

Autodesk Architectural Desktop



Features and Benefits

Tired of working with time-consuming CAD-based drafting? Get more productivity with Autodesk® Architectural Desktop 2005. Designed specifically for architects and built on AutoCAD® software, Architectural Desktop intelligent objects mean you can get productive right away. You can continue to use your existing ways of working while implementing increasingly powerful and effective features gradually, at your own pace. You get the productivity of automated documentation, the efficiency of intelligent architectural objects, and the flexibility of file-based collaboration.

Design, visualize, and document with Autodesk Architectural Desktop 2005—AutoCAD for architects.

Key Features and Benefits

Immediate productivity for architects using AutoCAD

With intelligent architectural objects, such as walls, doors, and windows, which interact logically, Autodesk Architectural Desktop provides many tools that automate tedious drafting tasks. You can easily make changes directly in an intuitive workspace, providing a smoother means of design.

Greater efficiency in design workflow

Designs in Autodesk Architectural Desktop are coordinated with your construction documents. Architectural Desktop helps ensure that the work you do in design development is available for immediate use during the documentation process.

Since your designs are linked to your construction documents, coordinating changes is easier, making the documentation process more efficient by helping to reduce errors and omissions.

Flexibility in implementation and use

For architects currently using AutoCAD software, Autodesk Architectural Desktop's file-based approach to design and use of intelligent building objects immediately enhances productivity while providing a familiar design environment consistent with your current standards and practices.

Enhanced collaboration

Because Autodesk Architectural Desktop is interoperable with other Autodesk building design solutions -- such as Autodesk® Building Systems and AutoCAD -- as well as third-party applications that address specific needs -- such as estimating, structural design, and facilities management -- you can be sure that extensive tools and solutions are available for you and your extended design team to get your project done efficiently.

Legend

√ denotes feature availability

√⁺ denotes feature enhancements

Immediate productivity for architects

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Direct Manipulation	Streamlining the design process by eliminating dialog boxes, direct manipulation enhances design productivity by keeping you focused on the design task at hand.				√		√ ⁺
Tool Palettes	Highly visual and customizable, tool palettes provide centralized access to your commonly used project-based design tools, thus enhancing productivity.				√		√ ⁺
Properties Palette	The Properties Palette streamlines the design process by providing all the most common modification options in one location, enhancing productivity.				√		√ ⁺
Content Browser	The Content Browser provides a central location to disseminate project-based information, ensuring that every member of your design team has access to the most up-to-date tools.				√		√ ⁺
Materials	Materials enhance coordination among your designs, construction documents, and design visualizations.				√		√ ⁺
Drawing Window Status Bar	The user interface has been streamlined into highly focused areas of all-purpose drawing tools, providing a fluid design environment that enhances your productivity and efficiency.			√	√	√	√ ⁺
Style Manager	The new Grouping by Functionality feature makes it even easier to access the specific style you want.		√		√		√
Display Manager	Easily change a design's view from a plotted floor plan to a reflected ceiling plan to custom plans without having to create separate drawings for each view. Since each view is based on your design, you can be assured that any change you make is properly reflected throughout all views of your design data.		√		√		√ ⁺

Immediate productivity for architects

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Object Viewer	Explore designs more effectively with instant feedback on the model or selected components, allowing for a better visual understanding of your designs.		√		√		√
AEC Content Wizard	Customized library of content adheres to your office standards, saving time and helping to ensure accuracy.		√		√		√
Profiles	Edit-in-place functionality makes profile creation easier, saving design time.		√		√		√ ⁺
Model Explorer	Get instant feedback on conceptual design models, even as you explore multiple design ideas.		√		√		√
Mass Elements	Mass elements streamline model creation and organization during the initial phases of design and also enable you to add complex detail to other Autodesk Architectural Desktop building model objects.		√		√		√ ⁺
Drape	Create terrain models for presentation graphics.						√
Mass Groups	Easily structure and manage mass models with mass grouping tools, saving time and increasing productivity.		√		√		√ ⁺
Floor Plates	Extracted floor outlines become the basis for workable floor plans for further design development.		√		√		√
Spaces	Automatically generate spaces from conceptual studies or design information to produce room information, complete with square footage that updates as your designs change.		√		√		√ ⁺
Walls	Major enhancements to walls provide productivity boosts to everyone on your design team, for both first-time and experienced users.		√		√		√ ⁺
Doors and Openings	Door enhancements provide additional graphic detail for design and documentation purposes. These enhancements increase design productivity through ease of use.		√		√		√ ⁺

Immediate productivity for architects

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Windows	Window enhancements provide additional graphic detail for design and documentation purposes. These enhancements increase design productivity through ease of use.		√		√		√ ⁺
Curtain Walls	Curtain walls' high capacity for detail and enhanced ease of use enable you to use them as the basis for accurate sections, elevations, and details.		√		√		√ ⁺
Curtain Wall Units	Enables you to freely design complex and detailed curtain wall types.		√		√		√ ⁺
Door/Window Assemblies	Automatic grouping of doors and windows makes it easy to create storefront windows.		√		√		√ ⁺
Stairs	Freely explore stair design, knowing that the stair is always following proper design codes, ensuring the accuracy of your work.		√		√		√ ⁺
Railings	Railings enable you to create and explore 2D and 3D railing design with dynamic updating and preset design rules, saving you the time and trouble of manual calculations.		√		√		√ ⁺
Column Grid	Design and manage unrestricted grid layouts for rectangular, radial, and even custom-shaped, irregular building designs.		√		√		√ ⁺
Ceiling Grid	Easily create reflected ceiling plans with light-fixture content that automatically anchors to your ceiling grid, without manipulating layers or creating separate drawings.		√		√		√
AEC Content	Vast library of content adheres to your layer standards, saving time and helping to ensure accuracy.		√		√		√ ⁺
Structural Members	Use structural members to visually check for interferences in your model, improving the accuracy and integrity of your designs.		√		√		√ ⁺
Roofs	Roofs provide the basis for further roof design and control through the use of roof slabs.		√		√		√ ⁺
Roof Slabs	Because you start with an accurate model, you can extract accurate roof sections and elevations, reducing documentation time.		√		√		√ ⁺

Immediate productivity for architects

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Slabs	The flexibility of the slab gives you the freedom to easily create flat or sloped floors with edge styles for an even more realistic model that can be used as the basis for details, sections, and elevations.		√		√		√ ⁺
Areas and Area Groups	Use areas and area groups to automate cost estimations based on your designs, saving time compared to calculating these estimates manually.		√		√		√ ⁺

Greater efficiency in design workflow

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Drawing Management	Drawing Management tools ensure consistency throughout all aspects of the project. You can be assured that everyone on your design team is accessing the most current documents—from project templates to sections and elevations—from a centralized location.				√		√ ⁺
Sheet Sets	Introduced with AutoCAD 2005 and further enhanced by Architectural Desktop's project navigator feature to better support the building design process, elevations, Sections, Details, Schedules, Sheet Numbers, Sheet Indexes, call outs, and general annotation are coordinated and resulting sheet sets can be fully managed, plotted, published, e-transmitted and archived.					√	√ ⁺
Callout Routines	These tools quickly create detail call outs, section marks, and elevation marks. They also integrate with the appropriate Architectural Desktop commands for creating sections/elevations and the Drawing Management system in order to automatically create the views in the proper location, support the placing of resulting views in Sheets and automating the coordination between call outs, sheet numbers, and appropriate section/elevation/detail designation, even across different files.						√
Details	A robust library containing thousands of detail components streamlines the process of creating construction details. Since detail components are created as AutoCAD entities, details can take on virtually any desired shape that the designer has defined, while maintaining intelligence.		√		√		√ ⁺
Keynotes	Keynoting feature streamlines the error-prone process of manually annotating construction documents while ensuring that the notes are standardized notes that are controlled via a central Microsoft® Access database.		√		√		√ ⁺

Greater efficiency in design workflow

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
AEC Modify Tools	Streamlines detail component editing and basic AutoCAD object modification with a series of enhanced tools including: Trim, Extend, Subtract, Obscure, Merge, and Crop.						√ ⁺
Sections and Elevations	Sections and Elevations are style based and remain consistent with your project. When you make a change in your design, sections and elevations update, saving time and helping ensure the accuracy of your data.		√		√		√ ⁺
Live Sections	Live Sections with materials provide a good way to work on a limited area of a large model, with each design change reflected in real time in your designs, eliminating tedious manual updates.				√		√ ⁺
AEC Dimensions	Since the dimensions are associative, they update as your designs change, eliminating manual updates.		√		√		√
Schedules	Schedules are dynamically linked to your design data, automatically updating as your design changes. This reduces errors and omissions.		√		√		√ ⁺
Schedule Tags	You can use predefined tags or create custom tags that contain dynamically updating information.		√		√		√ ⁺
Property Set Data	Property set data - used to query and display non-graphical information of objects such as size, fire rating, material, etc - is dynamic and attaches easily to AEC objects for scheduling purposes, saving you time.		√		√		√ ⁺
VIZ Render	With 3ds max [®] 6 technology at its core, VIZ Render, a streamlined and simplified visualization application that is fully integrated into the Autodesk Architectural Desktop workflow, helps you capitalize on your existing building model to produce design presentations suitable for any stage of design development and marketing.				√		√ ⁺

Flexibility in implementation and use

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Setup and Deployment Options	New setup options, for both network and single-user installations, make it easier to control and manage content with its new ability to point content support files to a centralized location.						√
Tables	Provides a quick and easy way of creating tables and managing the text within them. It also automates the creation of Keynote Legends.					√	√
Field Codes	Hyperlink information such as specifications for head, jamb, and sill details for a door in a door schedule for even greater coordination. Use to dynamically display project information on title sheets and title blocks.					√	√+
Plot Setup UI	Plot setup user interface makes it easy to setup sheets for plotting with different plot styles.	√	√	√	√	√+	√+
Layer Manager	Since Autodesk Architectural Desktop manages layers, you can be confident that everything you draw goes on the correct layer, helping ensure the accuracy of your designs.	√	√	√	√	√+	√+
True Color/Color Books Support	Popular color palettes enhance your ability to create presentation-quality output.			√	√	√	√
Gradient Fills	The flexibility of the gradient patterns, combined with the new true color, PANTONE®, and RAL color options, enables you to create presentation-quality drawings in Autodesk Architectural Desktop.			√	√	√	√
Shaded Viewport Plotting	Plotting shaded and rendered viewports gives you even more options for high-quality presentation graphics.			√	√	√	√

Enhanced collaboration

Feature	Benefit	Product Comparison					
		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Autodesk Building Systems Support	Since Autodesk Building Systems is built on Autodesk Architectural Desktop software's object technology, coordination among team members and design teams has never been easier within the complex building design process.	√			√		√ ⁺
Export to AutoCAD	Export to AutoCAD allows users to easily generate pure AutoCAD DWG files to distribute to consultants who may be using various versions of AutoCAD.		√		√		√ ⁺
Publish DWF	With the click of a button, you can view pertinent information such as a door's fire rating or a room's square footage using Autodesk® DWF™ Viewer. And since it is DWF file format, members of your design team can review and redline as well, making DWF an efficient means to distribute and share data.	√	√	√	√	√ ⁺	√ ⁺
Import LandXML	Import LandXML data from a civil application, such as Autodesk® Land Desktop, and Autodesk Architectural Desktop can create accurate digital terrain models, so you can accurately understand the details of the building site without having to redraw it.						√
Publish to Autodesk Mapguide®	With this tool, architects can provide additional support to other industry professionals, such as facilities managers, who are using Autodesk MapGuide software to give them quick access to building areas and their corresponding resources.						√
Export Property Data	Easily export the data in Autodesk Architectural Desktop drawings to Microsoft Access, where it can then be viewed, sorted, queried, and even imported into other applications to perform specific tasks, such as cost estimation.						√
Export IFC 2x	IAI certified IFC2x partner plug-in makes data exchange possible with applications that can import IFC data.						√

Enhanced collaboration

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		AutoCAD 2002	Arch Desktop 3/3.3	AutoCAD 2004	Arch Desktop 2004	AutoCAD 2005	Arch Desktop 2005
Etransmit	E-transmit sheets, sheet sets or complete projects with the option of saving designs as AutoCAD DWG files in one easy step.	√	√	√	√	√+	√+
Autodesk® Buzzsaw® Support	Autodesk Architectural Desktop is integrated with the Autodesk Buzzsaw online project collaboration service, enabling you to share drawings, documents, and project team communications in one central and secure online location. Easily access and distribute your drawings with the user-friendly direct link to your Autodesk Buzzsaw site.	√		√	√	√	√
Autodesk® Architectural Studio Support	Sketches and conceptual models created in Autodesk Architectural Studio integrate with Autodesk Architectural Desktop and vice versa. Interoperable with Autodesk Architectural Desktop, Autodesk Architectural Studio enhances an iterative design approach and the communication of design intent among your project team.	√		√			√
Autodesk Professional Services	Autodesk Professional Services provides integrated consulting, training, and support to help you maximize the value of your investment in Autodesk technology.	√		√			√
Third-Party Support	Customizes data from Autodesk Architectural Desktop with third-party solutions to suit your many design needs.	√		√			√+

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Autodesk, Inc.
111 McInnis Parkway
San Rafael, CA 94903
USA

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