

Welcome

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reactor[™] is a plug-in for **3ds max**[™] designed to allow artists and animators to control and simulate complex physical scenes with ease. **reactor** supports fully integrated rigid and soft body dynamics, cloth simulation and fluid simulation. It can simulate constraints and joints for articulated bodies. It can also simulate physical behaviors such as wind and motors. You can use all of these features to create rich dynamic environments.

Once a designer creates an object in **3ds max**, they can assign physical properties to it. Properties could include characteristics such as mass, friction, and elasticity. Objects can be fixed, free, attached to springs, or attached together using a variety of constraints. By assigning physical characteristics to objects, you can model real-world scenarios quickly and easily, and these can then be simulated to produce physically accurate keyframed animations.

With **reactor**, you can preview scenes quickly using the real-time simulation display window. This window allows you to test and play with a scene interactively. You can alter positions of all physical objects in the scene, dramatically reducing the design time. You can then transfer the scene back into **3ds max** with a single key-click, while retaining all the properties needed for the animation.

The **reactor** plug-in frees designers and animators from having to hand-animate time consuming secondary effects, like exploding buildings or draping curtains. The plug-in also supports all standard **3ds max** features such as keyframes and skinning, so you can use both conventional and physical animation in the same scene. Convenient utilities (such as automatic keyframe reduction) let you tweak and alter the physically generated parts of an animation after it has been generated.

The remainder of this document describes each of the plug-in's features in detail. It also contains detailed tutorials to show you how to get the most from **reactor**.

Further files and tutorials are available at www.discreet.com