

AutoCAD®

2009

With AutoCAD® 2009 software Autodesk has one goal: increasing productivity.

The updated user interface helps you finish tasks faster, makes commands easy to find, and facilitates rapid training of new users.

For more information about the AutoCAD 2009 feature set, see the following:

- AutoCAD 2009 Features and Benefits document at www.autodesk.com/autocad-features, for more in-depth information about specific AutoCAD 2009 features.
- New Features Workshop, accessible from the Help menu in AutoCAD and at www.autodesk.com/autocad-nfw, for more detailed explanations of the new features.

AutoCAD software enables designers to quickly and easily document designs with a level of control that helps ensure drawings look professional. AutoCAD 2009 also helps users solve common problems in ways that respect current workflows, so that little or no retraining is required.

The following summarizes changes made in AutoCAD 2009.

User Interface Menu Browser

- Perform real-time searches for menus and menu actions in the menu browser
- Create search tags for any menu command to make searches more effective
- Access menus through the menu browser or the classic menu bar
- Specify menus to display in the menu browser, using a Customize User Interface (CUI) file
- View a list of the most recently saved files
- Pin files in the most recent list to keep them listed even if you subsequently save other files
- In recent documents, show thumbnails, date modified, version info, last saved by, and currently opened by
- Group recent files by date or type
- Show recently performed actions such as File>Open and Tools>Options for playback

Ribbon

- View operations that are relevant to the current workspace in a single, compact place
- Get organized with the ribbon's series of tabs, which are separated into panels labeled by task
- Orient the ribbon horizontally or vertically
- Customize using the CUI editor
- Display commands that you use frequently on toolbar-like panels

User Assistance

- Get additional information about items from Level 2 Enhanced tooltips
- Customize dynamic help to quickly access and link help documentation for commands
- Access Show Me animations in the help file
- Access clear and concise information for the task at hand with enhanced task dialog boxes
- Search the Autodesk knowledge base and forums with the InfoCenter search bar
- Press F1 to go directly into context-sensitive help for any item

Quick View

- Quickly flip between multiple open drawings or drawing layouts
- Resize drawing thumbnails for easy visual identification

Quick Properties

- In the Quick Properties panel, find the most commonly used properties for each object type or a selected set of objects
- Easily find and customize the desired object properties in a drawing
- Customize the Quick Properties panel to display properties according to your needs by using the CUI editor

Navigation

ViewCube™

- View the 3D navigation tool when the 3D graphics system is enabled
- Switch between standard and isometric views
- View the model based on the current user coordinate system (UCS) and the north direction defined by the world coordinate system (WCS) of the model
- Switch to one of the available preset views, roll the current view, or change to the home view of the model

SteeringWheels™

- Pan, zoom, or manipulate the current view of a model in different ways with tracking menus that are divided into different sections known as wedges, each representing a single navigation tool
- Save time and clicks by combining common navigation tools into a single interface, since wheels are specific to the context in which a model is being viewed
- Control the appearance of the wheels by changing the current mode or by adjusting the size and opacity level of the wheels

ShowMotion™

- Improve the design process with superior review capability
- Use Authoring mode to create animations and transitions
- Use Presentation mode to play back shots and sequences
- Create motion and transitions like those seen in television commercials by using captured camera positions to which cinematic movements may be added

Productivity

Action Recorder

- Increase productivity by recording day-to-day repetitive tasks and commands
- Record most commands that can be used from the command line and some of the user interfaces that you are already familiar with
- Record commands and input values for an action macro
- Share action macro files with others
- Create custom user prompts in the macro
- Modify macros via the action recorder tree view
- Customize without any programming experience

Modeless Layer Manager

- View changes made to layer settings without exiting the Layer Manager
- Freeze columns to aid scrolling in the layer list
- Set Layer Manager to dock, autohide, and anchor just like tool palettes
- Instantly access Layer Manager during a drawing session

Export Layout to Model Space

- Export all visible objects from the current layout to the model space of a new drawing
- Exchange drawings with other CAD systems without limiting the use of layouts
- Take a snapshot of a drawing layout to create a ready-to-use model space drawing

Geographic Location

- Create a single marker that defines the geographic location of the entire drawing
- Create a geographic marker—a visual representation of location information—automatically when location information is embedded in a drawing

Dynamic Xclip

- Dynamically adjust xclip boundary frames without having to re-create the xclip boundary

eTransmit

- Purge drawings before packing
- Choose not to save a drawing before packing

Materials

- Fit gizmo to object
- Fit mapping to gizmo for material map scale

MTEXT

- Press Esc during MTEXT to save MTEXT input
- Display MTEXT table toolbar as fixed, floating, or in the ribbon
- In-place spell checking in MTEXT editor

Find and Replace

- Find and replace text in blocks
- Replace text in xrefs
- Use wild cards

Blocks

- Select a block or dynamic block and then type **W** to invoke the wblock command, which lists the selected block's name in the source text box

Array

- Zoom and pan while previewing an array result

Nonrectangular Viewports

- Find properties, input scale, and lock or unlock settings from the Properties palette

Plotting

- Know immediately if a plotter device is missing, since “Missing” is now added as a prefix in the plotter device name instead of as a suffix, avoiding the possibility of truncation

Purge

- Implement the shortcut key for Close in the Purge command

Workflow

DWFx Support

- The future of DWF™ technology is based on the XML Paper Specification (XPS) format from Microsoft.
- Create DWFx files by publishing or plotting your drawing files
- Use DWFx as an underlay

DGN Support

- Access DGN V7 and V8 support
- Access DGN and DWG translation mapping support for levels, lineweight, linetype, and color
- Use a DGN file as an underlay
- Import and export to DGN file format

Technology

Windows Logo Certification

- Certified for Windows® XP 32- and 64-bit
- Certified for Windows Vista® 32- and 64-bit
- Access native 64-bit OS support

System Requirements

- For information on system requirements, visit www.autodesk.com/autocad and click Features & Specifications.

Licensing

Prior Version Support

- Run earlier AutoCAD versions up to three releases back

Installation

Deployments

- Build 64-bit and 32-bit deployments from a single workstation

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