



Document	User Manual
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Document Control

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1.0.0	06 May 2026	Paco Salas DRH	Initial final end-user manual for product version 1.0.0.

Copyright and Disclaimer

Important: Keep the packaged license terms, support links, and distribution notices aligned with the released product version.

Topic	Statement
License	GPL-3.0-or-later.
Copyright Holder	Paco Salas DRH.
Warranty	Unless separately stated in writing, the software is provided without warranty.
Commercial Distribution	Commercial distribution is permitted under GPL-3.0-or-later, provided the applicable GPL obligations are met.
Manual Legal Status	This manual is intended for end-user guidance and product distribution documentation.

First-Run Quick Start

Use this sequence to reach a reliable first result with confidence:

1. Install and enable DRH - Add-ons Audit.
2. Open the 3D Viewport sidebar and select the DRH - Add-ons Audit tab.
3. Click Refresh.
4. Review Summary metrics and the Results table.
5. Select one row to confirm detailed metadata appears.
6. Export an inventory report.
7. Use Snapshot later to compare against a previous inventory export.

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About This Manual

This manual explains how to install, configure, use, and support DRH - Add-ons Audit in production Blender workflows. It is written for end users who need a reliable reference for reviewing local add-on inventories, interpreting findings, exporting reports, and comparing snapshots over time.

Scope

This manual covers end-user installation, setup, daily operation, report export, snapshot comparison, status interpretation, troubleshooting, support workflow, and operating limits for DRH - Add-ons Audit version 1.0.0.

Conventions

Conventions Used	Meaning
Bold UI labels	Interface labels such as Refresh, Export, Open Output Folder, and Open Last Report.
Numbered steps	Actions to perform in order.
Note / Tip / Warning / Important	Callouts that highlight practical guidance, cautions, or workflow advice.
Important	Operational detail that should be reviewed before continuing.
Figure	A referenced interface image or illustration when available.

Note: Compatibility, health, and conflict results in this manual are metadata-based review aids. They are not runtime certification results.

Audience and Intended Use

This manual is intended for Blender users, technical artists, pipeline coordinators, support staff, release reviewers, and administrators who need to audit local add-on inventories and document their findings clearly.

Product Overview

DRH - Add-ons Audit is a Blender Extension add-on for reviewing local Blender add-on inventories and the metadata those add-ons declare. It appears in the 3D Viewport sidebar and helps users scan installed or discoverable add-ons, identify duplicate copies, review declared Blender compatibility, flag shadowed versions, and export findings in several report formats.

Its main user journeys are inventory review, targeted follow-up on a selected add-on, report export for sharing or archiving, and snapshot comparison against an earlier inventory export to see what changed.

Who It Is For

Technical artists, Blender power users, pipeline teams, QA reviewers, upgrade planners, and support personnel who need a fast, metadata-based view of the local add-on ecosystem.

Important: Possible operator conflicts and possible hotkey conflicts are heuristic review candidates. Confirm them manually before changing production setups.

Capabilities

Area	What It Does
Inventory scanning	Scans currently loaded add-ons and discoverable filesystem candidates in local Blender add-on locations.
Metadata review	Reads blender_manifest.toml and bl_info data when available and summarizes the declared state.
Compatibility review	Evaluates declared Blender version compatibility from available metadata.
Duplicate analysis	Identifies duplicate copies, version conflicts, and preferred or shadowed copies.
Conflict candidates	Flags possible operator and hotkey conflicts for manual review.
Snapshot comparison	Compares the current inventory against a previous inventory export.
Report export	Exports findings to HTML, JSON, CSV, TSV, XML, Markdown, and XLSX.
Safer sharing	Can sanitize exported paths and export selected rows only.

Key Features

Feature	Details
Preview workspace	Combines Refresh, Export, summary metrics, filters, and results in a single review surface.
Selected Add-on Review	Shows focused metadata, compatibility notes, conflict details, and install context for the active row.
Snapshot workspace	Loads an earlier inventory export and displays added, removed, and changed rows.
Configurable defaults	Stores preferred formats, folders, panel layout, column visibility, and other defaults in Blender preferences.
Risk rules	Lets users define which issue categories roll up into High, Medium, or Low risk.
Context menu integration	Optionally adds supported 3D View context menu shortcuts.
Local-only core workflow	Per package materials, auditing and export run locally without telemetry or hidden network activity.

System Requirements

Requirement	Verified Information
Host application	Blender 4.2.0 or later
Maximum tested version	Not separately stated. README notes that Blender 5.x should remain safe for the implemented API surface, but runtime testing is still recommended.

Requirement	Verified Information
Supported platforms	Windows, macOS, and Linux; no contrary platform limits were documented in the package materials.
Dependencies	No third-party Python dependencies are included.
Bundled binaries	None documented.
Filesystem access	Reads local add-on folders and selected baseline files; writes reports to the configured output folder.
Internet access	Not required for auditing or export. Optional only when opening support or manual links in a browser.
Disk space / memory	No special packaged requirement is stated. Resource use depends on local inventory size and chosen export format.

Compatibility

Area	Compatibility Notes
Host application	Blender 4.2.0 or later. Metadata-based review remains available on later versions, but runtime testing is recommended for Blender 5.x publishing decisions.
Windows	Supported. The code includes Windows-specific path opening behavior and no contrary platform restriction is documented.
macOS	Supported. No contrary platform restriction is documented.
Linux	Supported. No contrary platform restriction is documented.
File format or data compatibility	Comparison accepts inventory exports in XLSX, JSON, CSV, TSV, XML, HTML, and Markdown.
Installation or discovery logic	Current, user, system, and custom local install paths are reviewed heuristically. Non-standard layouts may need manual validation.

Supported Scope and Non-Supported Scope

Warning: Compatibility results are derived from declared version metadata. Always test important add-ons directly in the target Blender version before deployment.

DRH - Add-ons Audit is designed to scan local add-on sources, inspect manifest or bl_info metadata, identify duplicate or conflicting copies, surface review candidates, and export structured reports. It does not execute third-party add-ons to certify runtime behavior, does not guarantee forward compatibility in a future Blender release, and does not replace hands-on testing before production upgrades.

Included Package Components

Component	Purpose
blender_manifest.toml	Declares extension metadata, permissions, version, website, and Blender minimum version.
README.md	Provides product overview, installation guidance, support links, and limitations.
CHANGELOG.md	Records release history.
LICENSE.txt	Provides the GPL-3.0-or-later license text.
NOTICE.txt	Summarizes distribution obligations and package notices.
COPYRIGHT.txt	Identifies the package and primary copyright holder.
core.py	Implements scanning, comparison, export, and status logic.
panels.py	Defines the sidebar user interface.
operators.py	Defines actions such as Refresh, Export, Compare Snapshot, and settings tools.
preferences.py	Defines add-on preference pages, support links, defaults, and risk rules.
registration.py and utility modules	Register classes, optional context-menu integration, icons, reset helpers, and UI support code.

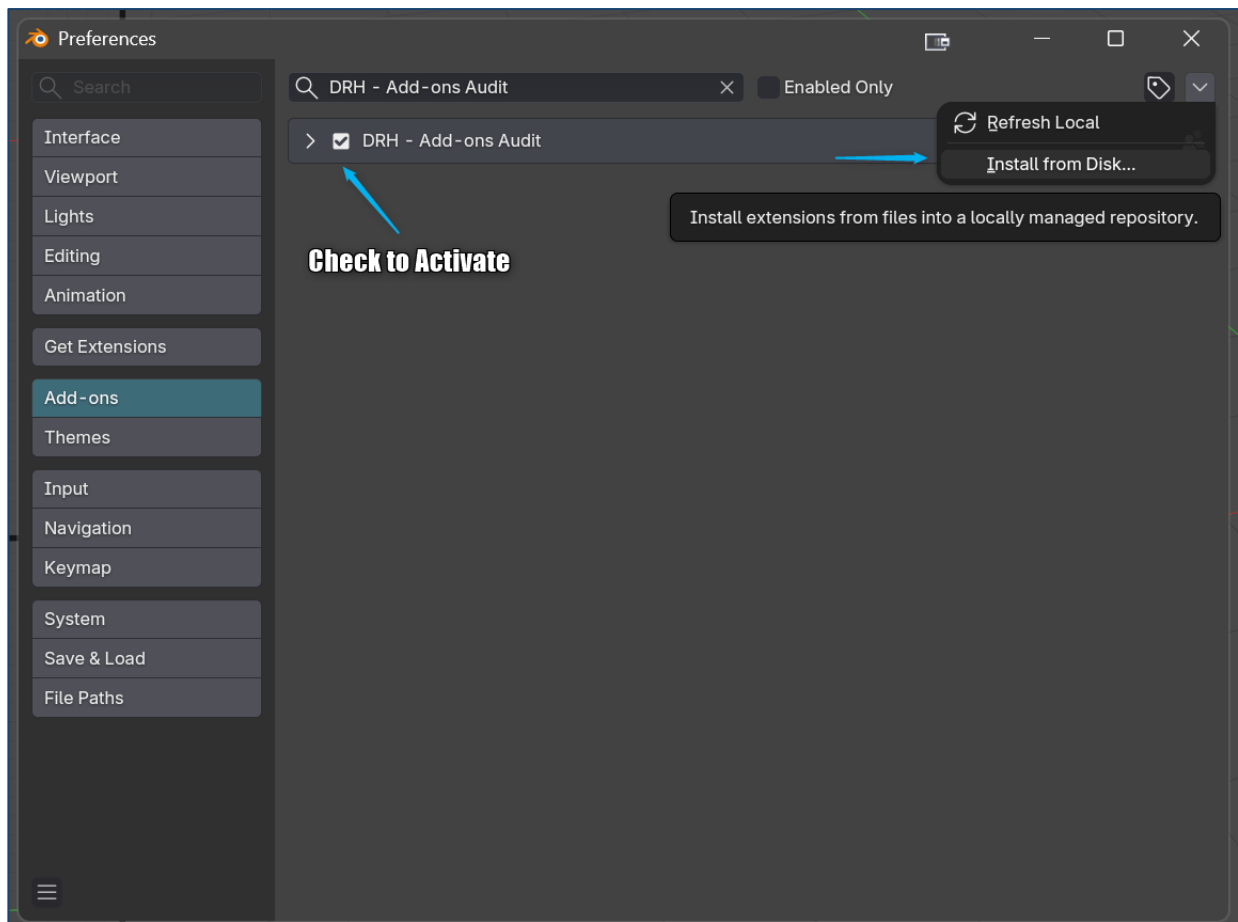
Installation and Setup

Prerequisites

1. Use Blender 4.2.0 or later.
2. Keep the packaged ZIP intact so Blender can read the included blender_manifest.toml file.
3. Ensure Blender can read local add-on folders and write to your chosen output folder.
4. Close and reopen Blender after installation if the new sidebar tab does not appear immediately.

Standard Installation Method

1. Open Blender.
2. Go to Edit > Preferences, then open the Extensions or Add-ons area used by your Blender build.
3. Choose Install from Disk when installing from a downloaded ZIP package.
4. Select the DRH - Add-ons Audit ZIP package and confirm installation.
5. Enable DRH - Add-ons Audit if Blender does not enable it automatically.
6. Open the 3D Viewport sidebar and locate the configured tab.
7. Verify that the panel opens and that the Refresh button is available.



Note: The add-on is installed from the packaged ZIP. Do not unpack the archive before using Blender's install workflow.

Alternative Installation or Extension Manager

1. When the product is distributed through Blender Extensions or another approved channel, use that channel's install workflow.
2. Confirm that DRH - Add-ons Audit is enabled after installation.
3. Verify that the tool is available in the 3D Viewport sidebar under the configured category.

Important: The sidebar category can be renamed in preferences. If the default tab label is missing, check the configured N-panel category before assuming installation failed.

First Launch and Verification

1. Open the DRH - Add-ons Audit panel in the 3D Viewport sidebar.
2. Click Refresh to build the first inventory view.
3. Confirm that Summary metrics and Results rows appear.
4. Select one row to review detailed metadata and then run an export.

Update, Reinstall, and Uninstall

Task	Recommended Procedure
Update	Install the newer package through Blender's normal add-on or extension workflow, then verify defaults, filters, and output locations before exporting again.
Reinstall	Disable the add-on, reinstall the package, re-enable it, and run Refresh to rebuild the current inventory.
Uninstall	Disable or remove the add-on from Blender's add-on or extension management area.
Preserve outputs	Reports created in the output folder remain on disk unless you remove them manually. Blender preference retention depends on Blender's own add-on preference handling.

Common Installation Problems

Issue	Likely Cause	Resolution
The add-on is not listed in Preferences	The package was not installed successfully or Blender needs a refresh.	Repeat the installation and reopen Preferences or restart Blender if needed.
The add-on does not appear in the sidebar	Add-on is not enabled, or the N-panel category was renamed.	Enable the add-on and verify the configured N-panel category in preferences.
Install from Disk rejects the ZIP	The package may have been modified or repackaged incorrectly.	Use the original package structure and confirm blender_manifest.toml is included.
Refresh shows no useful results	Blender cannot read expected add-on folders, or the current environment contains very few add-ons.	Check Blender's access to local add-on paths and review scan warnings or selected rows.
An export cannot be created	The output folder is unavailable or the chosen format is unsupported.	Confirm the output location is writable and use one of the supported export formats.
Snapshot comparison fails to load	The selected file is not a supported inventory export or is a snapshot report instead of a baseline inventory.	Use a previous Preview export in XLSX, JSON, CSV, TSV, XML, HTML, or Markdown format.

Operational Details

Area	Product Behavior
Activation	No activation or entitlement workflow is documented.
License model	GPL-3.0-or-later.
Commercial support terms	Public support, documentation, issues, and release updates are centered on the GitHub support hub. No packaged service-level commitment is stated.

Area	Product Behavior
Initial setup tasks	Choose the preferred export format, export profile, output folder, and panel layout; leave Sanitize Paths enabled when reports may be shared.

A typical first session is: open the panel, refresh the inventory, review Summary and Results, confirm one selected add-on entry, then export an audit report. If you later need to compare two states over time, load a previous inventory export in Snapshot and review the resulting diff.

Quick Start

Use the following short workflow to confirm that the add-on is installed correctly and producing meaningful results.

Step	Action	What to Confirm
1	Open the DRH - Add-ons Audit panel.	The panel appears in the 3D Viewport sidebar.
2	Click Refresh.	Summary metrics and results rows are populated.
3	Review one result row.	Selected Add-on Review shows detailed metadata.
4	Choose an export format and profile.	The output settings match your review needs.
5	Click Export.	A report file is generated successfully.
6	Optional: Load an earlier inventory in Snapshot.	Added, Removed, or Changed rows appear when a baseline is available.

Onboarding note: For the first export, use HTML or XLSX and leave Sanitize Paths enabled if the report may be shared.

Product Preferences and Settings

DRH - Add-ons Audit exposes settings in Blender Preferences and in the runtime panel. These settings control report format, export scope, output folders, interface layout, filtering defaults, column visibility, and risk classification behavior.

Host Application Preferences / Extension Manager

Preferences Section	Purpose
Extensions / Add-ons	Enable or disable DRH - Add-ons Audit and open its preference page.
General	Set the N-panel category, panel layout, context-menu integration, default export format, profile, output folder, report name, and minimum rows.
Snapshot	Set default snapshot export format, snapshot profile, snapshot output folder, and snapshot report name.
Live Filters	Define default filter behavior, path sanitization, auto-open behavior, and advanced-options visibility.
Preview Columns	Choose which Preview columns are visible and optionally customize widths.

Preferences Section	Purpose
Snapshot Columns / Risk Rules	Choose which Snapshot columns are visible and configure High, Medium, and Low issue categories.

Runtime Panel Settings

Setting	Description
Export Format	Sets the file format for Preview exports.
Export Profile	Sets which inventory columns are included in the export.
Output Folder	Sets where Preview exports are written.
Report Name	Sets the base report stem used in exported filenames.
Panel Layout	Shows Preview and Snapshot as tabs or as stacked sections.
Snapshot Format	Chooses the file format for snapshot-difference exports.
Snapshot Profile	Chooses which comparison columns are written to the snapshot report.
Snapshot Output Folder	Defines where snapshot comparison exports are written.
Snapshot Report Name	Defines the filename stem used for snapshot reports.
Only Enabled Add-ons	Limits the scan view to loaded add-ons only when enabled.
Sanitize Paths	Replaces local path details in exports for safer sharing.
Open After Export	Attempts to open the generated file automatically after export.
Advanced Options	Shows extra setup controls such as focused filtering behavior.
Min Rows	Sets the minimum number of rows shown in Preview and Snapshot lists.

Default Rules and Status Logic

Risk classification is rule-based. The add-on uses metadata-derived states and configurable risk rules to help users review findings quickly. These states are advisory: they support triage and reporting, but they do not replace manual validation.

State or Status	Meaning or Default Behavior
Compatibility: Compatible	Declared version metadata matches the reviewed Blender installation range.
Compatibility: Incompatible	Declared version metadata falls outside the reviewed Blender installation range.
Compatibility: Unknown	Reliable Blender compatibility metadata could not be determined.
Duplicate State	Unique means one known copy in the resolution domain; Duplicate means multiple copies were found.
Conflict State	Version Conflict indicates duplicate copies with differing declared versions; Duplicate Copy indicates a duplicate without a version mismatch.

State or Status	Meaning or Default Behavior
Shadow State	Single means only one known copy; Active is the currently enabled copy; Candidate is the preferred duplicate candidate; Shadowed is another duplicate copy.
Risk Level	High, Medium, and Low are derived from issue categories and can be adjusted in Risk Rules.

Important: Suggested Action is a triage aid. Review the selected row details before removing files or changing a production Blender environment.

Interface Overview

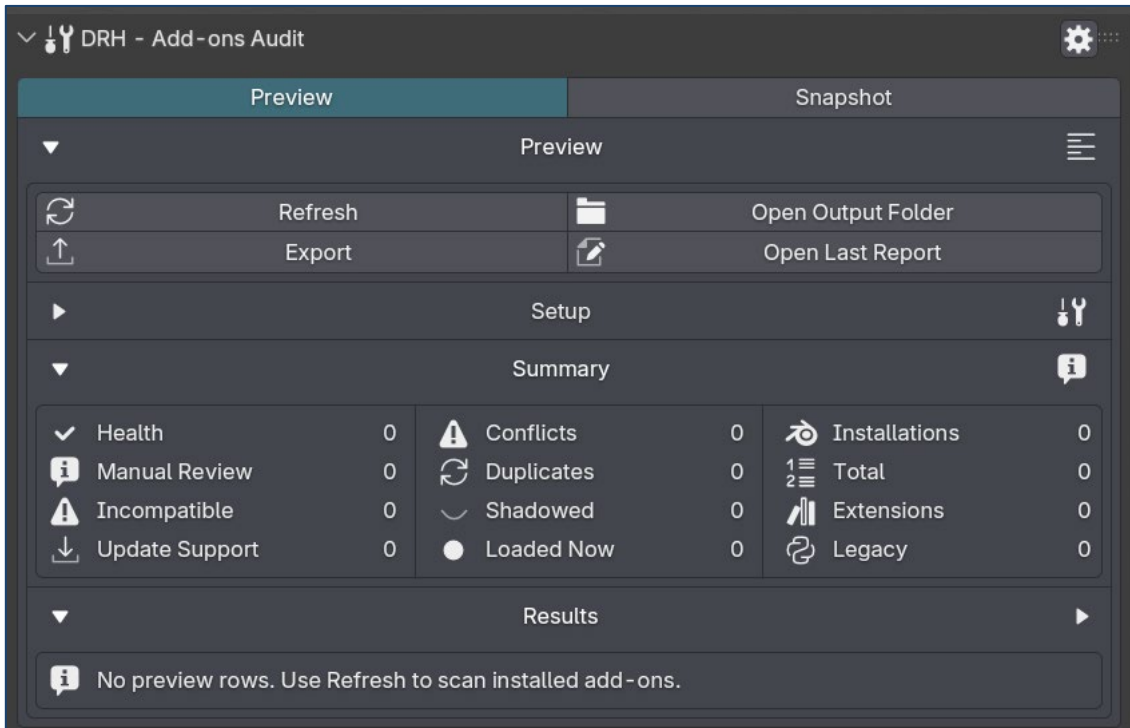
The interface is centered in the 3D Viewport sidebar. Depending on preference settings, Preview and Snapshot appear either as tabs or as stacked collapsible sections.

Area	What It Contains
Toolbar	The audit workspace label and a shortcut to Panel Settings.
Preview Tab	Actions, setup controls, summary metrics, filters, and the main results table.
Selected Add-on Review	Expanded metadata, conflict notes, compatibility note, and Open Folder for the active result row.
Snapshot Tab	Baseline loading, comparison filters, diff results, and snapshot export actions.
Panel Settings dialog	Quick access to General, Snapshot, Live Filters, column controls, and Risk Rules.

Visual Interface Walkthrough

The top of the panel introduces the audit workspace and gives access to Panel Settings. The Preview area contains the main actions, setup options, summary metrics, filters, and the results table. When a result row is active, Selected Add-on Review exposes expanded metadata and an Open Folder action. The Snapshot area loads a previous inventory export, displays comparison rows, and can export a dedicated snapshot report.

Main Panels, Menus, and Controls



Primary Actions

Control	Function
Refresh	Rescans the current add-on environment and refreshes Preview.
Export	Creates an inventory report from the current or selected rows.
Open Output Folder	Opens the configured Preview output folder.
Open Last Report	Opens the most recently generated report file.

Primary Setup

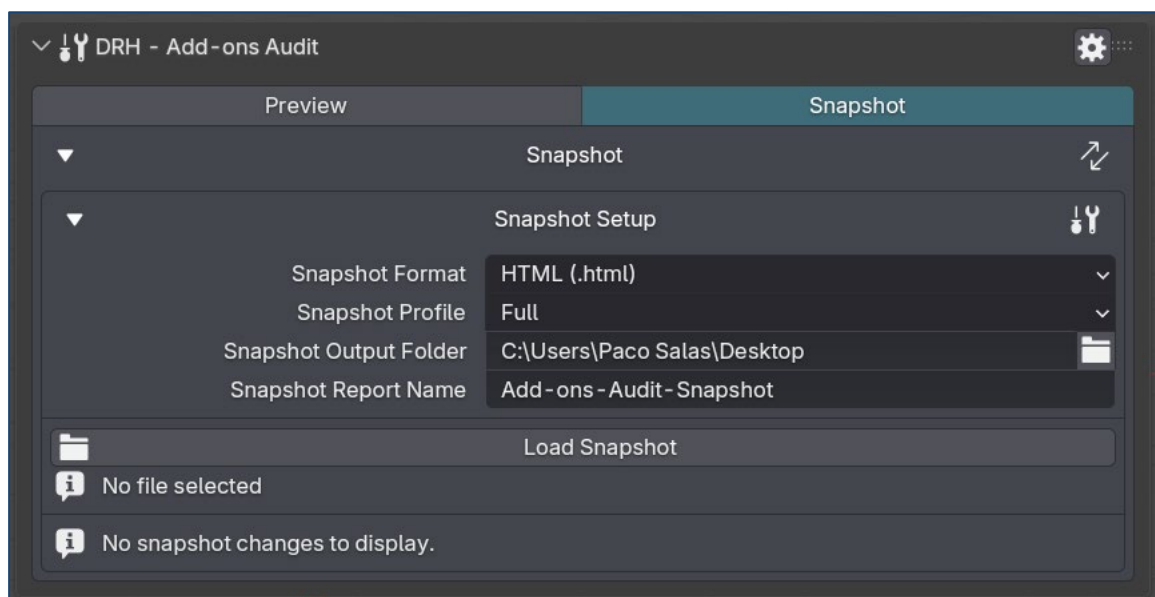
Field	Purpose
Export Format	Selects the report file type.
Export Profile	Selects the report column set or Selected export behavior.
Output Folder	Selects the save location.
Report Name	Sets the exported filename stem.
Panel Layout	Switches between tabbed and stacked panel organization.
Advanced Options	Reveals Only Enabled Add-ons, Sanitize Paths, and Open After Export.

Filters, Lists, and Main Results Area

Control	Purpose
Search	Filters results by typed text.
State	Filters by loaded or not loaded add-ons.
Review	Filters by review category such as Duplicates, Incompatible, Shadowed, or Manual Review.
Sort	Reorders the current results using the selected sort key.
Category	Filters results by normalized add-on category.
Results area	Displays the current visible inventory and supports Select All and Clear Selection for focused export workflows.
Select All / Clear Selection	Marks or clears the currently visible rows for selected-row export.

Selected Add-on Review

Displayed Value	Notes
Module	Python module name or package identity used for the reviewed row.
Enabled	Shows whether the row is loaded in the current Blender session.
Version	Shows the declared add-on version when available.
Installation	Shows the detected Blender installation or profile source.
Preferred Version	Shows the preferred local version chosen when duplicate copies are found.
Compatibility Note	Explains how the compatibility state was derived from declared metadata.
Conflict Details	Possible operator and hotkey conflict notes are shown when heuristic candidates were detected.



Secondary or Comparison Controls

Control	Function
Load Snapshot	Loads an earlier inventory export for comparison.
Snapshot Search	Filters the comparison rows by text.
Snapshot Filter	Filters comparison results by change type.
Snapshot Sort	Reorders the comparison result list.
Export Snapshot Report	Exports the current diff rows in the selected snapshot format.
Clear	Resets the active snapshot comparison.

Recommended Workflows

Workflow 1: Basic Use

1. Open the Preview area in the DRH - Add-ons Audit panel.
2. Click Refresh to scan the current environment.
3. Review Health, Manual Review, Incompatible, Duplicates, and Shadowed counts.
4. Use filters if you need to narrow the result set.
5. Select one add-on to inspect details and suggested action.

Workflow 2: Review or Export the Current Result

1. Choose the export format you want to generate.
2. Choose the export profile that matches the review depth you need.
3. Confirm the output folder and report name.
4. Leave Sanitize Paths enabled when the report may be shared outside your machine.
5. Click Export.
6. Open the generated report or output folder to verify the result.

Tip: Keep one baseline inventory export per Blender version or milestone so later snapshot comparisons remain easy to interpret.

Workflow 3: Export or Process a Selected Subset

1. Narrow the visible result set with search or filters if needed.
2. Use Select All or manual row selection to mark the rows you want.
3. Set Export Profile to Selected.
4. Run Export and verify that only the selected rows were included.

Important: Selected-row export depends on the visible selection state. Confirm the marked rows before using the Selected profile.

Workflow 4: Compare Against a Previous Baseline

1. Export an inventory report from Preview and keep that file as a baseline.
2. Open the Snapshot area.
3. Click Load Snapshot and choose a previous inventory export.
4. Review the Added, Removed, and Changed summary.
5. Filter or sort the comparison rows if needed.
6. Export the snapshot report if you need to archive or share the change review.

The screenshot displays the 'Results' window of the DRH Add-ons Audit tool. It features a table of installed add-ons and a detailed view of the selected 'DRH - Add-ons Audit' add-on.

Add-on	Version	Kind	Installation	Duplic...	Compa...	Risk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DRH - Add-ons Audit	1.0.0	Exten...	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - Asset Exchang...	1.0.0	Exten...	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - ASSETBROWS...	1.1.13	Legacy	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - Color Ramp St...	1.0.0	Exten...	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - GREASEPENCI...	1.9.5	Legacy	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - MATERIALS - ...	1.0.0	Legacy	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - NODES - Chan...	1.0.0	Legacy	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L
<input type="checkbox"/> DRH - NODES - Node...	1.0.0	Legacy	Current Ble...	No	Yes	L

Selected Add-on Review		
Module	Enabled	Version
b_ext.user_default.drh_addo...	Yes	1.0.0
Installation	Kind	Category
Current Blender 5.1.0	Extension	Development
Newest Safe	Duplicate	Conflict
1.0.0	No	No
Shadowed	Compatibility	Update
No	Yes	Platform Managed
Maintenance	Metadata	Structure
Likely Maintained	OK	OK
Origin	Source Root	Install Type
CURRENT USER	USER	Package

Open Folder

Step-by-Step Usage Instructions

1. Start or Refresh the Main View

Click Refresh in the Preview area to rescan the current runtime and the discovered add-on paths. The add-on updates Summary metrics, rebuilds the visible Results rows, and refreshes any active snapshot comparison against the current scan.

Note: Refresh updates both the current preview data and any active snapshot comparison that depends on the current inventory.

2. Interpret Summary Metrics

Metric	Meaning
Health	Metadata-based ecosystem health score for the current visible inventory.
Manual Review	Rows that need closer inspection because metadata is partial, invalid, broken, or unknown.
Incompatible	Rows whose declared version metadata does not match the reviewed Blender installation.
Update Support	Rows where built-in update markers were detected.
Conflicts	Rows with version conflicts between duplicate copies.
Duplicates	Rows with more than one known copy in the same resolution domain.
Shadowed	Rows that are duplicate copies but are not the active or preferred candidate.
Loaded Now	Rows currently loaded in the active Blender session.
Installations	Detected Blender installation or profile sources included in the review.
Total	Total visible rows in the current Preview view.
Extensions	Rows identified as Extensions by manifest data.
Legacy	Rows identified as Legacy add-ons by bl_info data.

3. Review Row States

State	Operational Meaning
Compatible	Declared metadata indicates the add-on fits the reviewed Blender version range.
Incompatible	Declared metadata indicates the add-on falls outside the reviewed Blender version range.
Unknown	The add-on does not expose enough version metadata for a reliable compatibility result.
Unique	Only one copy is known in the applicable resolution domain.
Duplicate	More than one local copy of the same add-on identity was found.
Active / Candidate	Active is the loaded copy; Candidate is the preferred local duplicate candidate when several copies exist.
Shadowed	A duplicate copy exists but is not the active or preferred candidate.
High / Medium / Low	Risk rollups derived from issues such as incompatibility, broken structure, version conflict, invalid metadata, or review-only findings.

4. Open Supporting Paths

1. Use Open Output Folder to open the current audit output location.

2. Use Open Last Report after an export to reopen the most recently generated report file.
3. In Selected Add-on Review, use Open Folder to open the active add-on install location for the selected row.

Warning: Opening folders and files relies on the operating system's normal file-open behavior. Some sandboxed or managed environments may restrict that action.

Inputs, Outputs, and Workflow Modes

Outputs and Saved Results

Output or Working Data	Purpose or Use Case
Inventory report	Main Preview export for review, sharing, or archival.
Snapshot report	Dedicated export of Added, Removed, and Changed rows after loading a baseline inventory.
Selected-row export	Focused export when only the marked rows should be included.
Summary and environment sections	Provide report context such as generation time, Blender version, and platform details.
Sanitized report	Safer-to-share export with reduced local path exposure.
Diff summary	Change counts and snapshot health context when a baseline comparison is active.
Generated report footer	Identifies the exporting product version used to generate the file.

Supported Input Sources or Baseline Inputs

Snapshot comparison accepts earlier inventory exports created from Preview > Export. Supported file types are XLSX, JSON, CSV, TSV, XML, HTML, and Markdown. Snapshot comparison intentionally rejects snapshot comparison exports, because those files describe differences rather than the baseline inventory needed for pairing.

Accepted File Type	Notes
HTML	Readable audit report for review, archiving, and sharing.
CSV	Tabular export for spreadsheet workflows.
JSON	Structured export suitable for machine reading and later comparison.
MD (Markdown)	Portable text report for documentation or repository workflows.
TSV	Delimited export for pipelines that prefer tab-separated text.
XLSX	Excel workbook for spreadsheet review and filtering.
XML	Structured export for XML-based processing.

Export Profiles

Mode or Profile	Description	Typical Use
Audit	Operational audit profile.	General day-to-day review of the current add-on ecosystem.
Basic	Compact export with a smaller column set.	Lightweight sharing or quick review.
Compatibility	Compatibility and metadata review profile.	Focused review before Blender upgrades or distribution decisions.
Full	All available inventory columns.	Internal archival, deep review, or support investigation.
Inventory	Inventory and installation profile.	Install-source review and path-oriented auditing.
Operations	Conflict and operational review profile.	Duplicate, shadow, and action-oriented follow-up.
Security	Conflict and safety review profile.	Closer inspection of install paths and conflict candidates.
Selected	Exports selected rows only using the audit-oriented column set.	Focused sharing of marked findings.
Summary	Executive summary profile.	High-level reporting when detail is not required.

Snapshot Profiles

Snapshot Profile	Included Fields or Behavior
Basic	Exports change type and add-on name only.
Standard	Exports change type, add-on name, and module name.
Full	Exports all snapshot columns, including detailed change text.

Understanding Outputs, Statuses, and Decision Logic

Inventory outputs summarize the current audit view, including report metadata, summary values, environment details, and the selected export columns. When a baseline inventory has been loaded, inventory exports can also append snapshot-change context. Snapshot exports focus on diff rows only. Statuses such as Compatibility, Duplicate, Shadow State, Risk Level, and Suggested Action are designed to help users decide what to inspect next.

Decision Guidance

Start with Incompatible, Version Conflict, Shadowed, Broken, and Invalid rows. Then review Unknown compatibility, Manual Review counts, custom-path installs, and possible operator or hotkey conflicts before making upgrade or cleanup decisions.

Output Naming Behavior

Report filenames use the configured report stem, a DRH- prefix, and a timestamp. If a generated filename already exists, the add-on creates a unique path rather than overwriting the earlier file.

Note: Exported filenames follow the pattern DRH-<report-stem>_<YYYY-MM-DD_HHMMSS>.<ext>. Snapshot exports use the snapshot report stem.

Privacy, Data Handling, and Local Processing

DRH - Add-ons Audit works locally. It reads Blender add-on installation folders, manifest and bl_info metadata, timestamps, and selected baseline files for snapshot comparison. It writes user-requested reports to the configured output folder and can create that folder if it does not already exist. The package materials state that the add-on does not include telemetry, hidden network calls, or auto-download behavior. Internet access is not required for auditing or export, although opening support or manual links may use your web browser.

Common Use Cases

Use Case	How the Product Helps
Pre-upgrade review	Exports a structured inventory before a Blender upgrade so compatibility, duplicates, and shadowed copies can be reviewed.
Environment cleanup	Highlights duplicate copies, version conflicts, and shadowed rows before manual cleanup.
Support triage	Produces shareable reports that summarize the local add-on state without requiring a live screen-share session.
Extension migration review	Shows which rows look like Extensions or Legacy add-ons and where manual follow-up is needed.
Change tracking	Compares a new scan against an earlier baseline to show what was added, removed, or changed over time.

The following examples show common reasons to use the add-on and which part of the workflow is most relevant in each case.

Advanced Tips, Best Practices, and Recommendations

Keep an inventory export before Blender upgrades, major cleanup work, or extension migrations. Use Summary and risk indicators to triage first, then verify suggested actions with the Selected Add-on Review panel before removing any copy.

When reports will be shared externally, keep Sanitize Paths enabled. Use focused export profiles for reviewers who only need a compact view, and reserve Full exports for internal archival or deeper investigations.

Update and Migration Guidance

After updating the add-on, verify your default export format, profile, output folders, panel layout preference, and risk rules. If you maintain historical baselines, create a fresh inventory export after the update so later snapshot comparisons use a clearly labeled reference point.

Troubleshooting

The scenarios below focus on the most common first-release support cases: no results after Refresh, baseline loading problems, private data in exports, compatibility misunderstandings, and conflict signals that need human confirmation.

Symptom or Message	Probable Cause	Recommended Action
The panel is missing after installation	The add-on is disabled or the N-panel category was renamed.	Enable the add-on and verify the configured sidebar category in preferences.
Refresh completes but key rows are missing	The environment uses custom or non-standard installation paths that need manual validation.	Review custom paths, scan warnings, and the actual add-on locations used by Blender.
Compatibility shows Unknown	The add-on being reviewed does not expose enough version metadata.	Inspect the selected row and verify compatibility manually in the target Blender version.
A duplicate row is flagged as Shadowed	More than one local copy was found and this row is not the active or preferred candidate.	Compare install locations and keep the copy you intend Blender to use.
Possible operator or hotkey conflict is shown	The add-on found overlapping markers heuristically.	Treat the result as a candidate and confirm the real conflict manually before changing anything.
Open Last Report does nothing useful	No report has been generated in the current session or the path no longer exists.	Run a fresh export and then use Open Last Report again.
Snapshot comparison rejects a file	The file is not a supported inventory export, or it is itself a snapshot report.	Choose a previous Preview export in a supported format.
Auto-open fails after export	The operating system could not open the file automatically.	Open the output folder manually and access the generated file from there.
Exported paths expose local details	Path sanitization was disabled.	Enable Sanitize Paths before generating a report for sharing.

Known Constraints and Operational Notes

"Loaded Now" represents the current Blender session only; it cannot confirm whether filesystem-only copies are active at runtime.

The add-on audits local inventory and declared metadata. It does not execute third-party add-ons to prove runtime behavior.

Compatibility results are metadata-based and should not be treated as certification for a future Blender release.

Unknown compatibility results occur when minimum Blender metadata or installation version information cannot be determined.

Discovery of custom or portable Blender installations is heuristic and may miss non-standard layouts.

Possible operator and hotkey conflicts are heuristic review candidates and require manual confirmation.

Snapshot comparison is designed for inventory exports only; snapshot comparison exports are not accepted as baseline inputs and enforces input safety limits such as a 64 MiB file-size limit.

Large comparisons are also subject to row-count and workbook safety limits in the comparison loader.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Question	Answer
Does the add-on execute third-party add-ons to test them?	No. The package materials describe a metadata-based audit workflow, not runtime execution of third-party add-ons.
What does Loaded Now mean?	It means the add-on is loaded in the current Blender session. It is not a filesystem-only inventory state.
Can it compare the current state with an earlier baseline?	Yes. Load a previous inventory export in Snapshot and review the diff rows.
Which file formats can I export?	HTML, JSON, CSV, TSV, XML, Markdown, and XLSX.
Can I export only selected rows?	Yes. Mark the rows you want and use the Selected export profile.
When should I use Sanitize Paths?	Use it whenever reports may leave your local environment and installation paths, blend-file paths, snapshot source paths, or user details should not be exposed.
Does it require internet access?	No for auditing and export. Internet access is only optional when opening support or manual links.
Are conflict findings definitive?	No. Possible operator and hotkey conflicts are heuristic review candidates and should be confirmed manually.
What should I do with Compatibility = Unknown?	Treat it as a review item and inspect the package metadata or installation version information manually.
Can I share reports safely?	Yes, but path details may be sensitive. Leave Sanitize Paths enabled when reports will leave your environment.
Can snapshot comparison use another snapshot report as input?	No. Snapshot comparison accepts inventory exports only.
Where should support requests go?	Use the GitHub support repository as the central public hub for documentation, discussions, issues, and update notices.

Support, Contact, and Updates

Item	Current Status
Support Page	GitHub Support Page

Item	Current Status
Documentation / Manual	Download User Manual (PDF)
Support Scope	Public documentation, issue tracking, and workflow discussion are centered on the GitHub support hub. Manual validation of third-party add-ons remains outside normal product support.
Issue Reporting	GitHub Support Page /issues
Release Notes / Updates	GitHub Support Page
Discussions / Questions	GitHub Support Page /discussions
Marketplace Availability	Availability may vary by official release channel. Use the support hub as the central public reference point.

Support Workflow

Use the [GitHub support repository](#) page as the central public hub for documentation, questions, issue tracking, and release updates. For a bug report, include a short description, exact reproduction steps, Blender version, add-on version, operating system, and a safe-to-share sample report when possible.

Pre-Support Checklist

Before requesting support, please follow these requirements:

1. Note the DRH - Add-ons Audit version and your Blender version.
2. Record your operating system and whether the issue occurs in the current Blender session only or across profiles.
3. Write exact reproduction steps, including the export format or snapshot file used.
4. Capture screenshots of the panel state or the generated report if they help explain the issue.
5. Share a safe-to-share sample report or baseline file when possible, preferably with Sanitize Paths enabled.

Availability

This product may be available through multiple official marketplaces and storefronts, depending on release status, channel approval, and distribution strategy.

Current official storefronts:

- [BlenderKit](#)

For support, documentation, issue tracking, and release updates, use the [GitHub support repository](#) as the central public support hub.

Legal, Disclaimer, and Credits

Area	Text
Credits	Product author and maintainer: Paco Salas DRH.
Copyright Holder	Paco Salas DRH.

Area	Text
License Notice	This product is distributed under GPL-3.0-or-later.
Warranty Notice	Unless separately stated in writing, the software is provided without warranty.
Trademark Acknowledgement	Blender is the host application used by this product. Use of third-party marks should follow the respective owners' policies.
Third-Party Dependencies	No third-party code, assets, binaries, or vendored dependencies are included according to NOTICE.txt.
Distribution Notice	Keep the license text, copyright notices, and corresponding source obligations aligned with GPL-3.0-or-later when redistributing the package.

Appendix A – Glossary

Term	Definition in This Manual
Audit report	An exported inventory report generated from the Preview workspace.
Baseline inventory	A previous inventory export used as the reference input for Snapshot comparison.
Compatibility	The declared Blender version relationship inferred from metadata, not a runtime test result.
Duplicate	Multiple local copies of the same add-on identity in the same resolution domain.
Loaded Now	An add-on that is currently loaded in the active Blender session.
Risk Level	A High, Medium, or Low band assigned from the active issue-rule mapping.
Sanitize Paths	An option that reduces exposure of local file-system paths in exported reports.
Selected profile	An export mode that includes only the rows currently marked in Preview.
Shadowed	A duplicate copy that is neither the active loaded copy nor the preferred candidate.
Snapshot	A comparison workflow that measures the current audit against a previous supported export.
Snapshot Health	A score that summarizes the relative level of change in a snapshot comparison.
Version Conflict	A state showing disagreement between detected copies or version precedence.

Appendix B – Reference Notes

Main inventory exports can include fields such as add-on name, module, version, kind, installation, compatibility, update support, risk, suggested action, metadata status, structure status, and health score, depending on the chosen profile. Snapshot exports focus on change type, add-on, module, and details. Health is a heuristic indicator and should be interpreted together with the row issue list and status fields.

Appendix C – Export and Technical Reference

This release does not expose a command-line interface, public API, or SDK. Advanced technical use centers on report formats, snapshot comparison behavior, installation discovery, and the risk-rule system available through the Blender interface.

Topic	Note
Export formats	Preview and Snapshot exports support HTML, JSON, CSV, TSV, XML, Markdown, and XLSX.
Comparison baseline rule	Snapshot comparison accepts inventory exports only and rejects snapshot comparison exports as baseline inputs.
Snapshot comparison limits	Comparison input is limited to supported export file types and is blocked when the selected file exceeds 64 MiB. Large workbook inputs are also subject to row-count and decompression safety limits.
Filename pattern	Export paths are generated from a DRH- prefix, the configured report stem, and a timestamp. A unique suffix is added only if needed to avoid a collision.
Default risk rules	The shipped defaults map warning, incompatible, and custom_path to HIGH; missing_version and missing_init to MEDIUM; and missing_doc and missing_tracker to LOW.
Installation discovery	The add-on inspects the current Blender session and supported user or system installation roots on Windows, macOS, and Linux to build the inventory view.