AutoCAD LT®

2008

Features and Benefits

AutoCAD LT® 2008 software is used for drafting and detailing by design professionals in all industries who require full DWG file format compatibility but do not require 3D capabilities, advanced customization, or network licensing of their software.

Streamline your day-to-day tasks with AutoCAD LT® 2008 software, the world's number-one-selling 2D drafting and detailing product. Daily work is simpler thanks to tools built with the drafter in mind. Work smarter and minimize workarounds as you refine your precision with annotation scaling and layer properties per viewport, text and table enhancements, and multiple leaders.

See how AutoCAD LT 2008 stacks up against previous releases in the AutoCAD LT Release Comparison Matrix, located at **www.autodesk.com/autocadlt-features***.*

Efficient Drafting

Dynamic Blocks

Feature	Function	Benefit
Create	Create Dynamic Blocks from existing block libraries in a simple, graphical manner.	Use Dynamic Blocks to save time and help standardize drawings by minimizing the need to redraw standard components.
Edit	Edit existing block libraries to set parameters and constraints. One block can contain multiple editable components in place of several blocks.	Find the right block much more efficiently. Inserting and editing the block is virtually error-free.
View	Use the new visibility controls to present a variety of standard block configurations in a single block.	Quickly and easily use different blocks without deleting or exploding them.

Drafting Productivity

Feature	Function	Benefit
Layer Express Tools	Use AutoCAD® Express Tools for layer management.	Increase productivity for everyday drafting tasks.
AutoTrack™	Use AutoTrack technology to create temporary alignment paths that help designers draw objects at specific angles or in specific relationships to other objects. AutoTrack includes two tracking options: polar tracking and object snap tracking.	Increase productivity for everyday drafting tasks.
Layers per Viewport	Specify line color, weight, type, or plot style as a function of an individual viewport, and not as a global property of the entire drawing, with enhanced layer manager.	Helps remove the work of creating and editing duplicate geometry and virtually eliminates a potential source of error.

Enhanced User Interface

Feature	Function	Benefit
Pointer Input	Launch commands, read prompts, and enter values right at the graphics cursor.	Keep your attention focused on design rather than on the command line.
Dimension Input	See dimension values, such as length and angle, on the object being created or edited. Enter new values and change them dynamically in the graphics window.	Interact dynamically with your design. This capability enables you to explore alternatives on-the-fly.
Quick Calculator	Perform calculations, convert units, and derive values from drawing entities—all from within AutoCAD LT 2008.	Get the power of the CAL command without complex command syntax.
Rollover Highlighting	Highlight objects dynamically in the drawing by rolling over them with the graphics cursor.	Helps minimize time spent selecting the wrong object in a drawing.
Editable Scale List	Create, delete, and save customized scales lists.	Easily see and work with your own scale list.

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Feature	Function	Benefit
Group or Ungroup Pan and Zoom Commands	Group pan and zoom operations into a single operation for the Undo or Redo commands.	Save time when using the Undo or Redo commands.

Tool Palettes

Feature	Function	Benefit
User Content	Drag and drop frequently used blocks and hatches directly onto tool palettes. Drag content from tool palettes directly into your drawing.	Quickly find frequently used content, such as blocks, hatches, and solid fills. Maintain standards and efficiently insert them into your designs.
Tool Properties	Pre-assign tool properties such as layer, color, and scale. Automatically switch layers, colors, and scale as you insert content into your drawings.	Save time and maintain standards by knowing that content is inserted on the proper layer with the correct scale, linetype, color, and other properties.
Manage Tool Palettes	Create palette groups using the Customize dialog box. Switch between palette groups from the Customize dialog box or from the tool palette itself.	Easily organize your tool palettes into logical sets and quickly restore them at any time to increase productivity and save time.

Annotation

Feature	Function	Benefit
Annotation Scaling	Use the scale to control the appearance, size and placement of text, hatches, blocks, line types, leaders and dimensions in your drawing. Control size, placement and appearance based on the scale set for each viewport.	Scaling of annotation is now automated, avoiding the creation and duplication of drawing annotation across multiple layers.
Create Tables	Insert standard WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) tables with in-place editing and intuitive keyboard function-ality, similar to that of Microsoft® Word.	Save time with a one-step process instead of a series of manual steps using a variety of commands.

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Perform Calculations in Tables	Perform sums, averages, and counts across rows and columns. Use standard expressions in a cell such as addition, subtraction, division, multiplication, exponents, and equals. Importing from a Microsoft® Excel® application retains formulas that were created in Excel.	Perform necessary calculations right in AutoCAD LT 2008 software. Helps reduce errors when updating values.
Edit Tables	In addition to standard grip editing, table editing options are available through the context-sensitive menu and the Properties window.	Reduce frustration and save time through simplified table modification procedures.
Bi-directional table linking	Enhanced tables provide the option to combine AutoCAD and Excel tabular information into a single AutoCAD table.	Helps keep data up-to-date with automated table linking.
Multiple Segment Leaders	Enhanced tools automate the creation of multiple leaders and the orientation of the leaders (tail or content first) with the notes.	Helps users avoid the need to create and align leaders by hand.
Multiple Line MTEXT Attributes	Create one attribute for a value that is to be displayed on two or more different lines.	Create attributes one time and apply to multiple objects.
Full WYSIWYG Text Placement	Create and edit text so it will appear exactly as it does in the drawing.	Easily view, size, position, and edit text relative to nearby geometry.
Text Formatting Toolbar	Adjust text appearance as needed using familiar tools common in other text-editing applications, such as Microsoft Word. Apply style, font, and other text properties to characters and words.	Quickly create and edit text.
Tabs, Indents, Bullets, and Numbering	Set indentation and tab stops, apply bullet styles for paragraphs, and create numbered lists using standard rulers.	Easily create multi-line paragraphs, bulleted lists, and number notes with professional-quality formatting.
Create Multiple Hatches	Select multiple continuous boundaries and hatch them all with a single command.	Save time by avoiding repetitious use of the Hatch command.
Edit Hatch Origin	Point and click to select a new hatch origin.	Avoid complex workarounds to place a hatch to your preferred origin point.

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Edit Hatch Origin	Point and click to select a new hatch origin.	Avoid complex workarounds to place a hatch to your preferred origin point.
Calculate Hatch Area	Both individual and cumulative hatch areas are listed in hatch properties as hatches are created.	Quickly and easily calculate areas of hatches.

Dimensioning

Feature	Function	Benefit
Varying Dimension Linetypes	Select different dimension and extension linetypes by using the Dimension Style or the Properties dialog box.	Give your dimensions exactly the linetype you prefer without spending time to explode and edit them.
Dimension Arc Lengths	Dimension the length of an arc, using standard arc length symbol.	Avoid time-consuming workarounds to dimension an arc.
Dimension Break	Automatically break a dimension line that crosses another dimension line	Avoid current workarounds used to create dimension breaks. Dimension breaks maintain the integrity of the dimension and will automatically adjust to changes in the design.
Inspection Dimension	Associate and display inspection requirements with specific dimensions	Avoid creating additional text describing the inspection requirements that are not associated to the dimension.
Dimension Jogline	Add a jogline to a dimension to indicate that the object dimensioned is not completely represented in the drawing	Avoid current workarounds used to create a jogline. Include a jogline in a dimension and maintain the integrity of the dimensions and the dimension will automatically adjust to changes in the design
Dimension Large Radii Curves	Create a jogged radial dimension line to indicate the radius of an arc or a circle that is too large to fit on the drawing.	Save time by automatically creating a jogged dimension line.
Flip Dimension Arrows	Flip an individual dimension arrow from inside to outside the dimension line and back.	Avoid workaround to move dimension arrows manually.

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Data Exchange

Workflow and Interoperability

Feature	Function	Benefit
Read/Write to Previous Versions of AutoCAD/Save AutoCAD® Release 14 DWG™ Files	Read and write to previous versions of AutoCAD software.	Easily collaborate and exchange data with users on older versions of AutoCAD.
Using DWF™ as an Underlay/Reference	Import a DWF file and use it as a starting point for the addition of more information.	Secure, lightweight DWF files enable users to share design information with other companies on a project.

Publishing

Electronic Publishing

Feature	Function	Benefit
Publish to DWF	Publish drawing files in the DWF file format.	Secure, lightweight DWF format enables designers to exchange electronic drawings without the use of editable DWG files.
Create PDF Files	Export drawing files in Adobe® PDF format.	Enables users who have standardized on PDF to view and print drawing files.

Viewing and Markup

Feature	Function	Benefit
Free* Autodesk® Design Review	Autodesk Design Review provides secure, digital markup, measure, and redlining functionality to project team members who do not own or know how to use graphics software. Users can view, print, and mark up drawings with comments, sketches, dimensions, text, and stamps. Markups can be round-tripped to AutoCAD LT, and reviewed in the context of the design itself for fast, accurate revisions.	Work digitally with team members unfamiliar with AutoCAD, to speed projects to completion and easily communicate changes throughout the entire design review process.

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Feature	Function	Benefit
Markup Set Manager	Display the list of markups (created in Design Review) in the current markup set, using a tree view organized by sheets. Republish markups, open sheets with associated markups, and change the markup status.	Automate the iterative process of drawing review, mark up, and revision, streamlining workflow and helping increase productivity.

Simplified Plotting

Feature	Function	Benefit
Enhanced Plot User Interface	Provides all page setup controls in one location, with the most commonly used controls on the left side. The Preview option provides a full preview of how the current plot settings will be applied when you plot the drawing.	Increase productivity with easy access to the most frequently used plot controls.
Background Plotting	Whether publishing designs to DWF files or plotting to paper, designers can continue working in the drawing editor while AutoCAD LT 2008 plots in the background.	Spend more time drafting and less time waiting for plot jobs.

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