Autodesk® AutoCAD® 2014
Questions and Answers

Autodesk AutoCAD 2014 software delivers social collaboration tools, time-saving enhancements, live maps, and reality capture capabilities

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AUTODESK.

1. General product information

1.1 What is AutoCAD 2014 software and who uses it?
Design and shape the world around you with the powerful, connected design tools in Autodesk® AutoCAD® 2014 software, one of the world's leading 2D and 3D design applications. With robust 3D tools that can create almost any shape imaginable, AutoCAD helps you create stunning designs. It offers innovations that can help increase design efficiency and speed documentation, and enables you to more smoothly share designs with colleagues. Connect with the cloud to collaborate on designs and access them from your mobile device. With these capabilities and more, AutoCAD delivers the power and flexibility you need to take documentation and design further.

AutoCAD software is used by architects, CAD technicians, designers, engineers, project managers, and CAD/IT managers in a variety of industries, including the manufacturing, building, civil, and mapping industries.

2. Technology

2.1 What are the system requirements for AutoCAD 2014 software?
System requirements can be found online.

2.2 Does AutoCAD 2014 software support 64-bit operating systems?
Yes. See the system requirements above.

2.3 Does AutoCAD 2014 software support Windows 8?
Yes, AutoCAD 2014 supports the Windows® 8 operating system.

2.4 Is AutoCAD available for Mac OS X?
AutoCAD 2013 for Mac supports some versions of Mac OS® X.

2.5 What are the differences between AutoCAD 2014 and AutoCAD 2013 for Mac?
AutoCAD 2014 and AutoCAD 2013 for Mac are based on much of the same source code; however, AutoCAD for Mac 2013 has a look and feel that is familiar to users of other Mac software. Please refer to the AutoCAD 2014 Platform Comparison Matrix.

2.6 Does AutoCAD 2014 software support multiple CPU systems?
Yes, AutoCAD 2014 software supports multiple CPUs. The performance of AutoCAD graphics and rendering systems benefits from multiple CPU systems.

3. Installation, configuration, and licensing

3.1 What are the purchasing options and pricing for AutoCAD 2014 software?
AutoCAD 2014 software is available through your local reseller, online retailers, or from the Autodesk Store.

Consult your local reseller or the Autodesk Store for pricing information and for information on Autodesk® Subscription.

3.2 Can I try AutoCAD 2014 software before I buy it?
Yes, you can try it out by downloading or requesting the AutoCAD 2014 software trial version. This fully functioning version of AutoCAD 2014 is available as a free* 30-day trial. You can download the fully functioning trial version.

*Free products are subject to the terms and conditions of the end-user license and services agreement that accompanies the software.

3.3 What is product activation and how do I activate my software?
Product activation is a software-based license management technology incorporated into many Autodesk products. It is a secure and trouble-free process that authenticates licensed users running Autodesk software. The process verifies that the serial number is legitimate and is activated only on eligible computers. It does not affect the ability of licensed users to operate their software the way they have always done. The first time you start up the product, you can activate your product 24 hours a day, seven days a week, over the Internet or via email. Either option takes only a few steps to complete and requires your product serial number and registration information. More information on product activation can be found online.

3.4 Will product activation enable me to use the software on multiple computers?
Autodesk recognizes that some users may need to operate the software when they are away from their usual work location. To accommodate this need, the product activation technology enables an employee to install the software on a second computer owned by the employee's company, provided it is for use away from the employee's usual work location, the software is used only by that employee and no other, and only one of the two copies of the software is ever in use at any one time. Consult the Autodesk Software License Agreement for details about using the software on a second computer.

3.5 How do I transfer my software license to another machine?
The Online License Transfer (OLT) Utility enables licenses to be moved between machines. The OLT replaces the former Portable License Utility. To transfer a license, simply start the transfer utility and choose Export. Then log in to the OLT website and "park" your license at an Autodesk "parking area." At the destination computer, start the transfer utility and choose Import. Log back in to the OLT website and import your license to the destination computer.

4. Compatibility and interoperability

4.1 Do third-party applications based on previous versions work with AutoCAD 2014?
Third-party applications built for previous versions of AutoCAD and based on ActiveX® and ObjectARX® developer tools require upgrades to be compatible with AutoCAD 2014. Check with your application developer/supplier regarding availability of applications built for AutoCAD 2014.

4.2 Do AutoCAD 2013 customized menus work in AutoCAD 2014 software?
Yes, AutoCAD 2014 software automatically migrates customized menus (CUI files). The first time you launch AutoCAD 2014, the migration feature asks you if you would like to migrate the settings from your previous AutoCAD version to AutoCAD 2014. The migration feature helps you make a smooth transition to the new release by automatically migrating customized menus, toolbar icons, hatch patterns, linetypes, command shortcuts, and profiles for all versions the software since AutoCAD 2005. Refer to Services & Support for additional migration tools.

4.3 Has the AutoCAD 2014 DWG file format changed from the AutoCAD 2013 product?
No, the AutoCAD 2014 DWG™ file format has not changed from the AutoCAD 2013 product. AutoCAD 2014 enables you to save drawings in a wide variety of other formats, ranging back to R14 DWG and R12 DXF™ formats.

4.4 Does AutoCAD 2014 software read and save drawings created by earlier versions?
AutoCAD 2014 reads drawing files from all previous versions of AutoCAD software. AutoCAD 2014 has a built-in Save As function, so you can save drawings to and from AutoCAD releases using AutoCAD Release 14, 2000, 2004, 2007, and 2010 DWG formats. In addition, you can use the Save As AutoCAD Release 12 DXF command to support versions prior to AutoCAD Release 14.

4.5 Can I open an AutoCAD 2014 drawing with an older version of AutoCAD?
You can open an AutoCAD 2014 drawing in AutoCAD 2013 and vice versa. In order to open AutoCAD 2014 or AutoCAD 2013 drawings with versions older than AutoCAD 2013, you should use Autodesk® DWG TrueView™ software to translate DWG files to AutoCAD Release 14, 2000, 2004, 2007, and 2010 file formats. DWG TrueView can be downloaded at www.autodesk.com/dwgtrueview. DWG TrueView does not require the AutoCAD application in order to convert DWG files.

4.6 Can I run AutoCAD 2014 side-by-side with other AutoCAD platform–based applications?
Yes, subject to compliance with the terms of the Autodesk License and Services Agreement, AutoCAD 2014 can be installed side-by-side with any other AutoCAD or Autodesk vertical solution, including AutoCAD 2013–based products.

4.7 Is AutoCAD 2014 compatible with AutoCAD LT?
Yes, AutoCAD 2014 is fully DWG-compatible with AutoCAD LT 2014 software. It can read files from all older versions of AutoCAD LT and can save to AutoCAD 2010, 2007, 2004, 2000, and Release 14 DWG file formats for compatibility with older products.

5. Consulting, training, and support

5.1 How do I obtain direct technical support?
Direct technical support is available from both Autodesk and Autodesk Authorized Resellers.

Furthermore, Autodesk Subscription is a comprehensive software, support, and training package that simplifies your technology upgrades and boosts your design productivity. Purchase of Autodesk Subscription includes web support from Autodesk technical experts for all your installation, configuration, and troubleshooting questions.

To learn more about Autodesk Subscription, contact your Autodesk Account Executive or your Autodesk Authorized Reseller, or visit the Subscription Center.

Find a complete list of support offerings for AutoCAD on the Autodesk website.

5.2 Where do I find personalized support and training courses for AutoCAD 2014 software?
If you purchased this product from an Autodesk Authorized Reseller, contact your reseller for support and training information. To locate an Autodesk Authorized Reseller in your area, call your local Autodesk office or visit the Autodesk website. Find a complete list of AutoCAD services & support on the Autodesk website.

You can attend instructor-led training at Autodesk Authorized Training Center (ATC®) locations around the world. These training centers use Autodesk Official Training Courseware (AOTC) to deliver comprehensive courses for new and intermediate AutoCAD software users. Autodesk ATC sites also deliver custom courses on AutoCAD and other Autodesk products.

5.3 How do I find out if service packs are available for AutoCAD 2014 software?
In the event that Autodesk releases an AutoCAD 2014 software service pack, it is easy to access and install it using the Autodesk® Exchange feature within the product. Check the Autodesk Exchange window to see if an update is available. AutoCAD 2014 automatically recognizes if you have the most up-to-date release and prompts you if there is an update available. When you click the link, AutoCAD 2014 automatically downloads and installs the update.

6. Subscription

6.1 What benefits does Autodesk Subscription offer?
Get the benefits of more cloud computing capabilities and capacity, upgrades to the latest software releases, online technical support, and flexible licensing privileges with Autodesk Subscription. Get any releases of AutoCAD software that become available during your subscription term automatically via download, incremental product enhancements, and exclusive license terms that are available only to Subscription members. The annual fee includes these benefits:

- Subscription customers have an advantage with Autodesk® 360 cloud-enabled services, including greater cloud computing capabilities and more storage capacity. As a result, they can view and share more design files on web or mobile devices, simulate and visualize more design options, and improve project results with web-based collaboration and data management solutions.

- Autodesk Subscription offers a way to make your AutoCAD software costs predictable. Whether you opt for a one-year subscription or a multiyear contract, the costs are known for the entire term of your contract.

- Product enhancements may include extensions or other rich content for AutoCAD software, and these enhancements are exclusive to Subscription members. Only Subscription members can access these new product downloads that add new functionality and/or features to your AutoCAD software. Since they adapt easily into your current workflows, you can quickly apply them to your new projects to help you stay competitive.

- Autodesk Subscription makes managing software licensing hassle-free and flexible. You have added flexibility to enable your employees to use their AutoCAD software—in the office or at home. Better yet, designers are entitled to run previous versions of AutoCAD concurrently with the latest release (under certain conditions), so updates won't cause disruptions to ongoing projects where clients or partners are running previous versions.

Product downloads may include any releases of the software, extensions or bonus packs that become available during your subscription term, or other rich content for AutoCAD software. These enhancements are exclusive to Subscription members and can be downloaded from the Subscription Center.

Learn more by visiting the Autodesk Subscription product center.

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