Your first Bimini

Beta preview for prospective invited testers. Invitations and release date are to be confirmed; this guide is not an installation invitation.

Start here. This short guide takes you from access to a checked model and production layout. Use the Detailed Reference when you need to understand a setting.



Actual fitted-model overview, 1 November. The clothed mannequin is a 66 in client reference, illustrating scale and standing clearance. Approved dimension orientation retained; see the separate side-view explanation. Example setup, not fabrication approval.

1	**Set up**	Job, units and design method
2	**Design**	Frame, fabric and optional extras
3	**Review**	Update the model and inspect it
4	**Produce**	Check production, save and export

The numbered tabs follow the same route: **Job > Size > Frame > Options > Colour > Production > Quote > Renders**. Read the status above the tabs after every change.

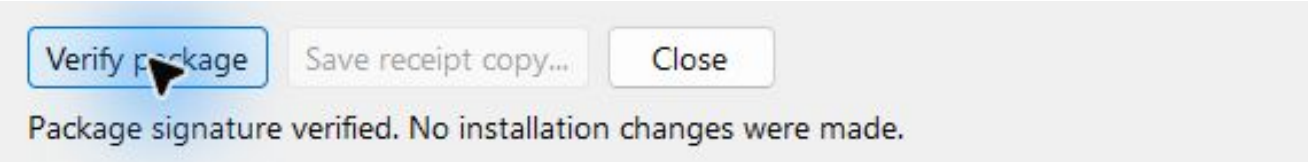
> BEFORE MAKING: a successful model is not approval to cut fabric or bend tube. Check the boat, fittings, dimensions and complete production output.

1. Get access and open the designer

Download access

Open the private link supplied by support. Use your approved **email and download password**. These are separate from your hosting login and your Bimini licence inside Rhino.

Check the downloaded setup against the **SHA-256 supplied separately by support**. Keep Windows protection and download-origin information intact. If security software blocks the file, contact support; do not disable protection.



Actual setup verification result, 1 November. Verification does not install or activate.

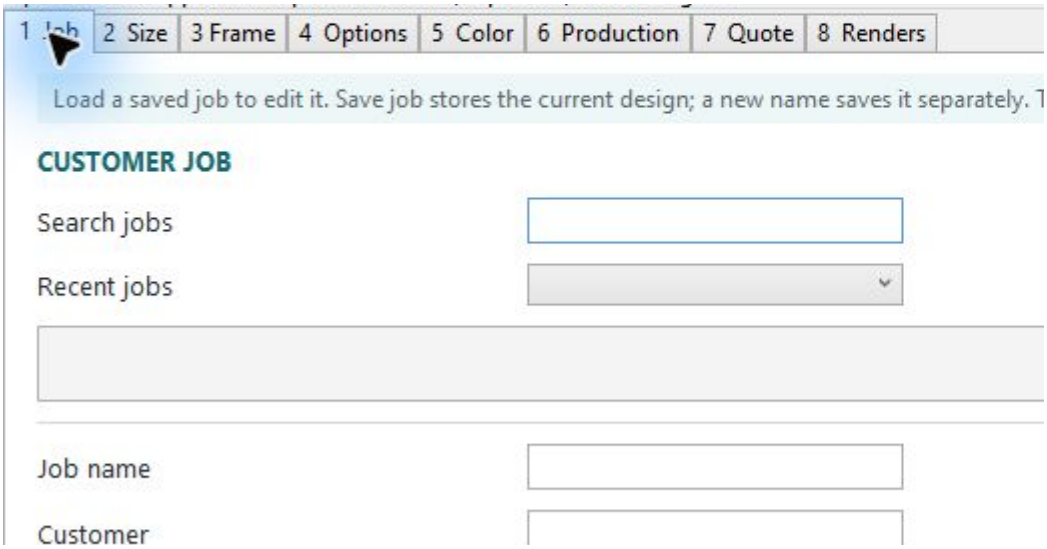
Choose **Verify package** first. Verification checks the package without installing it. Save your work and close Rhino before a separately authorised installation. Keep any setup receipt.

Licence access

Open Rhino and run **BiminiDesignerCreate**. Open **Activation / licence**, use your invited email and follow the displayed steps. Check the licence status and expiry before designing.

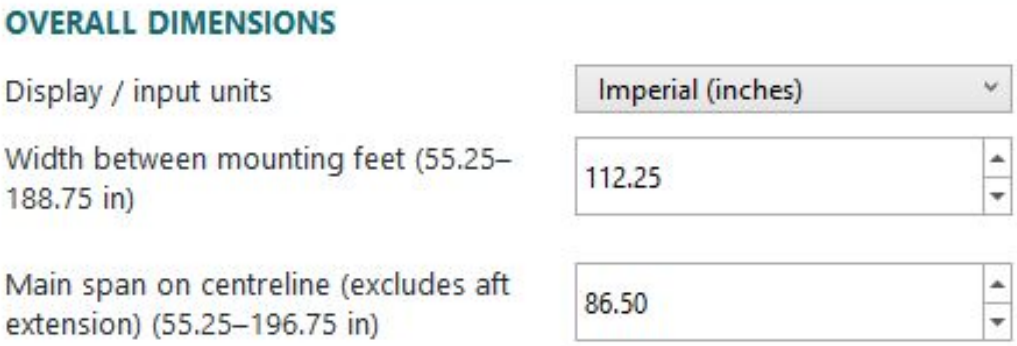
> IF DOWNLOAD ACCESS FAILS: use **Forgot your password?** with your approved email. For an active invited account, a one-use link is emailed; check junk mail and use the newest link within 30 minutes or before download access expires. The acknowledgement does not confirm that an account exists or that mail arrived. Contact support if needed. Resetting the download password or reinstalling does not restart the software trial.

2. Start a job and set the units



Job controls, 16 October preview. Save settings and Rhino geometry separately.

Enter a useful job name or load an existing saved job. **Save job** keeps the design settings; saving the Rhino document keeps its geometry. Do both.



Current imperial inputs, 1 November: two decimal places and nearest quarter inch. Check pending changes before updating.

Set **metric or imperial** before entering dimensions. Imperial measurement boxes use two decimal places and nearest ¼ inch; switching from metric rounds the pending inputs. Check them before updating. Mounting width is across the feet; main span is along the boat and excludes the aft extension.

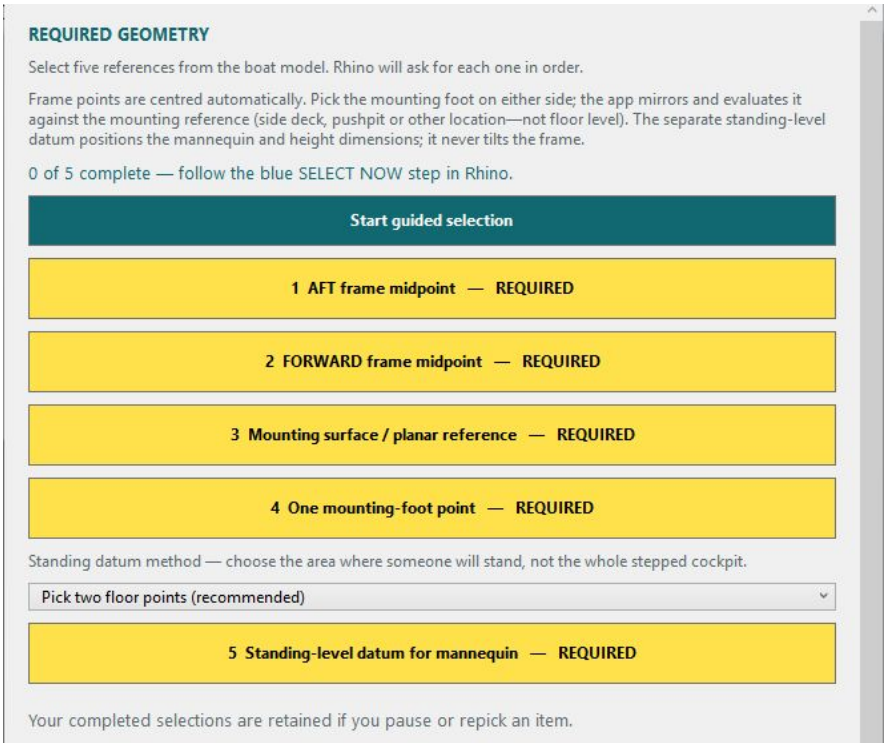
Choose one method:

- **Enter measurements** for a design from known dimensions.
- **Fit to 3D boat model** to place the frame against a correctly oriented boat model.

> CHECK THE DATUM: frame mounting height and the level where the person stands serve different purposes. The standing reference positions the mannequin.

3. Place the frame on the boat

Skip this page when using **Enter measurements**. In boat-model mode, follow the placement assistant in order.



Placement assistant, 17 October preview. Follow the current prompts and named stages.

1. Pick the **aft main-frame midpoint**.
2. Pick the **forward main-frame midpoint**.
3. Select the real **planar mounting reference**.
4. Pick one **mounting foot**, forward of its guide; the app mirrors the other side.
5. Set the **standing level** from the offered floor-reference method.

Choose **Validate and use placement** when the references are complete. Inspect the orientation guide before generating the frame.

> PICK THE INTENDED SURFACE: On mesh accepts a mesh face, not only a vertex. A native Rhino snap can take priority. Confirm the preview marker and the actual reference, especially near the hull or cockpit floor.

4. Choose the frame, canvas and extras



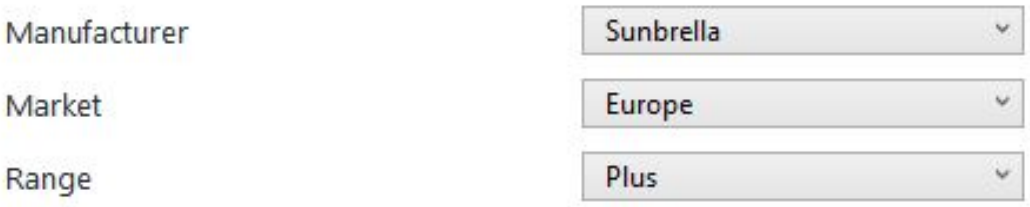
Frame controls, 16 October preview. Tube and clamp choices affect geometry.

Choose **three or four bars**, the tube size and the correct clamp type. Set dog legs and an aft extension only when needed. Corner radii must suit your bending tooling.



Four-bar middle-panel window choices, 29 October. Three-bar frames have aft and forward panels.

Choose windows separately for each main roof panel. Three-bar frames have **aft and forward** panels; four-bar frames also have **middle**. The aft extension has no windows. Link sideways widths and centreline offsets when you want matching windows.



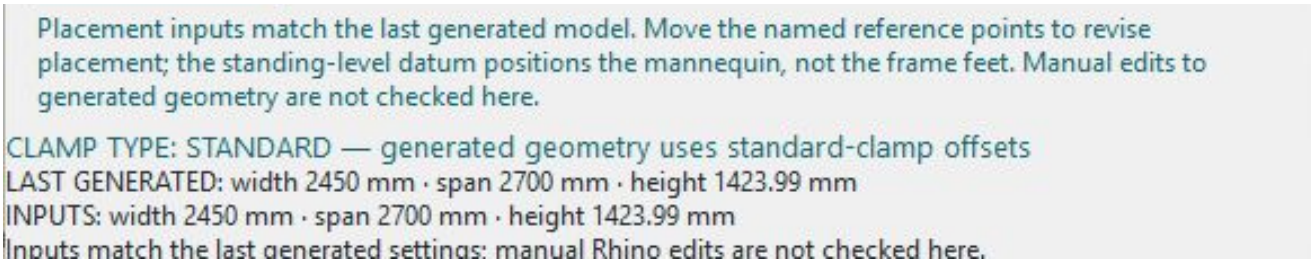
Fabric identity controls, 16 October preview. Confirm the real product and sample.

Choose the actual fabric manufacturer, range and product. Add struts, straps and shade options required for the job, then supply any attachment references the app requests.

> COLOUR IS A PREVIEW: identify fabric by its name and product details, then check a physical sample. Screen colours do not replace supplier information.

5. Update and inspect the model

Choose **Update 3D model** after changing settings or moving a named placement reference. Wait for the result before judging the model.



Actual linked-point update, 25 October. Compare generated settings with the requested inputs.

LAST GENERATED describes the last successful result. **PENDING** means the form contains changes that have not been applied. A visible old model does not prove the new settings worked.



Actual fitted-model overview, 1 November. The clothed mannequin is a 66 in client reference, illustrating scale and standing clearance. Approved dimension orientation retained; see the separate side-view explanation. Example setup, not fabrication approval.

Inspect the frame, feet, clamp positions, dog legs, aft coverage, mannequin clearance and selected extras from several views.

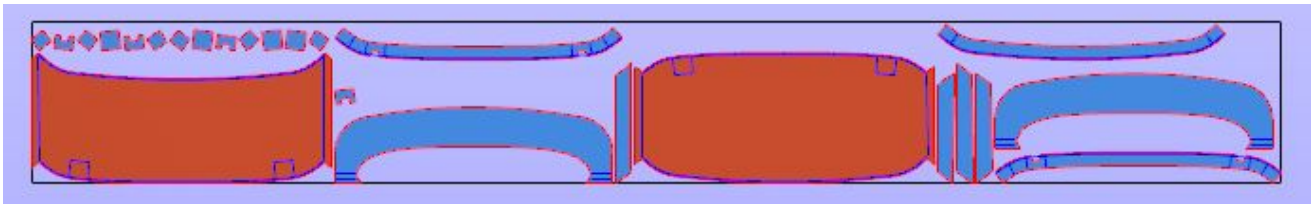
> IF A CHANGE IS REFUSED: read the full message. Review any proposed repair before accepting it. For an excessive three-bar span, choose a reviewed maximum-span preview or four bars; the maximum-span proposal keeps the aft reference fixed.

6. Create and check production



Current seam and full roll-width inputs, 1 November. Two-decimal quarter-inch examples, not recommended workshop settings.

Enter the **full available roll width**, seam and pocket settings, then choose **Create production layout**. A nominal 60-inch roll is **1,524 mm**; measure the actual roll. The splitter reserves 10 mm at each edge, so do not subtract these margins twice.



Actual nested example, 16 October. The stock boundary is not a cutting piece.

Inspect both outputs: **developed masters** explain the construction; **nested copies** arrange the cutting pieces along the roll. Check every panel, pocket, reinforcement, split and access opening.

> BEFORE CUTTING: check PEN versus KNIFE, dimensions, grain/orientation, spacing, completeness and the bend information. Recreate production after a design change. Old patterns are not approval of pending settings.

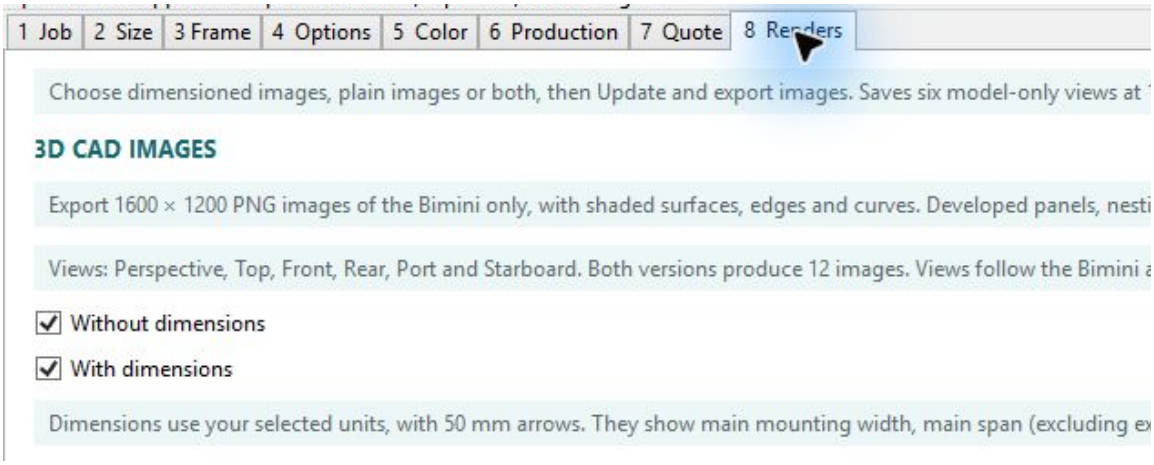
7. Save, export and ask for help

Save the work

Use **Save job**, then save the **Rhino document**. Keep the original boat references and a verified copy of the job before an update or recovery.

Prepare the right output

- **Production:** after a successful model update, use **Export all tables (PDF + CSV)** for bend information and choose a folder. Export selected generated pattern geometry through Rhino when required; check units, scale and PEN/KNIFE layers before manufacture.
- **Quote:** complete rates and fittings, recalculate, then choose the required PDFs. **Internal costing is not for the customer.**
- **Renders:** choose the requested views. Presentation images are not scaled fabrication drawings.



Presentation choices, 16 October preview. Images are not scaled fabrication output.

> FINAL CHECK: confirm the output belongs to the current design. Review quantities, currency, fittings and manufacturing details before sending or using it.

When something needs attention

Read the full message first. Keep the previous model and save your work. Use **Help / support** or email **support@johnblandcad.com**, giving the version, steps and exact message. Do not send passwords or activation credentials.

For individual controls, troubleshooting and safe updates, open the **Detailed Reference** supplied alongside this guide.