

Features and Benefits

AutoCAD® Land Desktop 2008 software provides a base level of land development functionality to streamline the completion of common land planning and analysis tasks.

Built on AutoCAD® 2008 and AutoCAD® Map 3D 2008 software platforms, AutoCAD Land Desktop 2008 enables land development professionals to create maps, model terrain, label coordinate geometry (COGO) points, lay out alignments, and define parcels quickly and easily. The Land Desktop 2008 comprehensive development API (application programming interface) permits custom enhancements to meet users' requirements.

Supported on the Microsoft® Windows Vista™ 32-bit platform, AutoCAD Land Desktop 2008 dramatically improves the computing experience. Support for the following editions is provided: Windows Vista Enterprise, Business, Ultimate, Home Premium, and Home Basic.

Feature	Function	Benefits
Project-Based Foundation		
Project Environment	AutoCAD Land Desktop is built on a central project environment that includes project data such as terrain models, points, alignments, and parcels.	Project data is stored in a central location where all team members working on a project can access it simultaneously. Major benefits include improved drawing performance, seamless data sharing, and access to the most up-to-date information.
Drawing Standards: Industry-Specific Standards for Engineering and Survey	A complete set of imperial and metric CAD standards for the land planner and surveyor are included with AutoCAD Land Desktop 2008. Also included with each standard is a prototype drawing with standard layer definitions, prototype projects with description key files, point group definitions and other project settings, symbol libraries, label styles, contour styles, drawing setup files, and figure prefix libraries. Supporting documentation is also provided so that an office standards manual is easy to generate.	Easily implement a set of industry-appropriate standards for your organization. Drawing and production standards can greatly reduce the cost and drastically improve the quality of construction documents by helping to ensure consistency among users.
Annotation Scaling of Text Objects with Drawing Setup NEW	Additional text style setup content is now included in the existing Land Desktop user interface to support the AutoCAD 2008 annotation scaling of text objects.	Load additional text style setup content into new or existing drawing documents using the Drawing Setup command.

Feature	Function	Benefits
LandXML Support	Import and export LandXML project data to AutoCAD® Civil 3D® software and other civil engineering applications.	LandXML is rapidly becoming a standard data format for civil engineering and surveying project data such as points, terrain models, alignments, and parcels. By importing and exporting LandXML, users can easily share data with other applications.
Civil Batch Drawing Converter	The Autodesk® Civil Batch Drawing Converter utility converts multiple drawings to a different AutoCAD drawing format. Use this utility to convert multiple drawings and save them using a new drawing unit setting to help ensure correct scale and display when opening the drawing in AutoCAD Land Desktop 2008.	When working in mixed-version environments, users save valuable time while converting drawings for offices with previous versions of AutoCAD software by using this batching capability.
AutoCAD Civil 3D Data Interoperability	AutoCAD Land Desktop works seamlessly with AutoCAD Civil 3D 2008 software, which is the latest and most advanced civil engineering tool from Autodesk. Migrate AutoCAD Civil 3D data into Land Desktop projects, and vice versa, to familiarize yourself with the latest civil engineering software available while continuing to work in the familiar Land Desktop environment.	Use AutoCAD Land Desktop with AutoCAD Civil 3D to increase productivity on civil engineering projects. Complete road, site, sewer and storm drain, and subdivision projects faster and more accurately using a dynamic engineering model. Updates made in one place are instantly reflected throughout the model for accuracy, flexibility, and consistency in plan development and production.
Support for Microsoft® Windows® XP Restricted and Limited User Configuration	IT professionals who manage permissions for officewide users benefit from support for Microsoft Windows XP Restricted and Limited User settings.	Deploy AutoCAD Land Desktop without having to alter user permissions on the network. The result is a secure network that meets your office protocol standards.
Capabilities of AutoCAD 2008 and AutoCAD Map 3D 2008	AutoCAD Land Desktop 2008 is built on AutoCAD 2008 and components of AutoCAD Map 3D 2008.	Gain access to powerful drafting and base mapping functionality without leaving Land Desktop.
Points		
Point Import/Export	Easily customize formats for importing point files.	Access data from many different formats or systems for use in a project.
Point Creation	Create points with a variety of commands using graphical selection and COGO operations.	Use industry-standard terminology and input techniques when creating COGO points.
Point Management and Reporting	Use point groups to help manage points.	Use a streamlined method for defining and managing point collections into logical and clear groupings. Point groups also enable users to represent data from a single point in multiple ways. This capability minimizes unnecessary duplication of points, boosting performance and streamlining project workflow.

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Description Keys	Use description keys to help define graphical appearance, point description, and symbols.	Increase productivity and automate the process of building more complete drafting directly from the input or import of survey data and coordinate files. Description keys also assist in maintaining graphical standards such as point layer and symbol use.
Geometry Creation (Lines, Curves, and Spirals)	Create base geometric entities using graphical and COGO input functions.	Work with familiar terminology and methodology, resulting in shorter learning time and the flexibility to meet a broad set of layout requirements.
Alignments		
Plan Alignments	Lay out road alignments using graphical and tabular input and editing functions.	Gain the flexibility to meet a variety of design challenges.
Alignment Annotation	Quickly and accurately draft stationing, station/offset labels, and offset alignments that match drafting requirements.	Quickly and accurately draft stationing, station/offset labels, and offset alignments that match drafting requirements.
Parcels		
Parcel Definition	Lay out parcels using standard AutoCAD functions or focused lot-sizing commands.	Gain the flexibility to design parcels using a variety of methodologies.
Parcel Management	Store parcels in the project for rapid drafting, reporting, and base analysis.	Share parcel data with everyone working on the project. Users can also create reports in the same management interface.
Labeling		
Create Line, Curve, and Spiral Labels	Use associative labels that automatically react to changes in the geometry.	Help ensure accurate label values and locations for all geometry.
Label Styles	Use a style-based mechanism to control label appearance and drafting.	Help ensure that all drafters create consistent finish drafting for labels and tables.
Tables	Create geometry tables.	Format tables to match user specifications and quickly create tables from label tags in a drawing.
Terrain Modeling		
Terrain Model Creation	Create a surface from a variety of 3D data, including points, contours, breaklines, AutoCAD entities, and more.	Use powerful terrain modeling engine that supports large terrain models for use throughout AutoCAD Land Desktop 2008.
Terrain Model Explorer	Use a flexible surface creation and management interface.	Manage the disparate data used when building a terrain model, and perform various analysis functions quickly and easily.

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Surface Visualization and Analysis	Draft a surface model in a variety of 2D and 3D displays, including elevation and slope banding, 3D grid, and more. Analysis capabilities include watershed delineation, flow tracking, and sections.	Represent the surface based on the requirements of the project or project phase. Quickly verify the integrity of the surface, and perform complex analysis tasks.
Surfaces Volumes	Use a variety of surface volume calculation capabilities, including grid, composite, and sectional-based methods.	Calculate highly accurate cut/fill volumes using industry-standard methodology.
Contours		
Contour Creation	Create contours directly from a surface model or using manual digitizing commands.	Quickly create contours with control over layer and style.
Contour Styles	Use contour styles to control appearance, smoothing, labeling, and so forth.	Define standard graphic appearance for types of contours and contour labels. This capability helps to ensure that drafting requirements are automatically met.
Contour Labeling	Use automated, intelligent contour labeling.	Add labels without breaking the contour. This capability provides drafting benefits such as the ability to slide the label along contours. It also helps to ensure that contours are not broken into smaller segments.
Parking Layout		
Dynamic Blocks	Land Desktop includes Dynamic Blocks designed specifically for parking lot layout. Dimensions are dynamically displayed on geometry as it is created or edited. As the user enters new values directly at the graphics cursor, revised values are displayed instantly in the drawing geometry, providing immediate feedback on the information entered.	Layout of parking lots and islands is interactive and much more efficient.

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