

SMG + GM 7: Installing the Emulator

Oct 20, 2026 · @Johan

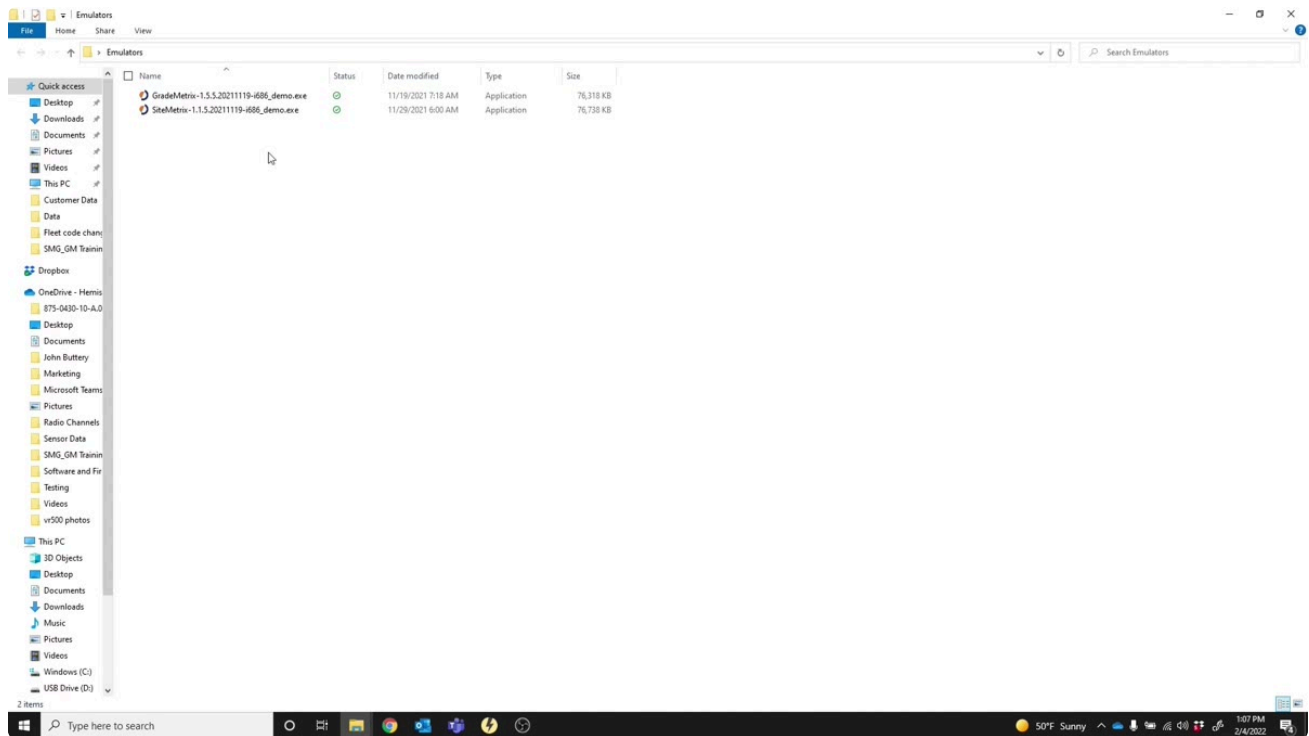
The emulator runs GradeMetrix on a Windows PC for training and office work. This guide covers installing it, activating the license, setting up a machine, and making it start full screen. It follows the 4.5-minute training video "SMG + GM 7: Installing Emulators", which installs version 1.5.5.

Before you start

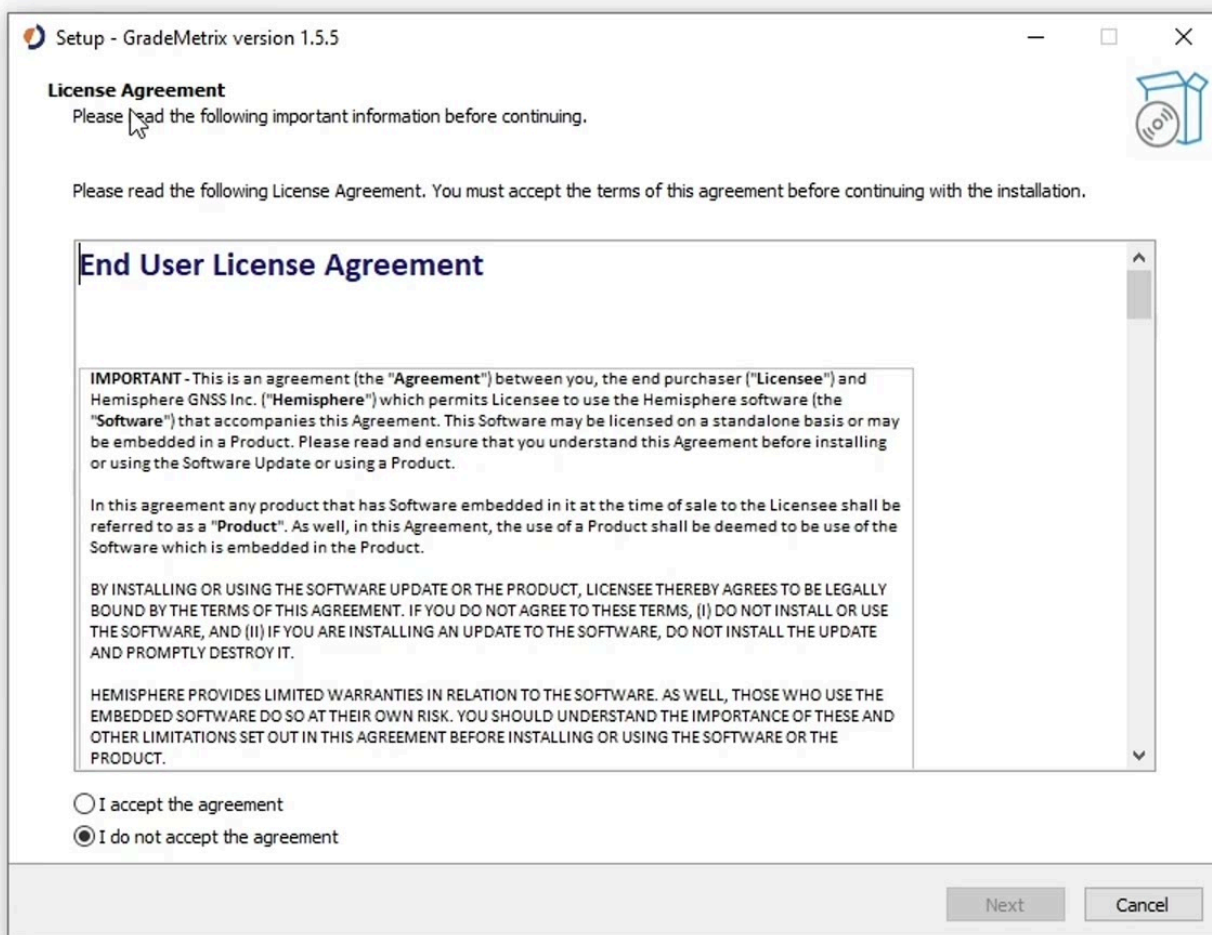
You need the GradeMetrix installer (.exe) and the license file (.lic) for this PC, usually on a USB drive.

Step 1: Install

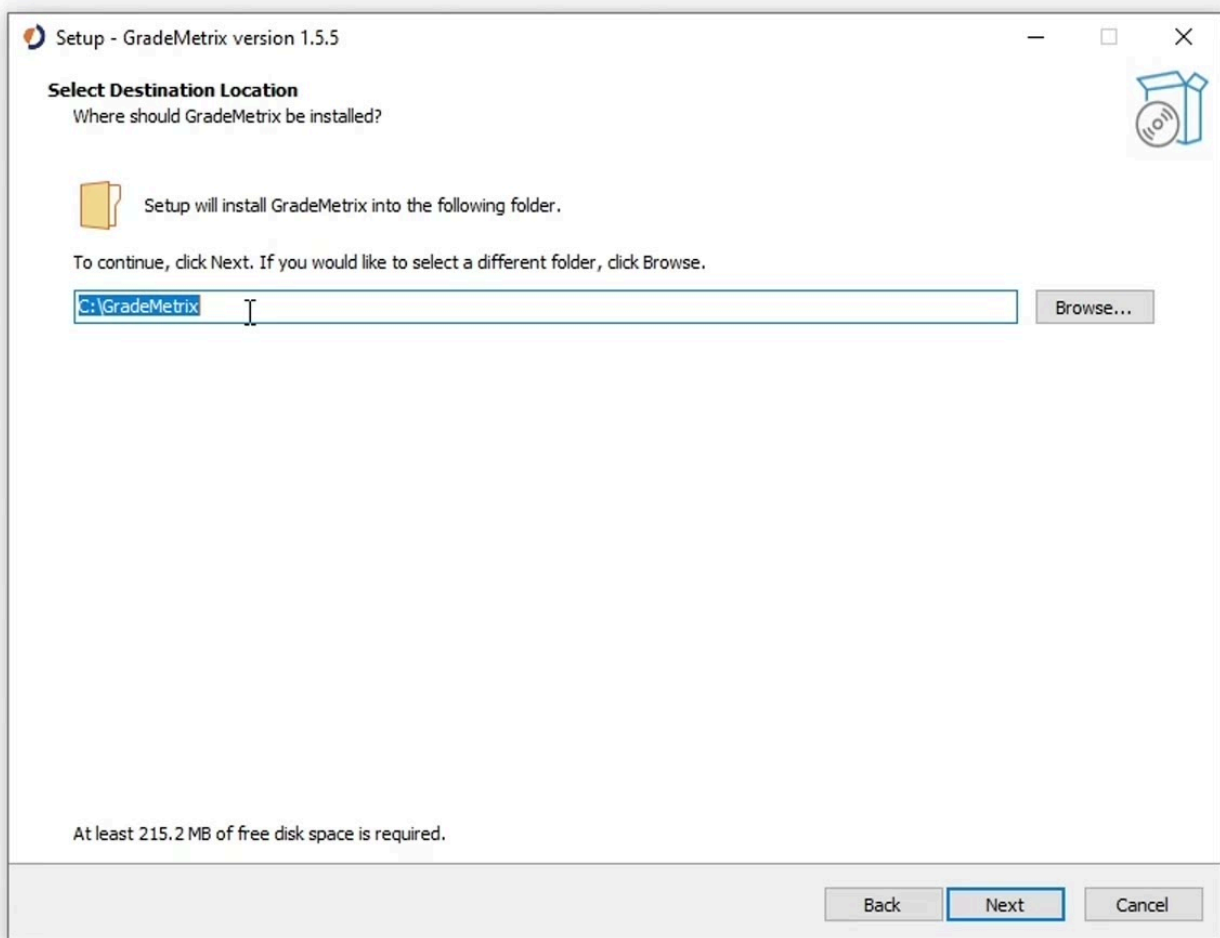
1. Open the folder with the installer and double-click the GradeMetrix .exe file.



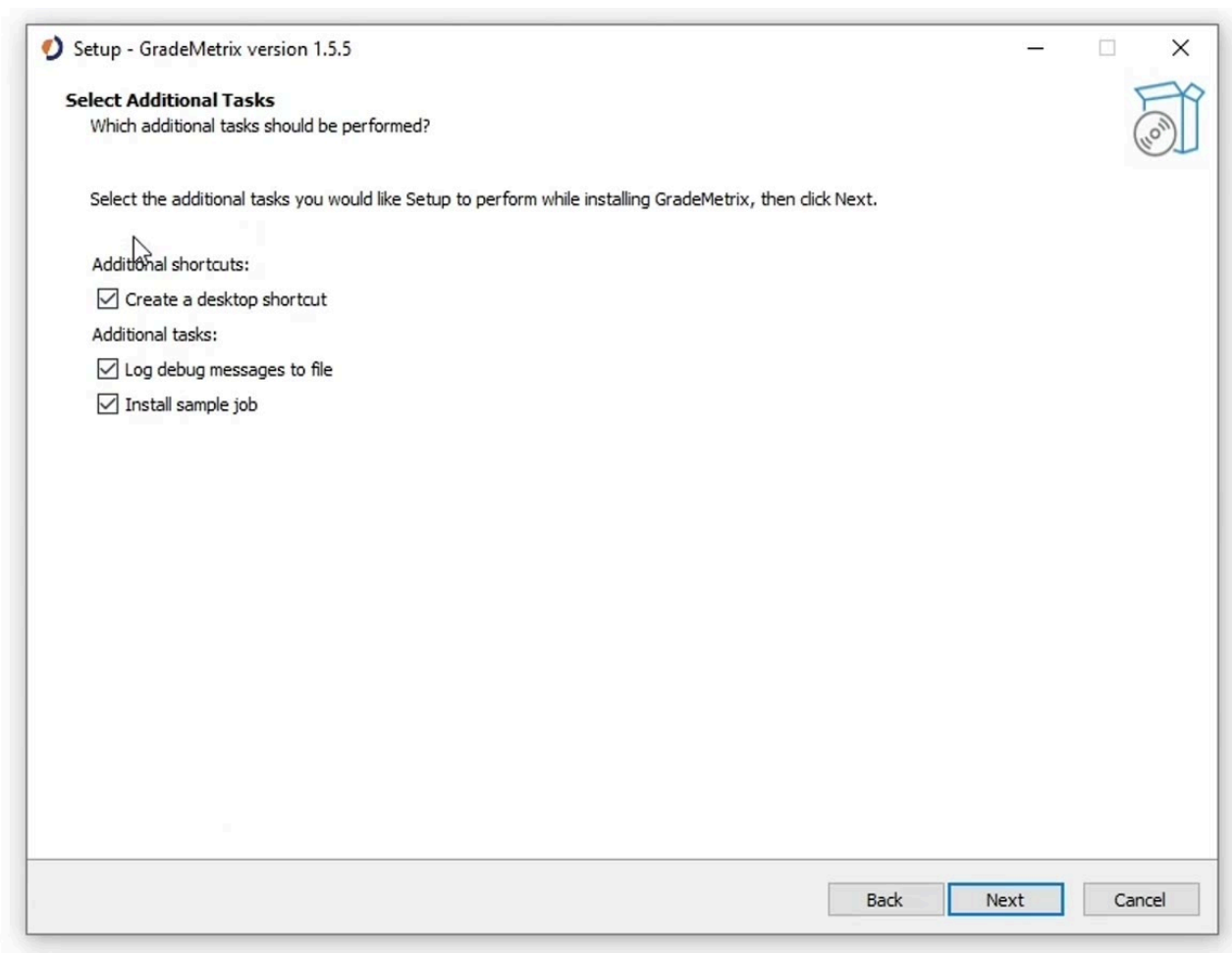
2. Select **I accept the agreement** and click **Next**.



3. Keep the destination folder C:\GradeMetrix and click **Next**.

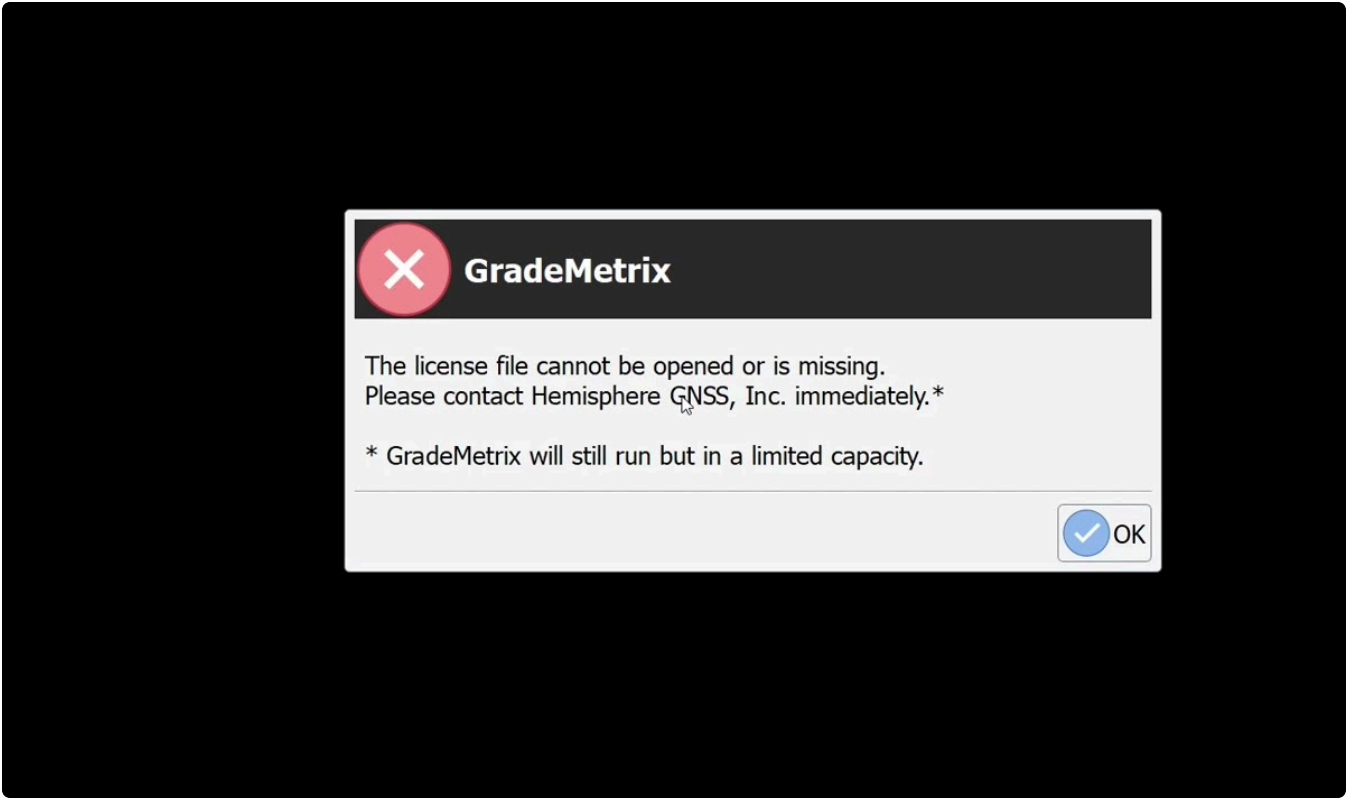


4. Choose the additional tasks: Create a desktop shortcut, Log debug messages to file, and Install sample job. Click **Next**, then **Finish** when setup completes.



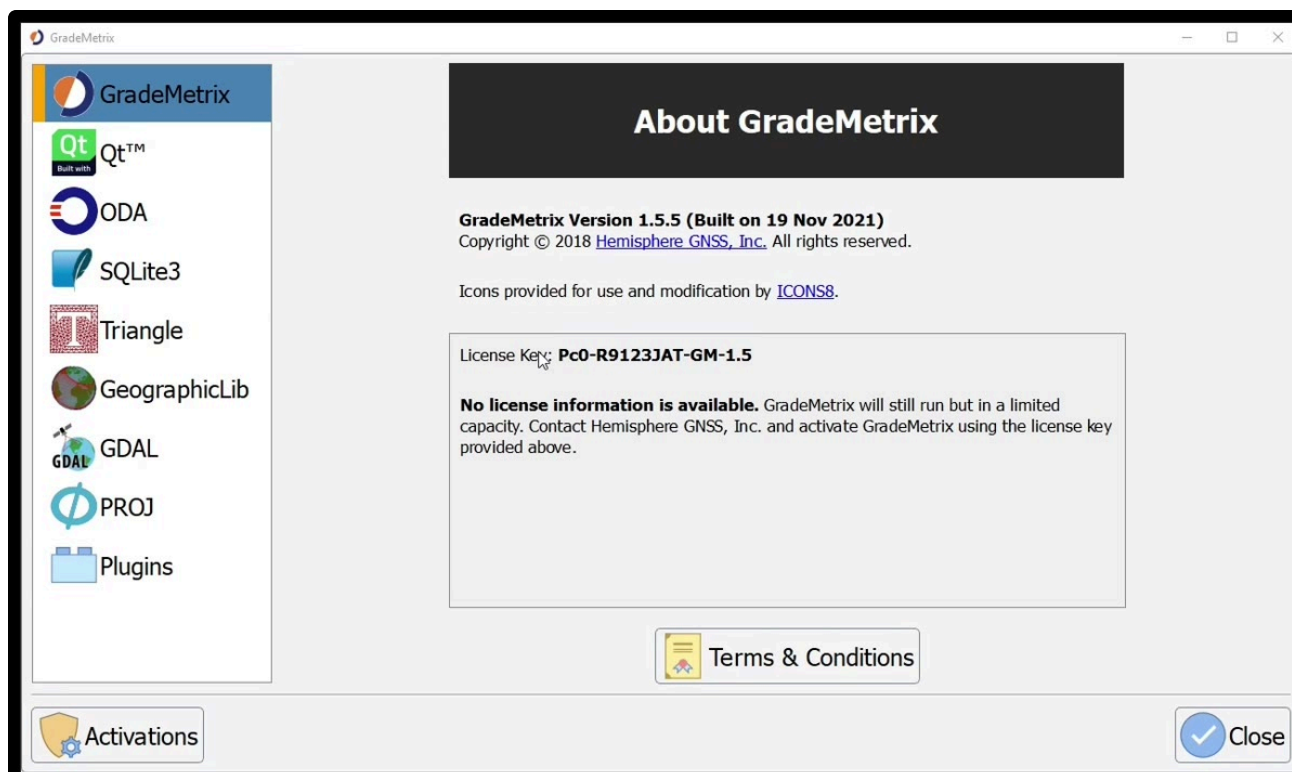
Step 2: First start

Start GradeMetrix from the desktop shortcut. Without a license it warns that the license file is missing and that it will run in a limited capacity. Click **OK**.

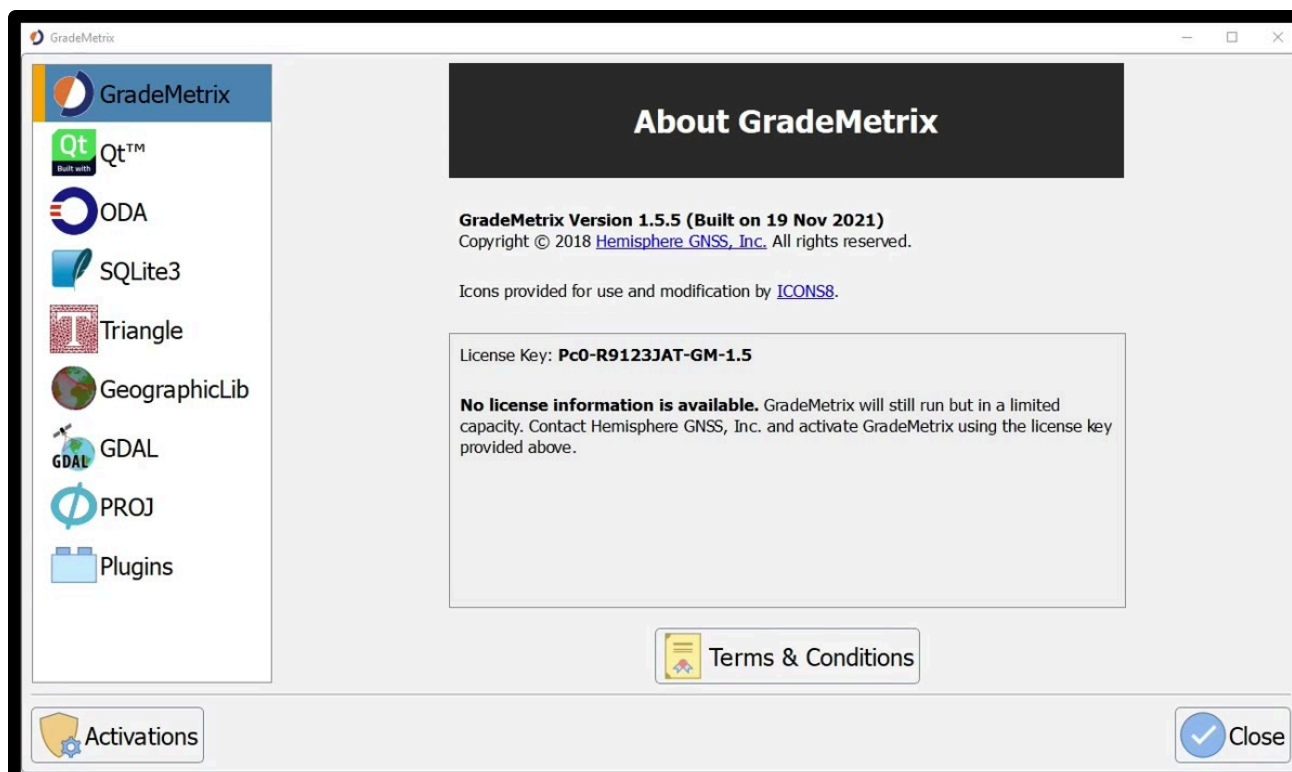


Step 3: Activate the license

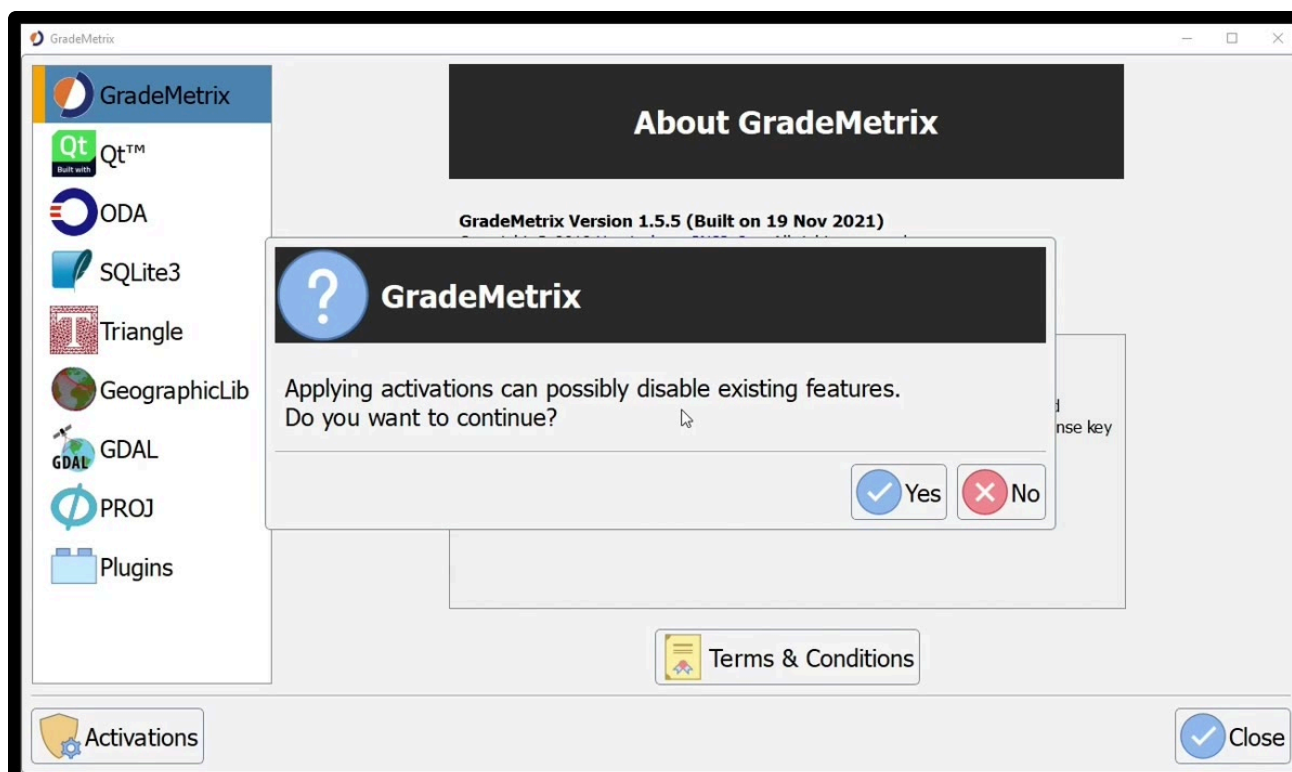
1. Open **About GradeMetrix**. It shows the version, this PC's **License Key**, and "No license information is available".



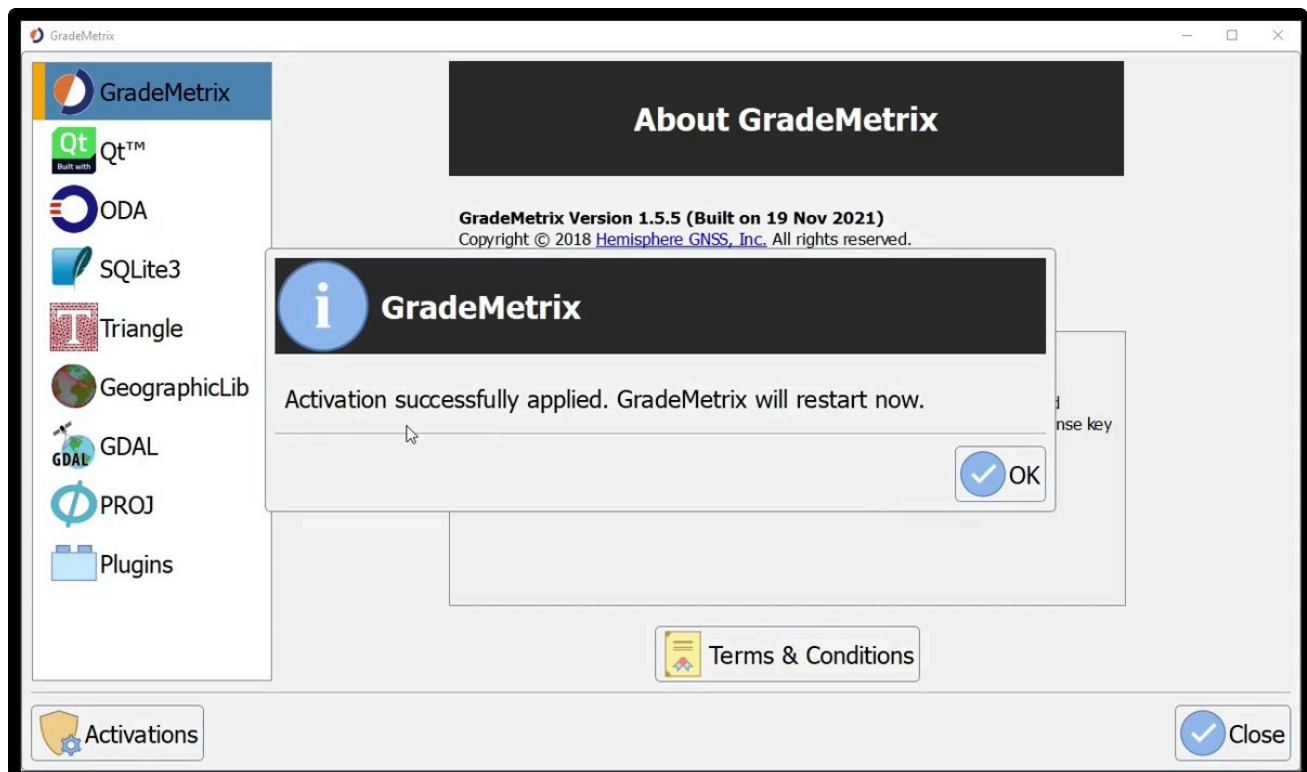
2. Click **Activations** (bottom left).
3. Browse to the license file (File type: License Files), select it and click **Open**.



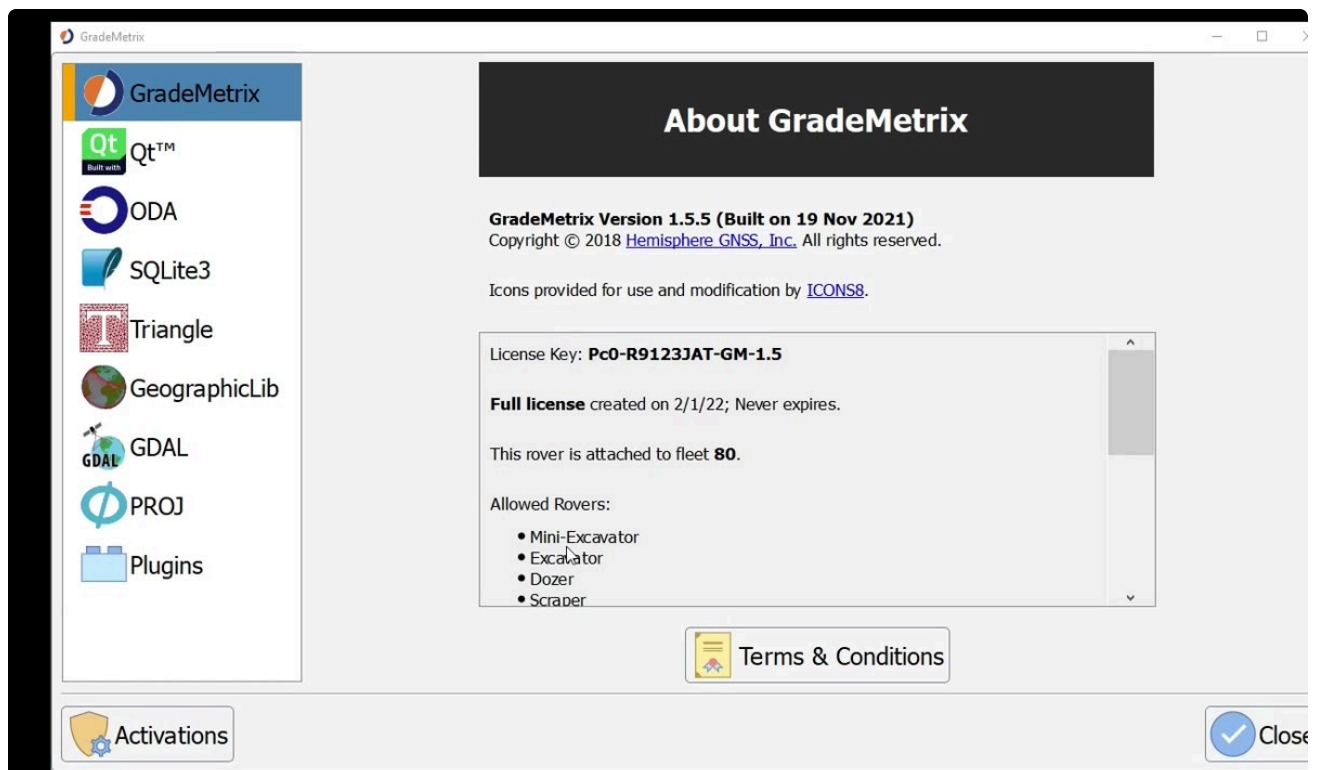
4. GradeMetrix warns that applying activations can disable existing features. Click **Yes**.



5. Click **OK** on "Activation successfully applied". GradeMetrix restarts.

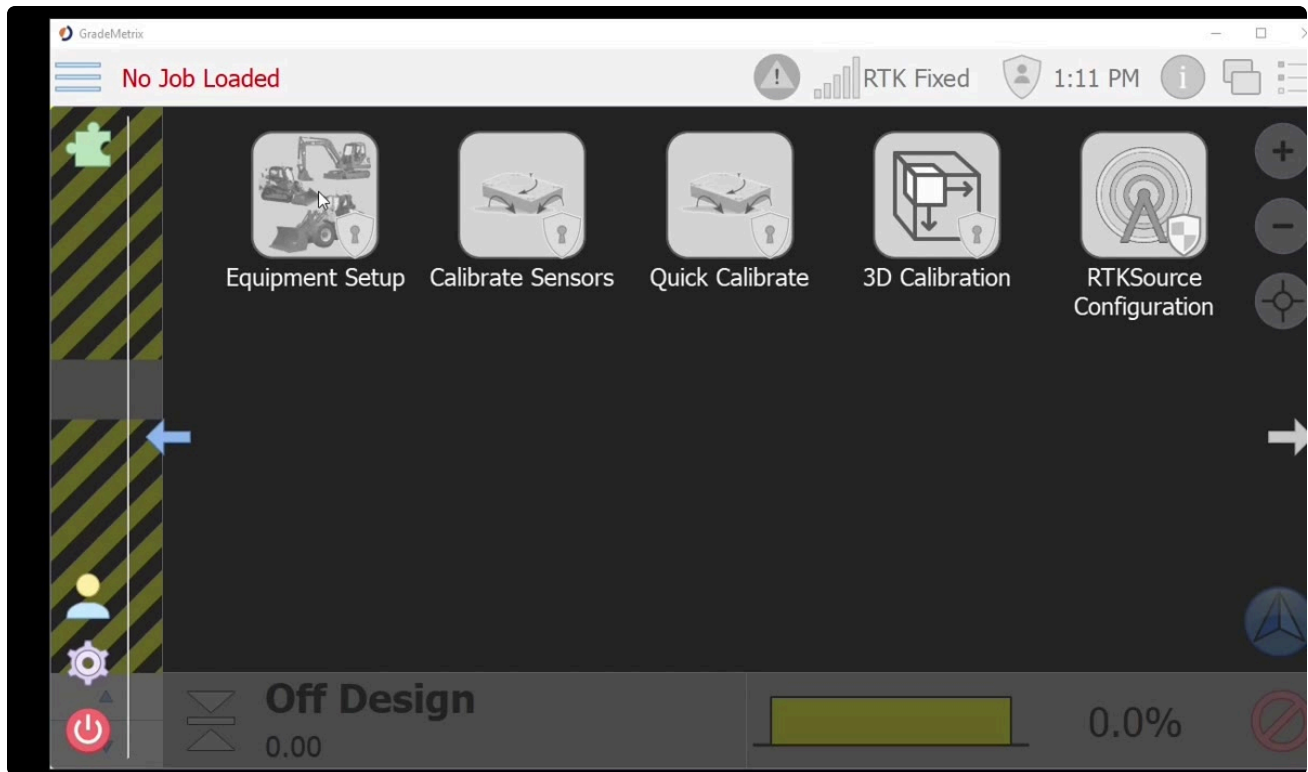


6. Open About again. It now shows **Full license** and the machine types allowed.

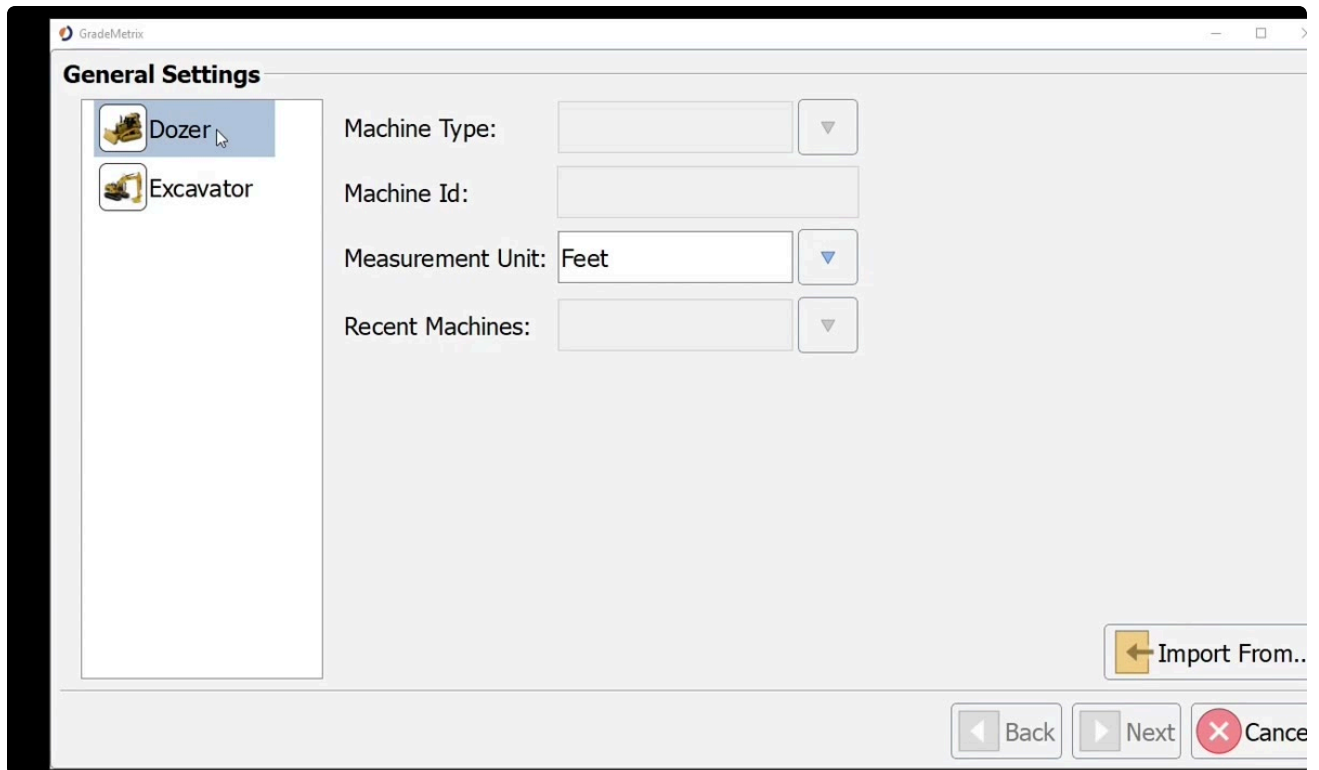


Step 4: Set up a machine and open a job

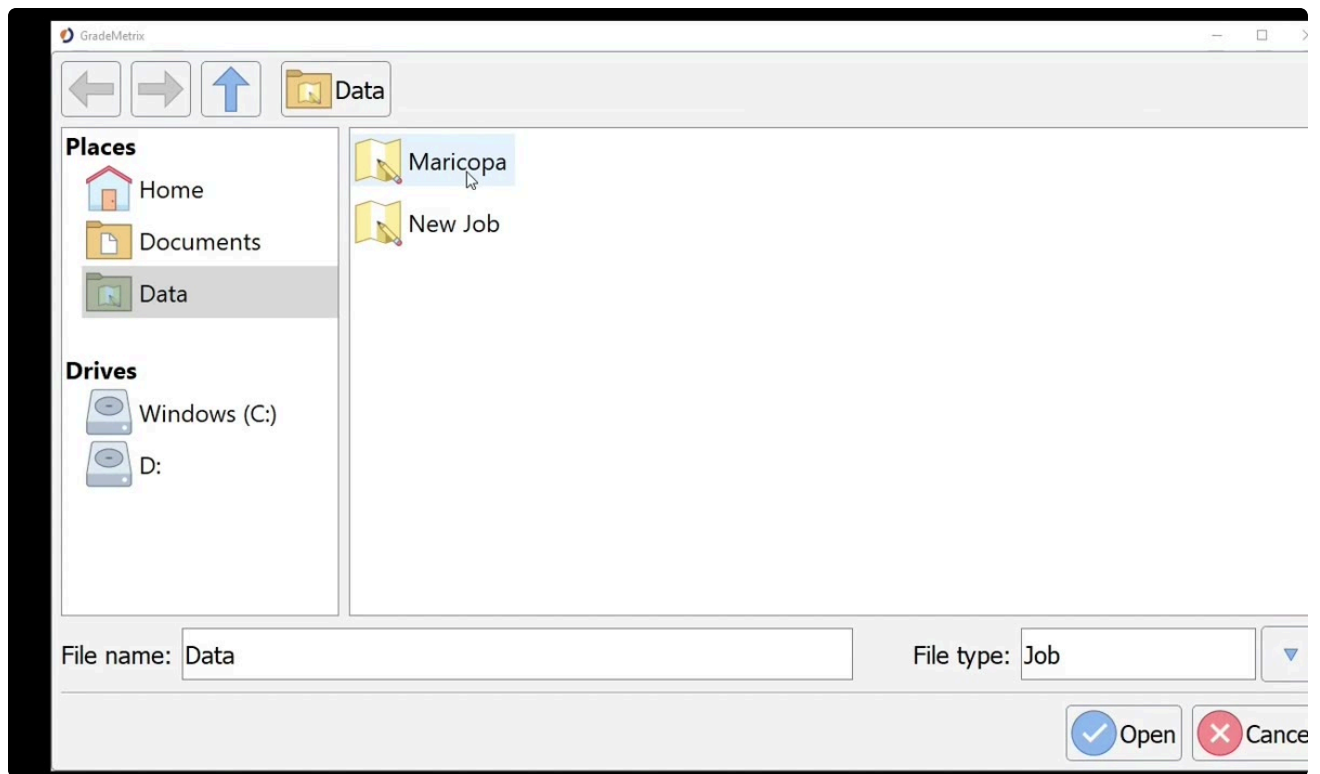
1. Open the Main Menu, go to the second screen and tap **Equipment Setup**.



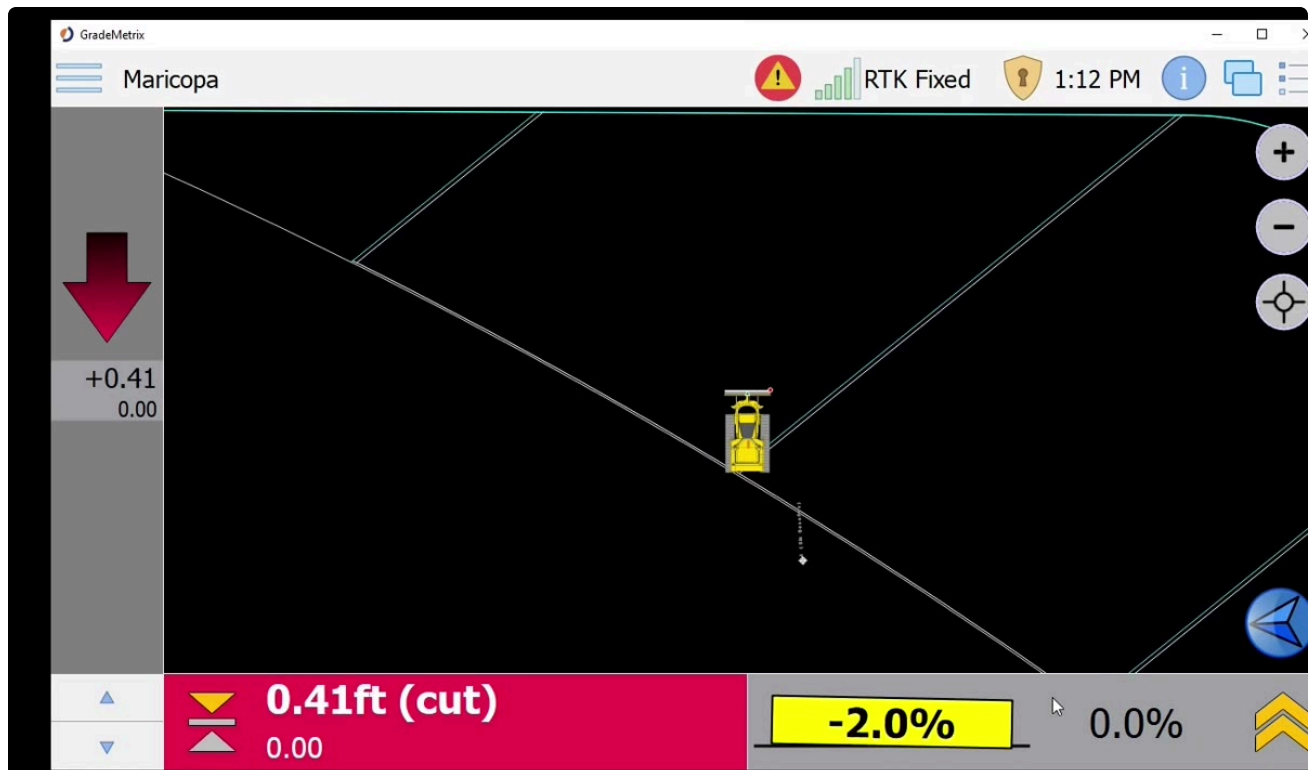
2. Pick the machine type on the left (the video uses Dozer), set the Machine Id and units, and work through the wizard.



3. Tap **Open Job** and open a job (Maricopa in the video).

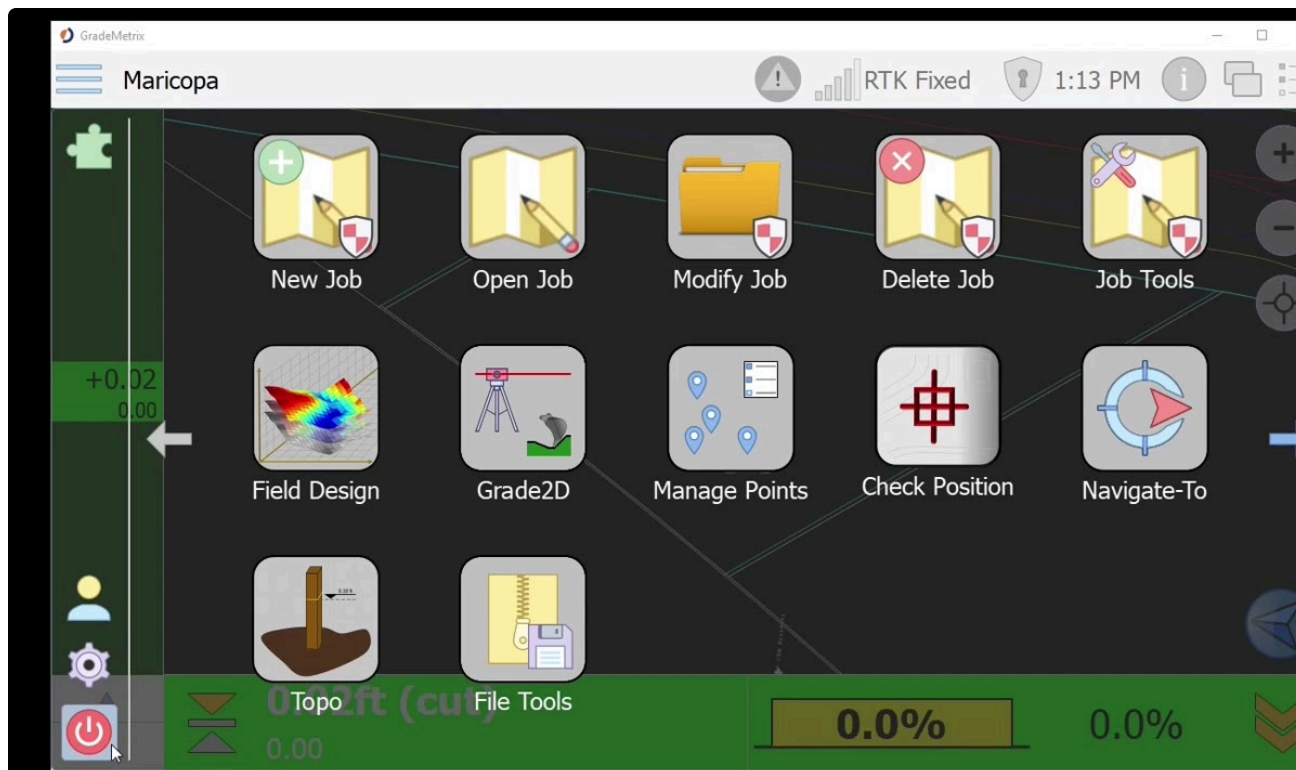


4. The grade screen shows the machine and cut/fill.



Step 5: Start full screen

1. Close GradeMetrix: Main Menu, red power icon, **Exit to OS**.



2. Right-click the GradeMetrix desktop shortcut and choose **Properties**.
3. On the Shortcut tab, add `--fullscreen` to the end of **Target**. The video's Target already ends in `--logtofile` ; add the new option after it, separated by a space.

Image — Shortcut properties with --fullscreen being added

4. Click **OK**, and **Continue** if Windows asks for administrator permission.
5. Start GradeMetrix from the shortcut. It opens full screen.

Image — GradeMetrix running full screen