. Your administrator supplies the connection details; see section 8.

The wizard will refuse a network file share as a database location for the single-PC option — this is deliberate. A shared database belongs on SQL Server, not on a shared folder.

3.3 Your Recovery Key — print it and keep it

Your database is **encrypted**. During setup, WorkshopLedger Pro produces a one-page **Recovery Key** document. Print it, and keep the printed copy somewhere safe and private — treat it exactly like the key to a locked drawer of business records.

Without the Recovery Key, an encrypted database cannot be opened — not by you, and not by CABS support. If the key document is lost while the application still opens normally, contact support for how to re-secure your data before anything goes wrong.

3.4 The owner account

Create the owner login. The owner role has full rights, including user management; you will add accounts with narrower roles for front-desk staff and technicians later (see the User Guide).

4. Activating Your Licence

1. Make sure the PC is connected to the internet.
2. When prompted — or at any time under **Administration ► Licence Info** — enter your licence number and activate.
3. Activation registers *this PC* against your licence on the CABS licensing server. Once activated, the application runs fully offline.

Each licence covers a set number of PCs. If activation reports that no machine slot is free, deactivate the old PC first (section 7) or contact support.

5. Setting Up Printers

5.1 A4 documents

Estimates, invoices, statements, and reports are produced as PDF documents and open in your normal PDF viewer for printing — any A4 printer already working in Windows will do.

5.2 Receipt printer (58 mm / 80 mm thermal)

1. Install the printer in Windows using the manufacturer's driver, and print a **Windows test page** first to prove the driver works.
2. In WorkshopLedger Pro, open **Settings ► Printers**, choose the printer under **Receipt printer**, and set the paper width — **58 mm** or **80 mm** — to match the paper roll in the machine.
3. Take any payment and print the receipt. Check the print fills the paper width and the Naira sign (₦) appears correctly.

A Windows test page proves the driver; receipts only print once the printer is chosen inside WorkshopLedger Pro's own Settings. Changes to printer settings take effect immediately — no restart is needed.

6. Your First Backup

Open the backup function and make your first backup now, before real data goes in — it takes a moment and proves the whole path works. Backups never overwrite the previous backup. Copy backups to an external drive or another machine regularly; a backup that lives only on the same PC as the database does not protect you from that PC being lost.

7. Moving to a New PC

Your licence follows you, in two steps:

1. **On the old PC** (connected to the internet): open **Administration ► Licence Info** and choose deactivate. This frees your machine slot on the licensing server. Also take a fresh backup and copy it off the machine.

2. **On the new PC:** install WorkshopLedger Pro (sections 2–3), restore your backup, and activate with the same licence number (section 4).

If the old PC has died or been stolen and can no longer deactivate itself, contact support with your licence number — the machine slot is released for you from the server side.

8. Networked Workshops (SQL Server)

For multi-workstation workshops, one shared database runs on Microsoft SQL Server on your network and each workstation runs WorkshopLedger Pro against it. Setting this up is an administrator task: the administrator prepares the SQL Server database, and each workstation's Setup Wizard is pointed at it with the connection details.

On networked installations, licence release is handled by your administrator together with CABS support — the in-app deactivate step in section 7 applies to single-PC installations. Contact support before your first SQL Server deployment and we will walk it through with you.

9. Updating and Uninstalling

- **Updating:** run the new installer over the existing installation. Your database, settings, and licence are kept.
- **Uninstalling:** use Windows "Installed apps". Your data under C:\ProgramData\WorkshopLedgerPro is deliberately **not** deleted by the uninstaller — your records outlive the program. Remove that folder manually only if you are certain you will never need the data (and only after copying a backup elsewhere).

10. If Something Goes Wrong

Symptom	What to do
"No receipt printer is configured" when printing a receipt	Choose the printer under Settings ► Printers ► Receipt printer (section 5.2). A printer installed in Windows still has to be selected inside WorkshopLedger Pro.
Receipt printer chosen but nothing prints	Check the printer is on, has paper, and prints a Windows test page. If the application reports the printer offline, fix the connection and simply print again — the payment itself is safe and the receipt can be reprinted.
Activation fails	Check the internet connection and that the licence number is typed exactly as supplied. The message on screen states the specific reason; if it mentions no free machine slot, see section 7.
"Activation already released for this machine" when deactivating	The machine slot had already been freed (for example by support). This is not an error — the PC finishes deactivating locally and the licence is free to use elsewhere.
Windows SmartScreen warns about the installer	Choose "More info" and confirm the publisher is Computer Aided Business Systems L.L.C. If the publisher differs, stop and contact support.
Anything else	Email support@cabsystemsapp.com with your licence number, what you were doing, and the exact message shown on screen.