

# Features and Benefits

AutoCAD LT® 2009 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.

Dramatically increase productivity with AutoCAD LT® 2009 software. Boost efficiency with innovative features that reduce the risk for error and save time by automating routine tasks. New controls simplify navigation, enabling designers to find commands quickly and easily and helping new users to become productive as quickly as possible.

See how AutoCAD LT 2009 software stacks up against previous releases in the AutoCAD LT Release Comparison Matrix at [www.autodesk.com/autocadlt-features](http://www.autodesk.com/autocadlt-features).

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# 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® software 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 the enhanced layer manager.	Reduce time spent creating and editing duplicate geometry and minimize potential sources of error.

## Enhanced User Interface

Feature	Function	Benefit
Ribbon	The ribbon interface presents command options in a concise visual format, enabling users to quickly select commands based on the work they are doing.	Overall drafting productivity is increased by decreasing the number of steps to reach a command.
Menu Browser	The new menu browser interface enables users to browse files and examine thumbnail images as well as provides detailed information about file size and file creator.	Improve productivity through fast visual review of files without having to load them into AutoCAD LT <sup>®</sup> software.
Quick Properties	The Quick Properties menu shows the most common information needed for that entity. The menu can be easily customized by selecting the button in the upper-right corner of the menu.	Get exactly the properties information you need when you need it.
Quick View	Review open drawings and layouts with thumbnail images.	Makes opening drawings and layouts faster and less error prone.
Pointer Input	Launch commands, read prompts, and enter values right at the graphics cursor.	Stay 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 a design and explore alternatives on-the-fly.

## Tool Palettes

Feature	Function	Benefit
User Content	Drag frequently used blocks and hatches directly onto tool palettes. Drag content from tool palettes directly into a drawing.	Quickly find frequently used content, such as blocks, hatches, and solid fills. Maintain standards and efficiently insert them into 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 helping to ensure 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 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, linetypes, leaders, and dimensions in a 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 functionality application.	Save time with a one-step process instead of a series of manual steps using a variety of commands.
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® spreadsheet software application retains formulas that were created using Excel.	Perform necessary calculations right in AutoCAD LT® 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 dialog box.	Reduce frustration and save time through simplified table modification procedures.

Edit Hatch Origin	Point and click to select a new hatch origin.	Avoid complex workarounds to place a hatch to a preferred origin point.
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Feature	Function	Benefit
Bidirectional table linking	Enhanced tables provide the option to combine tabular information generated using AutoCAD LT <sup>®</sup> software or Microsoft <sup>®</sup> Excel <sup>®</sup> spreadsheet software into a single AutoCAD LT table.	Help 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.	Help 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 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. 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 multiline paragraphs and 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 a preferred origin point.

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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.

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## Dimensioning

Feature	Function	Benefit
Varying Dimension Linetypes	Select different dimension and extension linetypes by using the Dimension Style or the Properties dialog box.	Give 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 automatically adjust to changes in the design.
Inspection Dimension	Associate and display inspection requirements with specific dimensions.	Avoid creating additional text describing inspection requirements that are not associated to the dimension.
Dimension Jog Line	Add a jog line to a dimension to indicate that the object dimensioned is not completely represented in the drawing.	Avoid current workarounds used to create a jog line. Include a jog line in a dimension and maintain the integrity of the dimensions and the dimension automatically adjusts 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.

## Data Exchange

### Workflow and Interoperability

Feature	Function	Benefit
Read/Write to Previous Versions of AutoCAD® software/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 PDF format created using Adobe® software.	Enables users who have standardized on PDF format to view and print drawing files.

## Viewing and Markup

Feature	Function	Benefit
Free* Autodesk® Design Review software	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® software, to speed projects to completion and easily communicate changes throughout the entire design review process.
Markup Set Manager	Display the list of markups (created in Autodesk Design Review software) 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 the drawing is plotted.	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® software plots in the background.	Spend more time drafting and less time waiting for plot jobs.

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