

CADventures

Information for Users of AutoCAD



Things to TRY

Lotus Notes

Isn't it irritating when you're typing an email in Notes, and the mouse pointer seems to be right on top of where you're typing? Even if you move the mouse pointer out of the way, as soon as you type, it returns to where you're typing. Try this: Move the mouse pointer outside of the Notes Window entirely. When you type, the mouse pointer won't follow along.

Move Dimension Text WHEREVER YOU WANT

Do you ever need to 'tweak' the location of the text within a dimension? If it won't cooperate, do this:

1. Highlight the dimension (left-click on it).
2. Right-click, and from the pop-up menu choose Dim Text Position > Move Text Alone.
3. Pick a new location for the text using your mouse.

Right-click doesn't present you with a pop-up menu? Check the following:

1. Check your **PICKFIRST** setting, it should be on one. Type **PICKFIRST** <enter>, then **1** <enter>

Still doesn't work?

2. Click **Tools > Options, User Preferences** tab, choose **Right-click Customization**, choose **If one or more objects are selected, right click means = Shortcut Menu**.

VIEWRES Alternative

You have probably set VIEWRES, which controls the display resolution of curves like arcs and circles. But, did you know that if you set WHIPARC=1, then curves are always displayed smooth?

The advantage of setting WHIPARC to 1 is that VIEWRES no longer needs to be set. VIEWRES is stored in each drawing file separately. Since WHIPARC is not drawing specific, all drawings that you open will display smooth curves.

Disadvantage: Setting WHIPARC=1 will result in longer regen times, which might be a problem in large drawings.

WHIPARC

Type: Integer

Saved in: Registry

Initial value: 0

Controls whether the display of circles and arcs is smooth.

- 0** Circles and arcs are not smooth, but rather are displayed as a series of vectors.
- 1** Circles and arcs are smooth, displayed as true circles and arcs.

Advanced TIPS

Exporting AutoCAD Objects

If you copy objects from AutoCAD into Word, PowerPoint or other Windows applications, whether using the clipboard, drag-n-drop, or the WMFOUT command, you need to know about this AutoCAD setting:

WMFBKGND

Type: Integer

Initial value: 1

Controls whether the background display of AutoCAD objects is transparent in other applications when these objects are

- output to a Windows metafile using the WMFOUT command
- copied to the Clipboard in AutoCAD and pasted as a Windows metafile
- dragged and dropped from AutoCAD as a Windows metafile

The possible values are:

- 0** The background color is transparent. The foreground color will depend on the setting of WMFFOREGND.
- 1** The background color is the same as the AutoCAD current background color, whether in model space or in a layout. The foreground color remains unchanged.

To change WMFBKGND, type **WMFBKGND**<enter> at the AutoCAD command prompt, then enter a new value.

Windows Explorer Columns

In Explorer's Details view (if you're in the Details view, you'll see Name, Size, Type and Date columns), click a blank space in the files pane. Then hold down **Ctrl** and press the plus sign (+) on the numeric keypad. All the columns autofit themselves!

You Need to KNOW

Network Status Line

Did you know we have a network status line for critical or extended outages? If you're experiencing network or Internet problems, call extension **2525** to check network status. The Network Management team will update the voice mail message as problems arise, or are fixed. As always, if the message does not describe your problem, contact your UMT.

Too Dense to Hatch

AutoCAD sets a default limit of 10,000 segments. If the hatch being created would exceed that, AutoCAD refuses to create the hatch. You can change the default value to any number from 100 to 10,000,000. To increase the value, enter the following at the command prompt. Note that the name MaxHatch is case sensitive and must be entered as shown. This example increases the value to 100,000.

Command: (**setenv "MaxHatch" "100000"**)