Instruction sheet

Solidworks
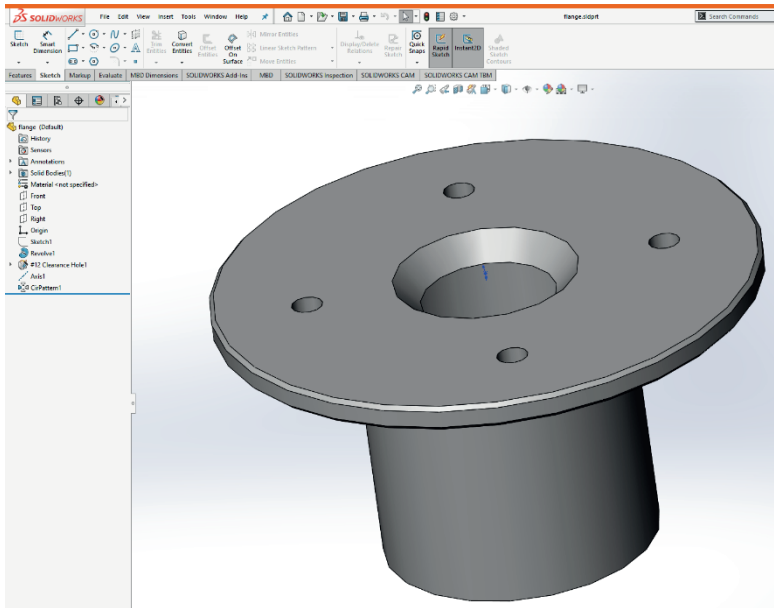
Exporting Solidworks to DXF
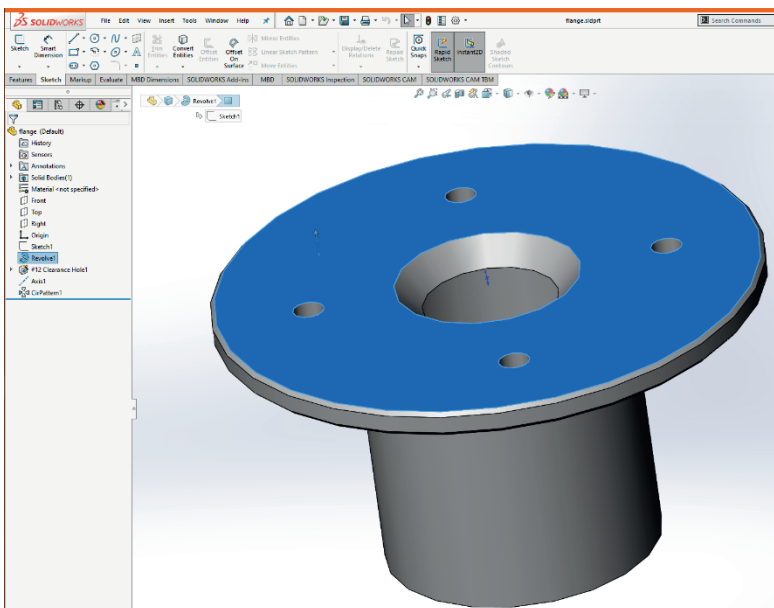
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Solidworks - Exporting to DXF

SolidWorks is a 3D Drawing program but even on 3d components you can extract a dxf of selected surfaces so you can cut it on a 2d machine like a laser cutter.
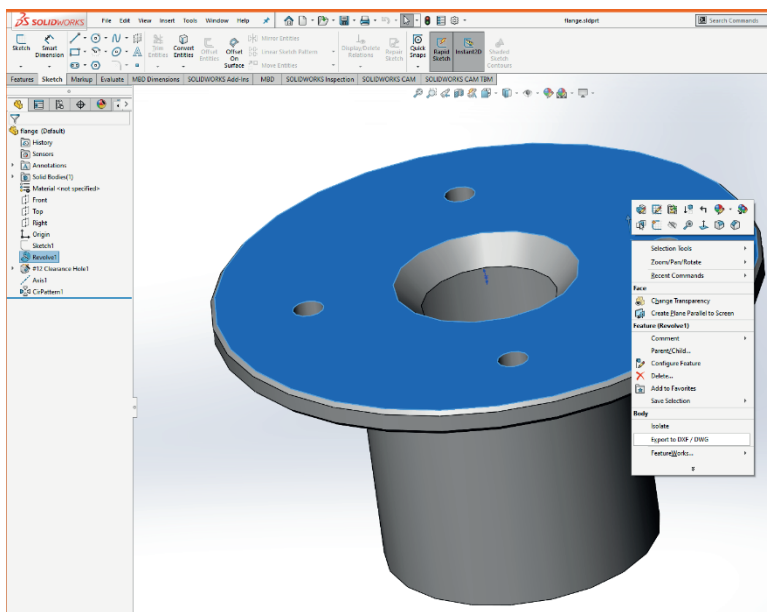
Let's go.

If you have your part presented in the software you can click with the [left mouse button] on the surface where you want the dxf from.
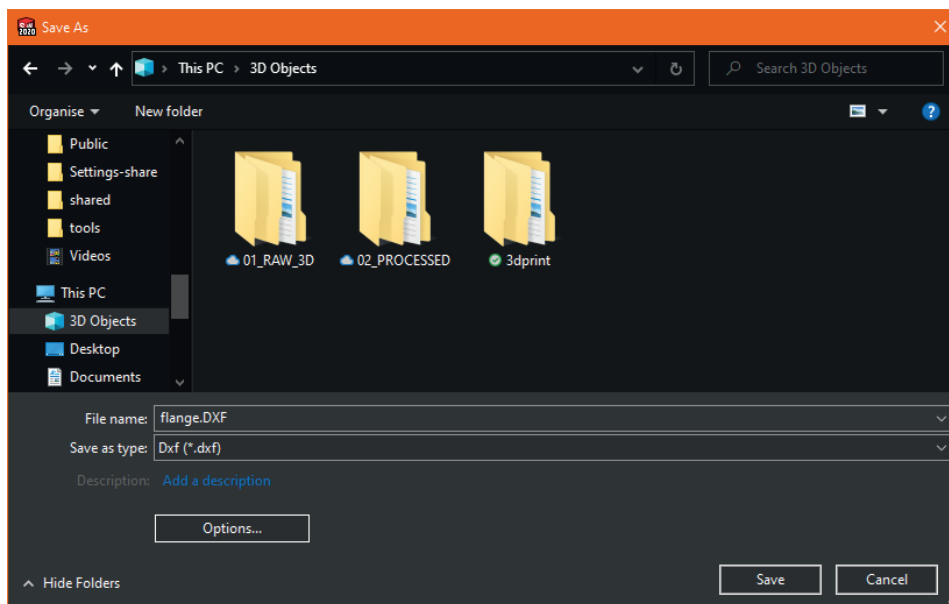

When selected the surface changes to a different colour to accentuate what is selected, if you want something else selected just click with the [left mouse button] on that segment.

With the selection active click with the [right mouse button] on the selection. And click in the dropdown menu on [export to DXF / DWG].
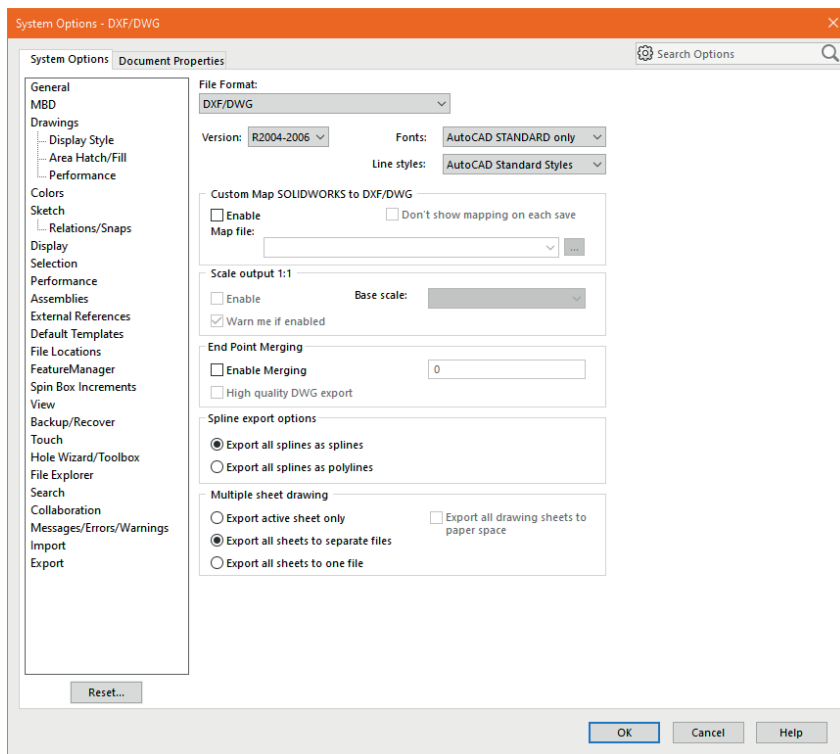
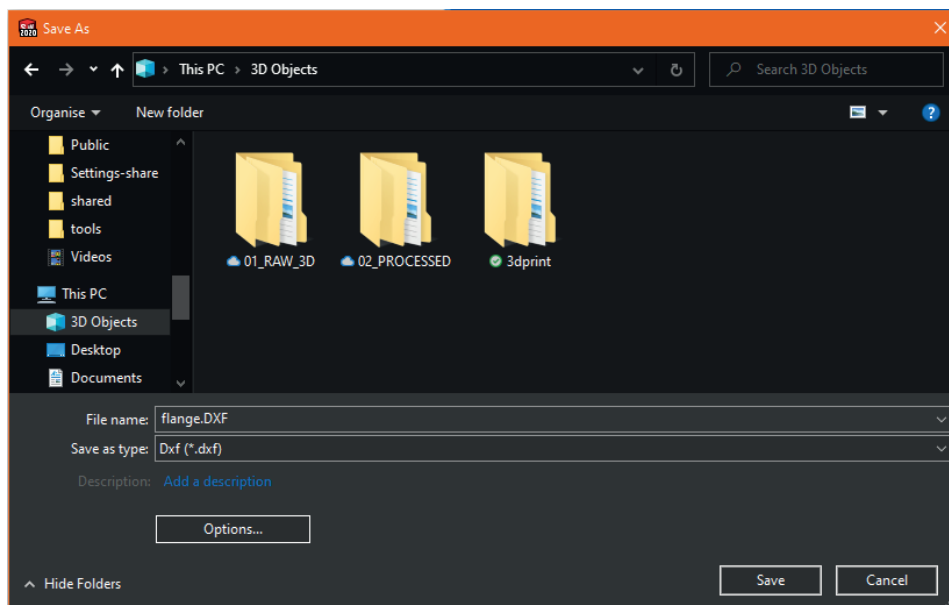vrotech

Click on the [options...] button.

This gives the options panel for all DXF export settings. Choose in the 'Versions' dropdown the option [R2004-2006] and make sure that the 'Spline export options' is standing on the option [Export all splines as splines].

Then press [OK] to close this window.

Then on the save as window you can navigate to the right folder, give it a filename and accept the saving with the [Save] button.
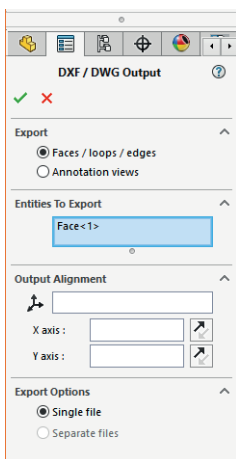
Then you get the left side bar to choose what you want to export.
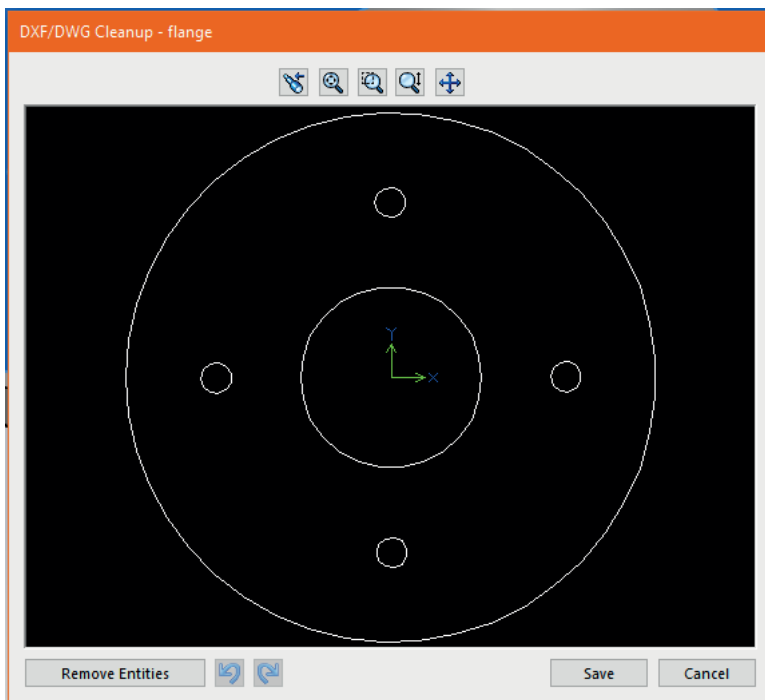Export [faces/ loops/ edges] will export the selected piece

Export [annotation views] will export the current view in of the selection (including perspective of the camera angle)

Entities to export will show all selected faces that will be exported. Output Alignment will allow to angle the DXF to have a perspective view.

Export options is available when more than one face is selected, then you can choose if you want to export everything in one file or if you want a file per selection. If all options are selected the right way then accept with the [✔] button.

When the export properties are accepted there will be a preview on how the dxf will look. By clicking the [Remove Entities] button you get a selector mouse to select all lines that should not be exported in this file.
When that is done click the [Save] button.

The DXF is now saved and can be imported in a laser program.

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