

Top 20 Reasons to Switch from AutoCAD 2000 to AutoCAD 2005 Software

Everyday Tools Are Better Than Before

AutoCAD® 2005 software has all your favorite tools, but now they're better than ever. You'll save time because everyday tasks require fewer steps. A new, optimized DWG file format (introduced with AutoCAD 2004) improves speed, reduces file size, and boosts performance.

- 1. AutoCAD 2005 software is just plain faster than AutoCAD 2000.** Drawing files are about half the size in AutoCAD 2005, saving you time and disk space. Plus, AutoCAD 2005 software is optimized to take advantage of today's hardware and operating systems.
- 2. Double-click to edit any object.** You don't have to fumble around searching for the proper editing command. Simply double-click on any object to access the associated editing tools.
- 3. Intuitive use of common commands.** You can edit drawings faster and easier with an improved user interface for many frequently-used AutoCAD commands:
 - Speedy Purge dialog removes the tedium from cleaning up your drawings
 - Trim and Extend commands are combined eliminating the need for you to bounce back and forth between the two commands
 - Array dialog box includes a preview option to save time and minimize mistakes
 - Fillet and Chamfer require fewer steps and have more capabilities
- 4. Robust boundary hatching.** Boundary hatch improvements enable you create hatches with greater efficiency.
 - Gap tolerance enables you to hatch an area whose boundary is not closed reducing the need for you to find and fix all gaps in the boundary you want to hatch
 - Draworder enables you to place hatching behind the boundary so that you can easily select the boundary for future editing
 - Gradient fills enable you to create a solid hatch fill that gives the blended-color effect of a surface with light on it
 - Trim an existing hatch to a new boundary without having to erase and recreate the hatch
- 5. Efficient undo and multiple redo operations.** You no longer have to manually recreate your drawing after you mistakenly undo too far. In AutoCAD 2005, you can perform multiple redo operations and you can conveniently select multiple redo and undo operations from a history list.
- 6. Flexible views and viewports.** Enhancements to named views and paperspace viewports offer greater flexibility and control.
 - Double-click inside or outside of a paperspace viewport to switch between the viewport and the layout

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- Maximize viewport enables you to edit the model from paperspace without disturbing the viewport settings on the layout
- Named views store layer visibility properties enabling you to display views of the same area but with different layers
- Edit boundaries of a named view without having to remove and recreate the view

7. Improved dimensioning. Dimensions are smarter and more flexible enabling you to increase productivity while reducing errors.

- Associative dimensions automatically update when you modify the associated geometry
- Dimensions created in paperspace can be associated with modelspace geometry
- Background fill enables you to hide objects beneath dimension text for cleaner more readable drawings

8. Easy and flexible text creation. Significant improvements to the Mtext editor enable you to create and edit text faster and with more flexibility.

- Tabs and indents reduce the time you spend aligning text
- An in-place editing interface provides WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) functionality taking the guesswork out of text editing
- Text that you insert from Microsoft® Word documents maintains formatting reducing the need to reformat it in AutoCAD
- Change Case enables you to change existing text to upper or lower case
- Background Mask enables you to create a fill around your text obscuring objects below the text

9. Easy and flexible layer manipulation. The Layer Properties Manager enables you to create, view, and manage layers faster and easier.

- Layer states enable you to save and restore layer visibility settings
- Named group filters enables you to explicitly assign a layer to a group
- Apply option enables you to save layer properties and see the result without having to close the Layer Manager
- Layer translator enables you to remap layers in a drawing so that all of the objects on a specified layer go to a different layer

10. Powerful External Reference (XREF) functionality. Many enhancements to Xref functionality enable you to find, edit, and update external references with minimal effort and maximum efficiency.

- Reference Edit functionality is streamlined enabling you to edit source reference data with minimal steps
- XOPEN enables you to open an attached Xref file in its own editing window without having to know the file name or where it is located
- Xref notification automatically notifies you when someone updates a drawing that is externally referenced by your current drawing.
- Reference Manager lists referenced files in selected drawings and enables you to modify the saved reference paths without opening the drawing files in AutoCAD

New Features Make Work Easier

There have been hundreds of productivity enhancements since AutoCAD 2000 software was introduced. These are some of our customers' favorite new features in AutoCAD 2005 software.

11. CAD Standards monitoring. CAD Standards tools make it easy for you to maintain consistency throughout your drawing files.

- Notification functionality alerts you when a standards violation occurs while working in a drawing enabling you to fix a standards violation immediately
- Check Standards tool enables you to audit the current drawing for standards violations and it suggests appropriate fixes for the violations
- Batch Standards Checker audits a selection of drawings for standards violations and creates a report detailing all violations

12. Customizable and Flexible Tool Palettes. Friendly Tool Palettes are easy to customize and can be docked, rolled up, or made partially transparent providing you easy access to frequently-used tools and content without taking up your valuable screen space.

- Tools can access your standard content libraries for blocks, images, hatches, and external references helping you ensure consistency across drawings and projects
- Tool properties can be pre-assigned using an intuitive dialog box allowing you to apply object properties without the need for programming
- ARX and LiSP support enables you to access your favorite custom utilities from a tool palette
- Drag and drop of toolbar buttons enables you to take advantage of your existing environment
- Palette groups enable you to organize your tool palettes into logical sets for easier access

13. Intuitive Sheet Set Manager. The Sheet Set Manager helps you organize, display, and manage a named collection of drawing sheets.

- View, open, and plot the entire sheet set or any combination of sheets and access all of the sheets in a sheet set from one convenient location
- Publish to paper or a multi-sheet electronic format with just one click
- Create transmittal and archive sets containing all of the drawings and reference files in the entire sheet set
- Synchronize sheet data with titleblocks, view labels, and callouts throughout the sheet set enabling you to dramatically increase efficiency while reducing errors

14. Streamlined tables. New table functionality enables you to create and modify tables using intuitive and flexible tools.

- Table styles enable you to pre-assign table properties such as font, colors, and grid lines streamlining table creation and improving consistency
- Right-click menu options and the Properties window offer familiar and intuitive tools for adding rows and columns, merging cells, and modifying table properties

15. Productivity-focused Express Tools. The AutoCAD Express Tools is a library of over 100 productivity tools designed to help you shave time off your daily drafting tasks. They are easy to use and cover a wide range of AutoCAD functions, including layer management, dimensioning, drawing, object selection, object modification, and much more.

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16. Automated Field text. Fields are specialized text objects that enable you to modify a field value in one location and automatically propagate the change throughout the drawing or sheet set. You can include fields in text, block attributes, and even in tables!

17. Easy keyboard customization. The customize dialog box offers an easy and intuitive method for you to assign keyboard shortcuts to any AutoCAD command.

18. Streamlined Publishing. Publishing to paper or electronic DWF™ (Design Web Format™) offers more flexibility while consuming less of your time.

- Plot styles enable you to override other object properties at plot time resulting in greater control and flexibility of plotted output
- Publish functionality enables you to plot to paper or publish to DWF, an entire set of drawings in a single operation
- Background plotting enables you to continue designing in AutoCAD while your publish job processes in the background

19. Efficient electronic transmittal sets. With eTransmit, you can package a set of drawing files and all related dependent files such as Xrefs and font files into an electronic transmittal set. Easily share the transmittal set with design partners via email, the internet, or CD.

20. Sophisticated Block Attribute tools. New block attribute tools make it easier for you to modify and utilize attribute data.

- Enhanced Attribute Editor enables you to view and modify attribute properties and values in a selected block instance.
- Block Attribute Manager enables you to modify the attribute definitions within block definitions without having to explode and redefine the block.
- Attribute Extraction Wizard enables you to query drawings for block attribute information and save it to an external file in various formats including Microsoft® Excel.



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