

Frequently Asked Questions – Christie AutoStack 4.0 and AutoStack Premium

Easily and accurately align 3DLP® projected content in minutes

What is Christie® AutoStack™?

Christie AutoStack is a software and camera-based solution which enables the alignment of multiple-array projected content in a fraction of the time it takes to achieve the same result manually. Christie AutoStack is available for any Christie Twist™ enabled 3DLP projector.

Why choose Christie AutoStack?

Correctly aligning projected content in multiple-projector arrays is typically time consuming and requires some expertise. Christie AutoStack greatly reduces the time it takes to align content, enabling less experienced users to set up and maintain projector arrays without relying on a trained technician. You can easily create multiple (and often complex) projection arrays for impact, double-stacked brightness or redundancy, using less time, labor and resources while achieving professional quality results.

How many projectors does Christie AutoStack support?

The system supports as many as 12 projectors, in configurations of up to 2 projectors high by 3 projectors wide, to create a 6 projector blended array. This array can be double-stacked for additional brightness or redundancy.

What is the difference between Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium?

Christie AutoStack Premium features the same capabilities as Christie AutoStack with the added benefit of supporting curved or cylindrical screens, as well as portrait orientation displays. Christie AutoStack Premium also works with arrays that are larger than 2 projectors high and 3 projectors wide as long as the selected camera and lens combination is able to see the entire projection screen.

How does the software licensing work for Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium?

Both Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium licenses are controlled by the use of a USB license key. The software is purchased separately from the camera and lens which are pre-calibrated and sold as a pair to be used with the software.

Why are there different camera and lens options for Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium?

Offering multiple camera and lens options for Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium means that the software has the flexibility to handle various screen and room sizes. The following factors are important in selecting the right camera and lens pair for your application:

- Physical height and width of screen or display surface
- The distance from the Christie AutoStack camera to the projection screen or surface
- Total number of projectors being used in the projected array
- Projector resolution
- Desired blend overlap percentage

Once you have gathered this information, you can use the [Christie® AutoStack™ camera and lens calculator](#) located on the Christie website to help you determine which combination is best suited to your application.

How many camera and lens options do you offer for Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium?

We currently offer the following USB camera and lens options which are identified by their respective part numbers:

- 156-104106-01 KIT 3.2MP USB3 camera + 3.5mm lens
- 156-103105-01 KIT 3.2MP USB3 camera + 5.0mm lens
- 156-105107-01 KIT 3.2MP USB3 camera + 6mm lens
- 156-106108-01 KIT 3.2MP USB3 camera + 12mm lens

We are currently working on expanding our camera and lens options to include 5-megapixel Ethernet cameras which will feature a larger internal sensor for an expanded field of view.

Can Christie AutoStack or AutoStack Premium be used on a curved/cylindrical screen?

Christie AutoStack Premium provides support for curved or cylindrical screens; however, Christie AutoStack does not.

Can Christie AutoStack or AutoStack Premium be used in portrait display mode?

Christie AutoStack Premium provides support for portrait display mode; however, Christie AutoStack does not.

Can Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium be used with non-Christie projectors?

No, Christie AutoStack and AutoStack Premium can only be used with Christie 3DLP projectors equipped with Christie Twist™, for a complete list of supported projectors, visit the [Christie AutoStack](#) or [Christie AutoStack Premium](#).

What is required to run Christie AutoStack or AutoStack Premium?

- Current generation of Christie Twist enabled 3DLP projectors
- Christie AutoStack camera and lens pair (wall-mounted or on a tripod)
- Computer or laptop running Windows 7/8 with Christie AutoStack software installed and connected to the camera. A USB port is required for the Christie AutoStack USB license key.
- Each Christie projector must be on the same network as the computer running the Christie AutoStack software

Is there an upgrade path from Christie® AutoStack™ 2.0 to AutoStack 4.0 or AutoStack Premium?

Christie AutoStack 4.0 and AutoStack Premium feature new software, and camera and lens options which are not compatible with Christie legacy projectors. There is no official upgrade path from older versions of Christie AutoStack to AutoStack 4.0 or AutoStack Premium. For a complete list of the latest supported projectors, visit the [Christie AutoStack](#) or [Christie AutoStack Premium](#).

Should the projectors be accurately aligned to begin set-up?

Content must be projected onto the screen, close to the final desired location. For a blend, ensure the visual overlap of the projectors is greater than the desired final result and the Christie AutoStack software aligns the image. In the case of a stack, the projectors should be aligned so all stacked images are roughly on top of each other and the software does the fine tuning.

Are lighting conditions important in getting optimal results?

Lower levels of ambient light are ideal since bright light can interfere with the camera's ability to read the calibration pattern on the screen during set-up. However, Christie AutoStack includes adjustable settings to minimize the effect of bright ambient light and automatically masks out light sources in the background that fall outside the selected screen corner markers.

How should the camera and screen be aligned?

The camera should be placed far enough away from the screen so it can see the whole screen without obstruction. When the camera is placed directly in line with the screen, it is easier to select the corner points of the screen with the Christie AutoStack software interface. However, the camera can be placed almost anywhere as long as it has a clear view of the entire screen.