

Installation and Setup

How to install and setup Spark AR for the first time.

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Introduction to Spark AR

What is Augmented Reality



Augmented Reality (AR) is a type of technology that adds layers of digital information onto reality. Computer-generated images (this can also include sound, video) are superimposed onto the physical real world environment. There are different ways where an AR experience can be triggered for example through facial recognition, GPS location, image markers, or without the use of any markers.

Tools for AR

There are a number of tools developed now for making AR based experiences; for example, **Vuforia**, **Unity**, **A-frame**, including Apple's own **ARKit**. For the following tutorial pages we will be using **Spark AR**, an app based tool that runs on both Windows and IOS which allows for both **markerless, and marker based AR** experiences.

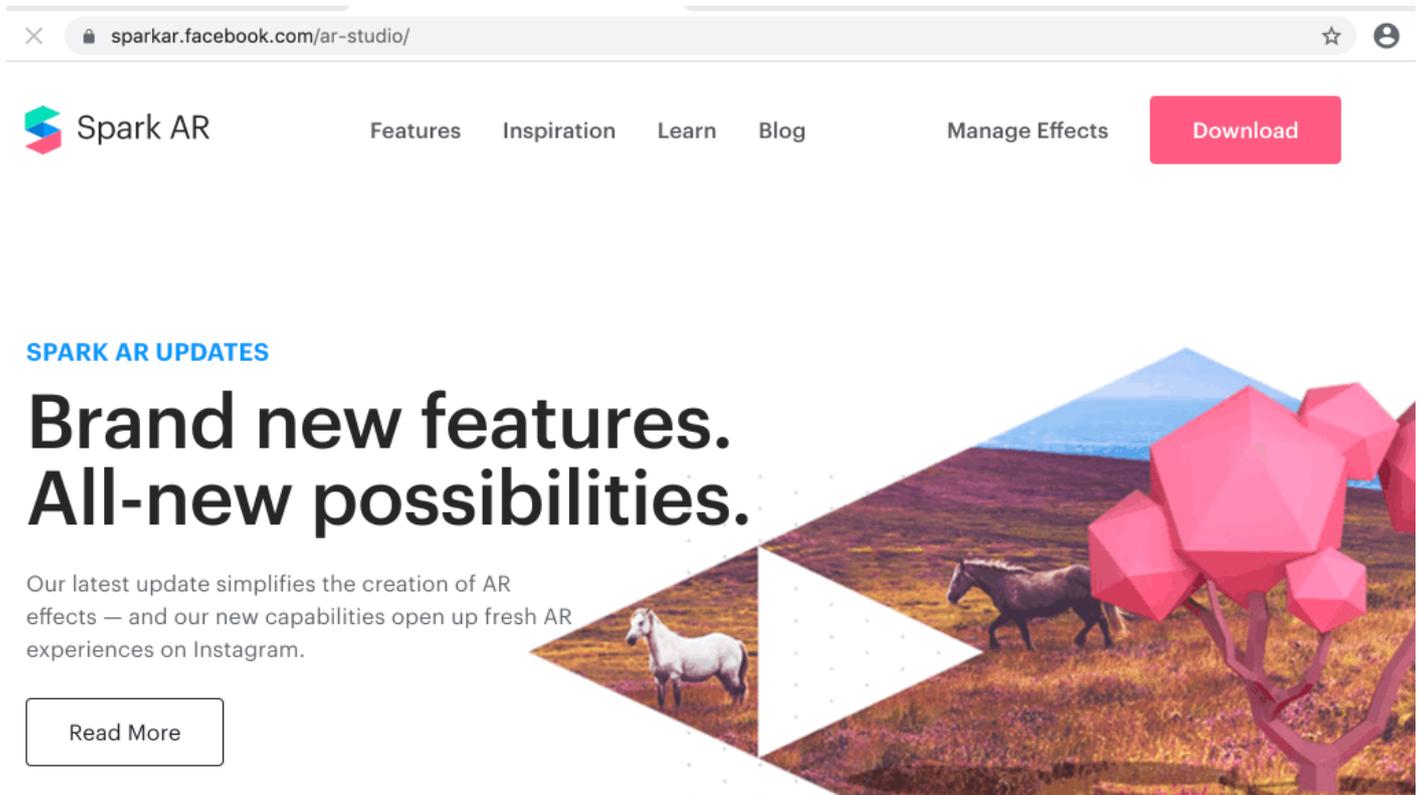
Introduction to Spark AR

SparkAR is an app developed by Facebook one of the most useful features is that it runs on both IOS and Windows platforms, however, in order to use it, you will need a Facebook account.

Setting up Spark AR

Setting Up Spark AR

- On your laptop go to <https://sparkar.facebook.com/ar-studio/> (you do not need a facebook account to download)



The screenshot shows the Spark AR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Spark AR logo on the left, followed by links for 'Features', 'Inspiration', 'Learn', and 'Blog'. On the right side of the navigation bar, there is a 'Manage Effects' link and a prominent red 'Download' button. Below the navigation bar, the main content area features a large graphic with a landscape background. The graphic is split into two parts by a white triangle pointing right. The left part shows a white horse in a field, and the right part shows a brown horse in a field with a stylized red tree. Above the graphic, the text reads 'SPARK AR UPDATES' in blue, followed by 'Brand new features. All-new possibilities.' in large black font. Below this, a paragraph states: 'Our latest update simplifies the creation of AR effects — and our new capabilities open up fresh AR experiences on Instagram.' A 'Read More' button is located at the bottom left of the graphic area.

- Follow the instructions to Install Spark AR
- You will also need to install Spark AR player on your mobile device in order to view your AR project
- Go to the App store and search for Spark AR Player, download
- You are now ready to make your first project