

Top 10

Reasons to Move from AutoCAD LT to AutoCAD Software

For the people who shape everything around us, AutoCAD® software delivers the power and flexibility needed to take documentation and design further.

Why should you consider making the move from AutoCAD LT® Software

1. Explore your ideas in 3D.

AutoCAD software and a blank canvas have a lot in common. Both give you the ability to create the previously unimaginable. But AutoCAD provides the flexibility to explore design ideas in both 2D and 3D, with intuitive tools that help your concepts become real. Pushing or pulling faces, edges, and vertices to model complex shapes, you can now create and edit 3D shapes with the familiarity of 2D tools.

AutoCAD LT is a 2D drafting application only and contains no solid and surface modeling tools or sketch, shadow, or rendering tools.

2. Add parametric constraints to your drawings.

Dramatically slash your design revision time with parametric drawing. By defining persistent relationships between objects, parallel lines remain parallel and concentric circles remain centered, all automatically.

AutoCAD LT does not offer parametric constraint capabilities.

3. Print your models in 3D.

Do more than just visualize your designs—make them real. Hold your designs in the palm of your hand by connecting to your 3D printer or through an online service provider.

AutoCAD LT does not offer 3D printing capabilities.

4. Customize your software.

The AutoCAD software platform offers fully extensible drawing and application customization through APIs (application programming interfaces) such as Autodesk's AutoLISP[®] and Visual LISP[®], Microsoft .NET, and Microsoft[®] Visual Basic[®] for Applications (VBA) and Microsoft ActiveX[®] programming languages.

AutoCAD LT is not an extensible product.

5. Access your software licenses across a network.

AutoCAD license management technology enables IT managers to maximize their company's return on investment. Network licensing provides users with access to the right software at the right time and enables organizations to easily and efficiently control the use of software. Effective use of network licensing software requires investment in planning, implementation, and maintenance. Used properly, it can generate significant benefits for you and your organization.

AutoCAD LT does not offer network licensing.

6. Extend your software's capabilities with add-on applications.

Autodesk works together with thousands of software partners from around the world to create additional applications for the AutoCAD platform. These partners further enhance Autodesk's broad range of fully integrated and interoperable solutions, for every almost design profession you can imagine.

AutoCAD software also provides a flexible development platform for specialized design and drafting applications. Its open architecture enables developers to customize AutoCAD for unique purposes. Examples include Autodesk's industry-specific design software, add-on applications from partner developers, and use of AutoCAD software as an interface for other applications.

AutoCAD LT is not structured to allow third-party or in-house applications to run with it.

7. Use CAD standards tools to help control consistency in your drawings.

AutoCAD software can help provide measurable benefits to your firm's bottom line by enabling CAD managers to create, deploy, enforce, and audit standards in your design office.

Using CAD standards functionality, you can select the type of standard you want checked—dimension and text styles, layers, or linetypes—so the software checks only for violations that are important to your office. The standards manager automatically runs in the background while you work, instantly notifies you of a violation, and suggests a fix.

AutoCAD LT does not support any CAD standards functionality.

8. Create presentation-ready graphics straight from your CAD drawings.

AutoCAD includes Autodesk® Impression software (for subscription customers only). Autodesk Impression software enables you to quickly create compelling, presentation-ready graphics. Add everything from pencil lines to watercolor washes to DWG™ and DWF™ files using prebuilt styles, or create your own custom styles to convey a unique look. And because Impression enables you to save styles, you can quickly update presentation graphics when designs change, as well as apply your signature style (or styles) to all the drawings that your office produces. Best of all, familiar tools and built-in learning resources make Impression simple to learn.

AutoCAD LT does not include Impression.

9. Access frequent AutoCAD “Bonus Packs.”

AutoCAD 2010 subscription customers now have access to new bonus features and tools—all available as a free download from the [Subscription Center](#). With more frequent releases, the Subscription Bonus Pack series provides subscription users with the latest AutoCAD technologies.

AutoCAD LT does not offer bonus packs.

10. Work in a multiple sheet environment.

AutoCAD extends beyond single drawing production. In a single interface, you can access sheets, group them into logical categories, create a sheet index, manage sheet views, archive sheet sets, and share them with your project team using plots, eTransmit, or DWF files.

AutoCAD LT does not offer multiple sheet functionality.

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