

AutoCAD® Architecture 2010

Questions and Answers

AutoCAD® Architecture 2010 software—the version of AutoCAD® software for architects.

Creating designs and documentation is much more efficient using the software's purpose-built tools for architects. Automate tedious drafting tasks and help reduce errors. For users familiar with AutoCAD software, the working methods and intuitive user environment offer immediate productivity gains with the flexibility to learn additional features at your own pace. The software's industry-leading DWG file format makes it easy to share and communicate designs with engineers and the extended project team.

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1. General Product Information

1.1 What are the main benefits of AutoCAD Architecture software?

AutoCAD Architecture software offers all of the AutoCAD software functionality, plus purpose-built tools for architectural design and documentation. The familiar AutoCAD workflow and interface enable you to start working—and realize productivity gains—immediately.

AutoCAD Architecture software's genuine DWG file format makes it easier to exchange information and share designs and collaborate with engineers using AutoCAD and Autodesk® Revit®-based software applications. Integrated rendering produces lifelike design visualizations that enhance communication with your customers.

1.2 Is the user interface similar to that of AutoCAD software?

The user interface for AutoCAD Architecture software will be quite familiar to AutoCAD users, but with the addition of improvements and features designed specifically for architects. Highly visual and intuitive, the interface helps you increase productivity employing process-focused tools that make the software easier to use. With less focus on dialog boxes and more emphasis on designing directly in the workspace, the design tools in the software are easily accessible.

1.3 Can I rely on my AutoCAD software knowledge to use AutoCAD Architecture?

AutoCAD Architecture builds on the speed, performance, and familiarity of AutoCAD software, so AutoCAD users have a strong foundation from which to learn.

As always, training can improve your productivity and speed of learning. A variety of excellent training aids are available, including self-paced e-Learning options available to Autodesk® Subscription customers, Autodesk® Official Training Courseware (AOTC), and customized training available through resellers. For more information, contact your Autodesk Authorized Reseller or visit www.autodesk.com/training.

1.4 What is a good way to get started with AutoCAD Architecture software?

There are many ways to begin. For example, you could start by using wall, door, and window objects from the design palette. You could also begin by using the vast detail library to automate the creation and annotation of construction details. When you feel ready, you can incorporate additional features to help further improve your productivity.

2. Technology

2.1 What is the significance of architectural objects?

Objects improve design productivity and efficiency because they behave according to the specific properties of their real-world counterparts. Architectural objects have a relationship to one another and interact with each other intelligently. For example, a window has a relationship to the wall that contains it. If you move or delete the wall, the window reacts accordingly.

In addition, intelligent architectural objects maintain dynamic links with construction documents and specifications, resulting in more accurate project deliverables. When

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someone deletes or modifies a door, for example, the door schedule can be automatically updated.

2.2 Does AutoCAD Architecture software use 3D?

Because the objects in AutoCAD Architecture software describe real-world building components, both 2D and 3D representations can be created automatically and either can be used for viewing or editing. This capability conveniently integrates 2D and 3D functionality and enables exploration of design ideas within CAD in a fashion similar to the way architects and designers envision their designs.

Using 3D is not required in AutoCAD Architecture software; you can incorporate 3D into your design process at your own pace.

3. Installation, Configuration, and Licensing

3.1 Are there versions of AutoCAD Architecture for 64-bit processors?

AutoCAD Architecture is available either in 32-bit or 64-bit configuration.

3.2 What are the hardware and system requirements?

The recommended hardware and operating system requirements for both 32-bit and 64-bit versions of AutoCAD Architecture 2010 software can be found at www.autodesk.com/autocadarchitecture. Carefully review these requirements before making your purchasing decision.

3.3 Is a product suite available with complimentary Autodesk software offerings?

Yes, Autodesk offers two product suites that combine AutoCAD Architecture 2010 with complementary software applications. AutoCAD® Revit® Architecture Suite 2010 software contains AutoCAD 2010 software, AutoCAD Architecture 2010 software, and Autodesk Revit Architecture 2010 software. This suite is ideal for users who want maximum flexibility while making a smooth transition to building information modeling (BIM).

AutoCAD® Revit® Architecture Visualization Suite 2010 combines AutoCAD Architecture 2010 with Autodesk Revit Architecture 2010 software, Autodesk® 3ds Max® Design 2010 software, and Autodesk® Navisworks® Review 2010 software to provide unmatched creative freedom for design and visualization.

3.4 I have licenses of AutoCAD Architecture software. What are my options for moving to AutoCAD Revit Architecture Suite 2010 or AutoCAD Revit Architecture Visualization Suite 2010?

Customers who want to enjoy the flexibility that AutoCAD Revit Architecture Suite 2010 or AutoCAD Revit Architecture Visualization Suite 2010 offers can purchase a cross-grade license. Your Autodesk Authorized Reseller can assist you with this and help you find the solution that best meets your needs.

4. Compatibility and Interoperability

4.1 Is AutoCAD Architecture 2010 software compatible with earlier releases?

Yes. You can open files created in earlier releases of AutoCAD Architecture or Autodesk® Architectural Desktop with preserved object behaviors. Files can also be saved to earlier versions of AutoCAD Architecture via the Export to AutoCAD command. These files retain visual fidelity; however object behaviors are not preserved.

4.2 Will my third-party applications work with the current release of AutoCAD Architecture software?

Your existing third-party applications may or may not be compatible with the current release of AutoCAD Architecture software. Contact your independent software supplier for details.

For more information about the availability of third-party applications compatible with the current releases of AutoCAD and AutoCAD Architecture software, visit

www.autodesk.com/partnerproducts.

4.3 Can I use AutoCAD Architecture software with Autodesk 3ds Max Design or Autodesk® Impression software?

Yes, AutoCAD Architecture software is compatible with both Autodesk 3ds Max Design and Autodesk Impression design visualization software products. These products provide natural extensions to AutoCAD Architecture software for advanced visualization, animation, and rendering. With these tools, customers can clearly communicate abstract or complex mechanical, architectural, engineering, and construction concepts created in AutoCAD Architecture.

4.4 Are AutoCAD Architecture software and Autodesk Revit Architecture software files interoperable?

Since AutoCAD Architecture and Autodesk Revit Architecture both support DWG, the recommended method of file exchange is to use the Export to AutoCAD feature in AutoCAD Architecture. The resulting DWG will open as 2D linework in Autodesk Revit Architecture that can be further utilized for design iterations.

5. Consulting, Training, and Support

5.1 What are my options for training?

Check with your local Autodesk Authorized Reseller for a schedule of software training classes. To locate a reseller, visit www.autodesk.com/reseller.

Attend hands-on, instructor-led classes at an Autodesk Authorized Training Center (ATC®). Increase your competitive edge with proven training from over 2,000 ATC sites in more than 90 countries. For more information about Autodesk Authorized Training Centers, visit the online ATC locator at www.autodesk.com/atc.

Whether you are a novice or advanced user, Autodesk offers a robust portfolio of learning tools to help you perform ahead of the curve. Get hands-on experience with job-related exercises based on industry scenarios from Autodesk Official Training Courseware

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(AOTC), books, e-books, e-learning, and training videos. To find out more, visit www.autodesk.com/aotc and www.autodesk.com/learningtools.

Autodesk certifications help you validate your skills and knowledge, and can accelerate your professional development, improve your productivity, and enhance credibility in your field. Receive immediate diagnostic feedback to assess your strengths and identify areas for improvement. For more information, visit www.autodesk.com/certification. Note that certification is only available for select products in certain areas.

Training courses are also offered through Autodesk Consulting and include Autodesk Virtual Classroom Training (online, instructor-led), custom training to match your organization's specific needs, and Autodesk Classroom Training. To obtain more information about training services from Autodesk, visit www.autodesk.com/training.

5.2 Where can I find technical support information?

You can learn about support options from your local Autodesk Authorized Reseller or distributor. Visit www.autodesk.com/support to find a knowledge base of commonly asked support questions. Also, Autodesk software manuals and documentation are a great source for answers to your support questions.

In addition, Autodesk Subscription customers can get access to direct web support. One-to-one online communication with Autodesk support technicians provides fast, complete answers to your installation, configuration, and troubleshooting questions. For more information about Autodesk Subscription, contact your Autodesk Authorized Reseller or visit www.autodesk.com/subscription.

6. Subscription

6.1 What benefits does an AutoCAD Architecture software subscription offer?

Get the benefits of increased productivity, predictable budgeting, and flexible license management with Autodesk Subscription. You get any new upgrades of your Autodesk software and any incremental product enhancements, if these are released during your Subscription term. A range of community resources, including web support direct from Autodesk product support specialists and self-paced training to extend your skills, make Autodesk Subscription the best way to optimize your investment in AutoCAD Architecture software.

The annual fee includes:

- Autodesk Subscription offers a way to make your AutoCAD Architecture software costs predictable. Whether you opt for a one-year subscription or a multiyear contract, the costs are known for the entire term of your contract.
- Product enhancements may include extensions, bonus packs or other rich content for AutoCAD Architecture—exclusive to Subscription customers. Only Subscription customers can access these new product downloads that add new functionality and features to your AutoCAD Architecture software. You can adapt them into your current workflows and apply them immediately to your new projects to help you stay competitive.

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- Autodesk Subscription helps make managing software licensing hassle-free and flexible. You have added flexibility to allow your employees to use their AutoCAD Architecture software—in the office or at home. Better yet, designers are entitled to run previous versions of the AutoCAD Architecture software concurrently with the latest release (under certain conditions), so updates will not cause disruptions to ongoing projects where clients or partners are running previous versions.
- Get what you need to stay productive with AutoCAD Architecture software. With web support you get direct, one-to-one communication with Autodesk product support specialists for answers to your installation, configuration, and troubleshooting questions. And you do not need to keep track of support records and email trails, because we will do it for you!
- Get your team up to speed quickly with access to a complete library of interactive training tools and high-quality, self-paced e-Learning lessons that allow users to increase their productivity and master new skills. E-Learning lessons give you a quick and easy way to learn about the features and functionality of AutoCAD Architecture software. These short lessons are available on demand and complement more in-depth training provided through [Autodesk Authorized Training Centers](#) or Autodesk Authorized Resellers.

To learn more, take the Autodesk Subscription tour at www.autodesk.com/subscription.

For the latest product downloads, please visit www.autodesk.com/autocadarchitecturesubscription. Product downloads may include the latest release of the software, extensions, bonus packs, or other rich content for AutoCAD Architecture—exclusive to Autodesk Subscription customers and can be downloaded from the Subscription Center www.autodesk.com/subscriptionlogin.

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