



My Inventory Manager

MIM - User Guide

Basic Release 1.0



Know what you own. Know where it is. Find it fast.

Welcome to My Inventory Manager

My Inventory Manager (MIM) is a Windows desktop application designed to make personal inventory easy to record, organize, locate, review, and maintain. It is useful anywhere a spreadsheet or paper list has become too awkward - from a home and workshop to an electronics bench or amateur-radio shack.

MIM stores detailed information about each item, including identification, category, manufacturer, model, serial number, quantity, purchase information, warranty, condition, location, ownership, sale information, maintenance, documentation, notes, and photographs.

Who can use MIM?

MIM is intended for anyone who wants a practical local inventory system: homeowners, collectors, hobbyists, amateur-radio operators, electronics enthusiasts, computer users, small workshops, and people managing equipment or stored property.

What makes MIM different?

The centerpiece is Intelligent Search. Instead of forcing the user to learn database commands or construct complicated filters, MIM can interpret many ordinary search phrases and combine recognized details such as manufacturer, category, vendor, location, sold status, shipping method, and keywords.

Main Features

Feature	What it does
Detailed inventory records	Store the information needed to identify, value, locate, maintain, sell, or document an item.
Asset numbering	Maintain a clear MIM asset identity for inventory records.
Add, Edit and View Details	Create records, update them later, and review detailed information across organized pages.
Locations	Record where an item is kept and search by location.
Purchase and warranty information	Track vendor, purchase date, price, invoice/order information and warranty details.
Sale and ownership information	Record sold status, sale information, buyer details, lending and ownership information.
Item photographs	Associate a photograph with an inventory item for quick visual identification.
Maintenance and documentation	Keep maintenance, documentation, software and related notes with the item.
Category-specific information	Support additional details for equipment such as amateur-radio and computer items.
Password protection	Protect access to MIM with a locally stored password hash.
Local data storage	Inventory data remains on the user's Windows computer rather than requiring a cloud service.
Intelligent Search	Find records using practical, conversational search phrases.

Getting Started

1. Start My Inventory Manager.
2. On a clean installation, create your MIM password when prompted.
3. Use Add Item to create your first inventory record.
4. Enter as much information as is useful. Not every field is required for every item.
5. Use View Details to review a record and Edit Item when information changes.
6. Use the Search for box whenever you need to locate a group of records or a specific item.

Intelligent Search

Intelligent Search is one of MIM's most useful features. Type a natural phrase in the Search for box and press Enter or run the search. MIM analyzes the words it recognizes and applies the appropriate inventory filters.

Tip: You do not need to memorize exact commands. Start with the way you would naturally ask the question.

Useful Search Phrases

Search type	Example target	Try this
Specific item / keyword	NanoVNA	Find NanoVNA
Where is something?	NanoVNA	Where is my NanoVNA?
Category	Radios	Show all radios
Manufacturer + category	Icom radios	Find all Icom radios
Manufacturer + category	Sony radios	Find Sony radios
Computers	Laptops	Show all laptops
Manufacturer + category	Acer laptops	Where are my Acer laptops?
Vendor	Kijiji	Show all purchases from Kijiji
Vendor	Value Village	Show all purchases from Value Village
Purchase wording	Kijiji	Find items bought from Kijiji
Sale status	Sold	Show all sold items
Sale status	Unsold	Find unsold
Location + category	Living Room	Find all radios in living room
Location	Bedroom Closet	Find bedroom closet
Location	Living Room Closet	Find living room closet
Keyword/category	Receivers	Find receivers

What MIM can recognize

Depending on the records and vocabulary configured in MIM, searches can recognize combinations of ordinary keywords together with structured information such as manufacturer, category, vendor, location, sold or unsold status, buyer or buyer location, and shipping method. This allows searches to become more specific without requiring a separate advanced-search screen.

Search results are only as accurate as the information stored in the inventory. Consistent manufacturer, category, vendor and location names will produce the best results.

Item Photos

An item photograph can be associated with a record to make identification easier. MIM manages its working images in the current user's local application-data area. When adding or updating photographs, use common image formats such as JPG or PNG.

Your Data and Backups

MIM is designed as a local desktop application. The working inventory database is stored under the current Windows user's Local AppData area in the MyInventoryManager data folder. Managed images are stored under the same MyInventoryManager area in an Images folder.

Important: Your inventory can represent years of purchases, serial numbers, locations and other valuable records. Keep a regular backup of your MIM data and images.

When transferring an existing inventory to another computer or user, close MIM before replacing or copying its database files. After transfer, open MIM and verify the record count, several searches, and at least one View/Edit operation.

Password Protection

On first use, MIM can create a password for access to the application. The password itself is not stored as plain text; MIM stores password-verification information in the current user's local application-data area. Keep your password somewhere safe.

Good Inventory Habits

- Use consistent category, manufacturer, vendor and location names.
- Record serial numbers for equipment where they are available.
- Use meaningful Item Names, but keep them concise enough to scan quickly.
- Add purchase and warranty information while it is still easy to find.
- Update an item's location when you move it.
- Mark sold items rather than losing their history.
- Add a photo when visual identification would be useful.
- Back up the database and managed images regularly.

About Basic Release 1.0

Basic Release 1.0 establishes the core MIM inventory system: structured item records, Add/Edit/View workflows, local SQLite storage, password protection, photographs, detailed inventory fields, and Intelligent Search. The application is intended to remain straightforward to use while allowing future enhancements without making everyday inventory work complicated.

Quick Reference

Task	Where to start
Create a record	Add Item
Change a record	Select the item and use Edit Item
Review full information	Open View Details
Find an item	Use Search for with a name, model or keyword
Find a group	Search by category, manufacturer, vendor, location or status
Close MIM	File > Exit