Using Dropbox with Merlin Project on iPad, iPhone and iPod touch

Merlin Project supports Dropbox. This quick guide explains how to set up Dropbox for use with Merlin Project.

Please note that an existing Dropbox location, indicated by the blue "Dropbox" icon, is not suitable for use with Merlin Project.

The Dropbox location only appears if the "Dropbox.app" is already installed on your iOS device.

To use Dropbox with Merlin Project documents, you must set up a dedicated Dropbox account in Merlin Project.

Set up a Dropbox account

To open, create and synchronize projects with Dropbox in Merlin Project, Merlin Project needs access to the Dropbox.

Figure: The "Locations" list contains files on the iOS device but also other services.

Select "Projects - Dropbox" "Locations".

Manuals for Merlin Project on iOS | Dropbox
Then tap on "Merlin Projects from Dropbox".

In the following window select "Allow access to Dropbox ..." and follow the instructions.
Set up a Dropbox account even without installed Dropbox.app

Merlin Project can access your Dropbox even without the Dropbox app installed - in this case, the blue “Dropbox” icon will not appear in the list under “Locations”.

In Merlin Project, tap the gear icon to open the settings window.

In the “Settings” window, select the “Accounts …” option.

On an iPhone, you may need to select any storage location to view the gear.

In the following window, tap "Create account ..." and then on "Dropbox". You will be redirected to the Dropbox website. Log in to Dropbox with your Dropbox credentials.
Tap on "Allow" after successful registration.

In Merlin Project, tap "Save", and then tap "Done".

You can create new accounts in the accounts at any time or edit or delete existing accounts for the storage locations.

Using the Dropbox account

In Locations, show the Merlin Project Dropbox account first.

Tap on "Edit" to do this.

All available locations appear in the list, one of them is "Projects - Dropbox". Tap the button to make this location visible.
The location is now available in Merlin Project. Tap the “Projects - Dropbox” location.

All contents of your Dropbox appear in it. Documents that do not originate from Merlin Project will be grayed out. For example, the PDF file "First Steps".
Folders are suitable for structuring your documents. To do this, tap the "Folder+" icon. If you don't see it, wipe the content window from top to bottom until the additional options appear.

Name the folder, for example "Projects".
The folder will then appear in your Dropbox and can be used to save and open projects.

You can create new projects in Dropbox by tapping the "+ - Create project" icon.

**Why an extra account for Dropbox?**

Merlin Project documents are so-called packages, i.e. folders with a substructure. Dropbox does not support this format correctly under iOS. Merlin Project documents are grayed out in the dropbox location and cannot be selected.

**Alternatives to Dropbox**

**Apple iCloud**

Apple iCloud Drive is the preferred cloud service that fully supports document packages. This service is offered free of charge and by default when using an Apple ID from Apple.

**Merlin Server**

With Merlin Server, project synchronization is offered from your local network, without a cloud service. This keeps your documents on your devices.

**Supported Services**

Merlin Project for iOS devices supports the following services:
Why does Merlin Project use the package format for project files?

This format has significant technical advantages, among others it is the basis for our patented MagicSync technology, which synchronizes documents in real time between devices and users.

Backups, such as Time Machine, copy only modified files within the package and not large unmodified media, for example. This leads to more efficient and faster processing.