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Heads-up Design

Summary

In this chapter, you learn about:

The Startup Dialog

Right-click Galore

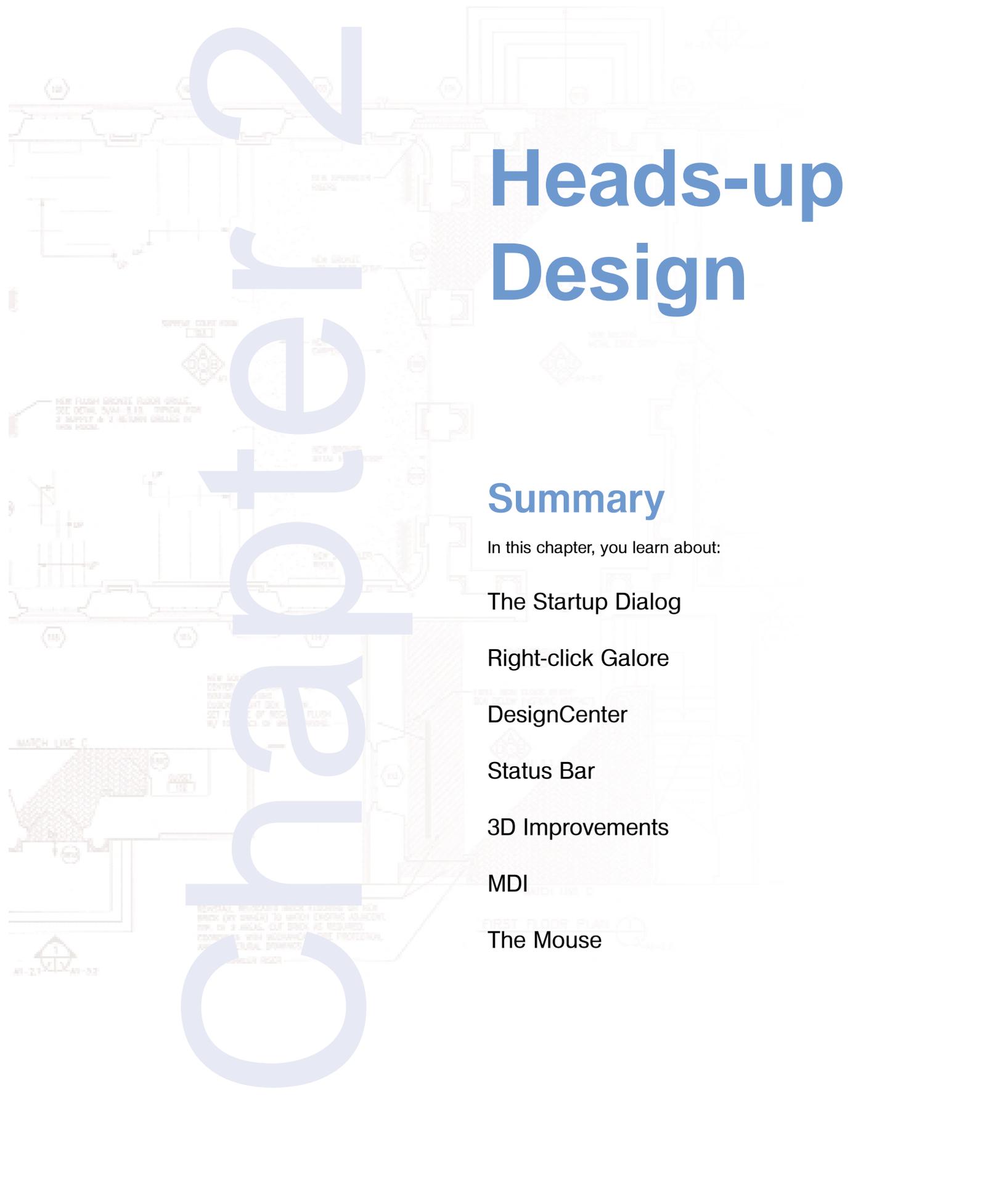
DesignCenter

Status Bar

3D Improvements

MDI

The Mouse



The Startup Dialog

AutoCAD's seldom used Startup Dialog, introduced in R14, displays each time you first start AutoCAD. (If it does not, click **Tools** → **Options**, **System** tab, then check the **Show Startup dialog** check box. Close and restart AutoCAD.)

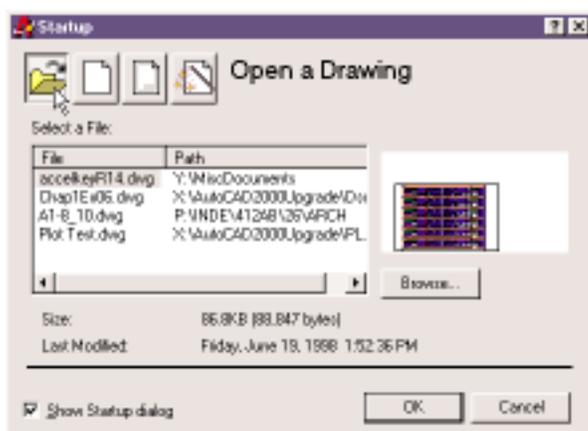


The startup dialog offers the following choices:

- **Open a Drawing** - by choosing from a list of your last four, or browsing.
- **Start from Scratch** - based on your choice of Metric or English units.
- **Use a Template** - by choosing a template as the basis for a new drawing.
- **Use a Wizard** - set up a new drawing.

Open a Drawing

More often than not, users cancel the startup dialog, then click the File pull-down menu to choose from their list of four recent drawings, or use the Open command. This is all available in the startup dialog by clicking the Open button:



Click on one of the recently used filenames to display a drawing preview. Click the Browse button to browse a local or network drive.

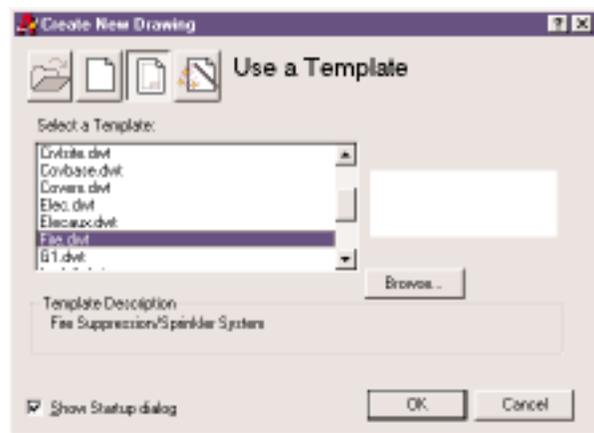
Start from Scratch

In the Startup dialog, click Start from Scratch, then choose English or Metric units. This begins a new empty drawing. 

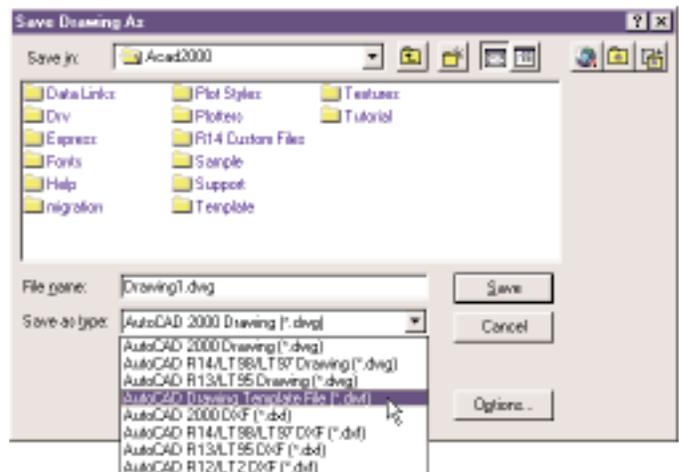
Use a Template

In the Startup dialog, click Use a Template, then choose from the list of template drawings.

If you highlight one of the DSC templates, you'll notice a description in the dialog. Click OK to begin a new drawing based on the selected template. The DSC templates have pre-configured layers, linetypes and more.



Create your own templates from your current drawing by choosing File → Save as from the pull-down menu.



In the **Save as type** list, choose **AutoCAD Drawing Template File**.

Right-click Galore

AutoCAD 2000 includes extensive right-click mouse support. If you're not sure how to do something in AutoCAD, try right-clicking, and check the shortcut menu for the option you need!

Depending on where you right-click in AutoCAD, you will get different shortcut menus.

Configuring Right-Click Behavior

As with most things in AutoCAD, right-click behavior can be configured. Many veteran AutoCAD users prefer the way right-clicking acted in version 14, which was the same as pressing Enter on the keyboard. Before you change your right-click settings to act like AutoCAD 14, give these new features an open-minded try first!

To change right-click behavior, perform the following steps:

1. Right-click on the command line, choose **Options**.
2. Click on the **User Preferences** tab of the Options dialog.
3. Click the **Right-click Customization** button.



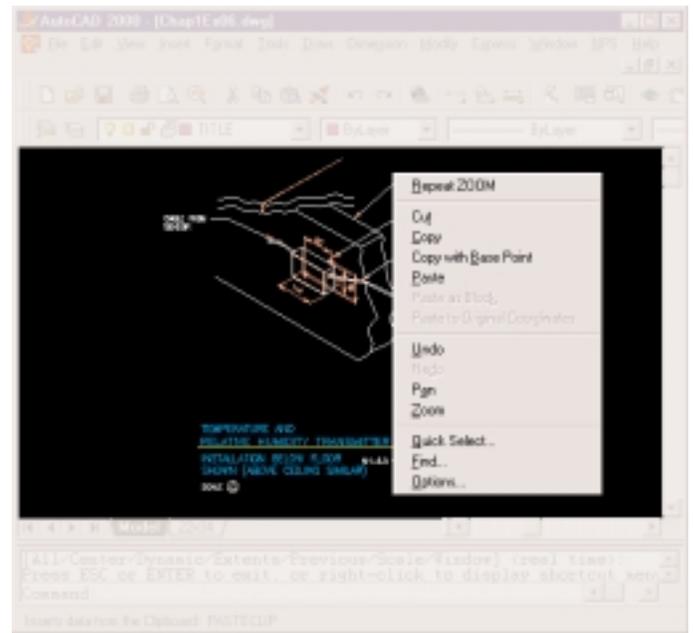
4. After adjusting your settings, click **Apply & Close**.

The following exercises depend on the settings shown above!

Right-Click In the Graphic Screen

The Graphic Screen is the area of AutoCAD where you draw or edit objects.

Without Objects Selected



Right-clicking in the graphics screen, without objects selected, brings up a menu similar to the one shown in the above example. In previous AutoCAD releases, right-clicking in the graphics screen behaves the same as pressing ENTER on the keyboard, which repeats the last used command.

The first choice in the pop-up menu repeats the last used command. Other choices include:

Cut Erase objects and put them in the clipboard.

Copy Copy objects to the clipboard.

Copy with Base Point Copy objects to clipboard, but ask for insertion point (like the BLOCK command does).

Paste Copies contents of the clipboard into the drawing (like inserting a block).

Paste as Block Copies contents of the clipboard into the drawing as a block rather than individual objects.

Paste to Original Coordinates Copies contents

of the clipboard in the drawing. Instead of asking for an insertion point, the objects are placed in the same coordinates as the copied objects.

Undo, Redo, Pan, Zoom No explanation necessary.

Quick Select New object selection command (which we'll learn about later.)

Find New command to find and replace text.

Options The options command.

4. While your mouse pointer is over the graphics screen, click your right mouse button.
5. Click **Move** with your left mouse button.
6. Move the north arrow away from the scale bar by picking a base point and second point.



With Objects Selected

Right-clicking in the graphics screen with one or more objects selected brings up a menu that includes the Erase, Copy, Move, Scale and Rotate commands.

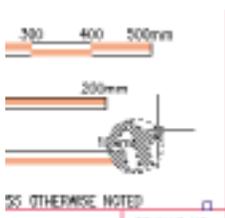
Exercise 2 - Right-click copy

1. Open Chap02Ex01.dwg, if it's not already open.
2. Also open Chap02Ex02.dwg.



Exercise 1 - Right-click move

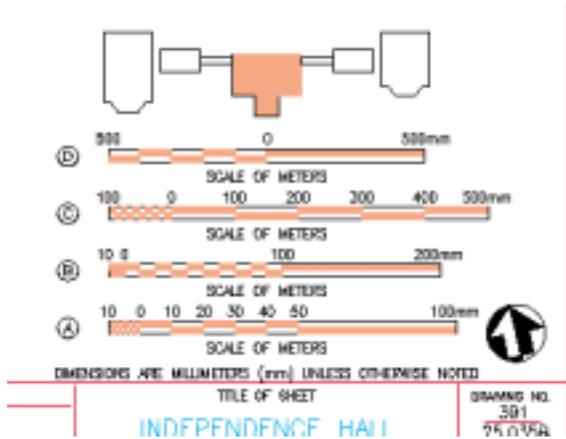
1. Open Chap02Ex01.dwg.
2. Notice the north arrow over the scale. We'll move it.



3. You now have two drawings open, Chap02Ex01.dwg and Chap02Ex02.dwg. This feature is called Multiple Document Interface (MDI), meaning you can open multiple documents simultaneously. You'll learn more about MDI in later exercises, but for now remember that you can switch between open drawings by using the Window pull-down menu.
4. Switch to **Chap02Ex01.dwg** using the Window pull-down menu.



- Switch to Paper Space by clicking the **22x34 Plot** Tab at the bottom of the graphics screen.

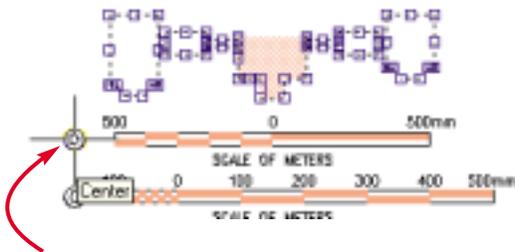


- Zoom to the area shown above.

- Select the objects shown here using a window.



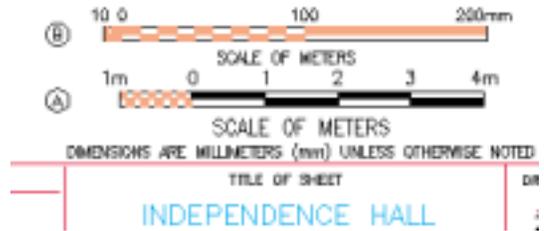
- Right-click, then select **Copy with Base Point**.



- Pick the center of scale ID "D" as the base (insertion) point - make sure you use the center object snap.

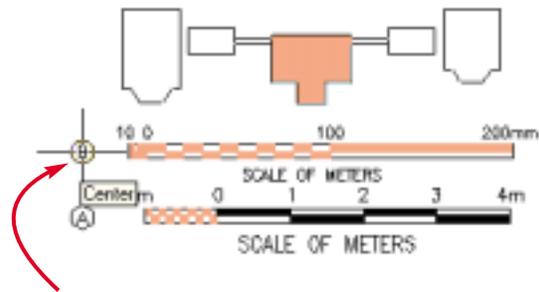
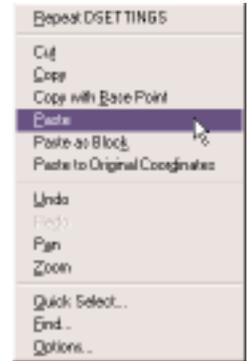
The building outline objects have been copied to the clipboard, ready to be inserted into this or another drawing.

- Click **Window** → **Chap02Ex02.dwg** from the pull-down menu.



- Zoom to the area shown above.

- With your cursor over the graphics screen, right-click, then choose **Paste**.



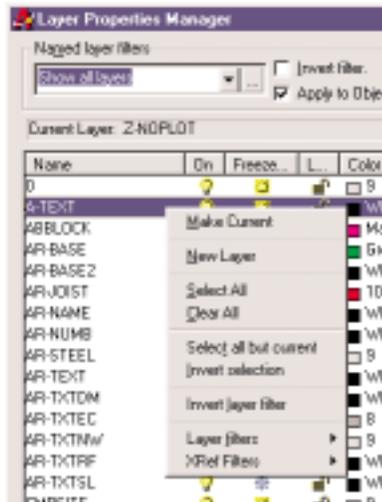
- Pick the center of Scale ID "B" as the insertion point - make sure you use the center object snap.

This completes exercise 2. Save and close Chap02Ex01.dwg and Chap02Ex02.dwg.

Right-Click In a Dialog Box

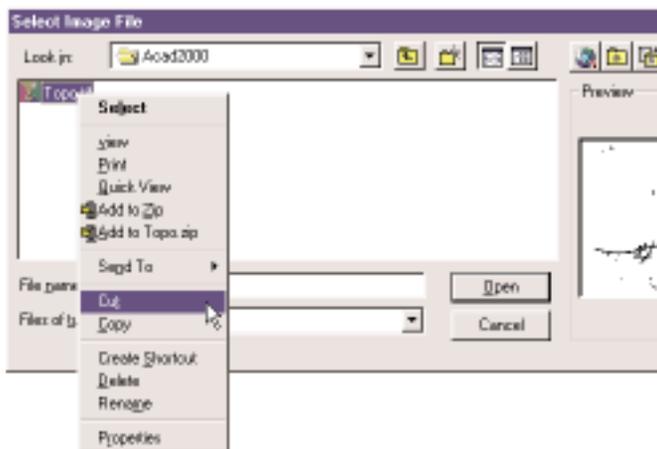
Shortcut menus appear when you right-click in some dialog boxes or in dialog tabs.

Shown here is the right-click menu in the Layer dialog.



Exercise 3 - Right-click Shortcut in the Open Dialog

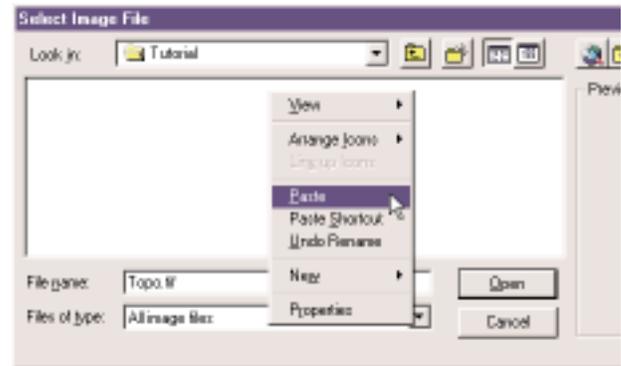
1. Begin a new, empty drawing by clicking File → New from the pull-down menu, choose Start from Scratch, English settings.
2. Click Insert → Raster Image from the pull-down menu.
3. In the Select Image File dialog, navigate to P:\Incoming\Micrographics\Acad2000 folder.



4. Right-click on Topo.tif, choose **Cut**.

Our objective in this exercise is to attach Topo.tif into our current drawing. Since files in P:\Incoming older than 40 days are automatically deleted, we'll use the right-click shortcut menus to move Topo.tif to the same folder as our drawing while at the same time attaching it.

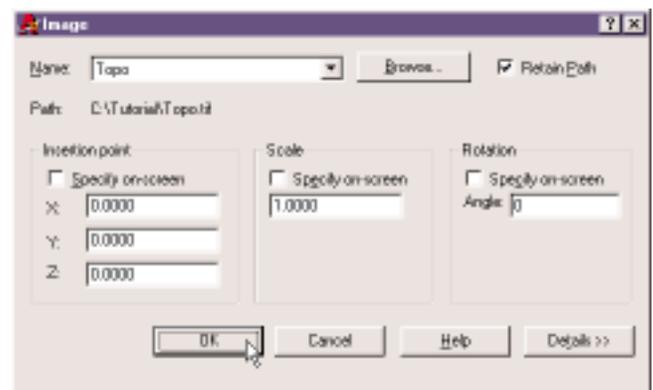
5. Still in the Select Image File dialog, navigate to C:\Tutorial (or the folder of your tutorial files).



6. Right-click, choose **Paste**.

You've just move Topo.tif from P:\Incoming... to the C:\Tutorial folder.

7. Highlight Topo.tif, click **Open**.

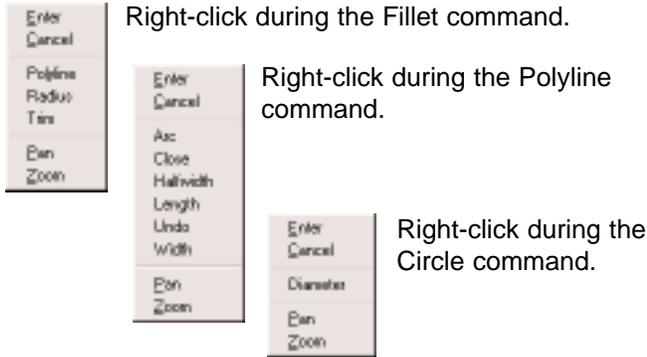


8. In the Image dialog, deselect all “Specify on screen” check boxes, click **OK**.
9. Save your current drawing as Chap02Ex03.dwg.

In addition to moving files, you can use the AutoCAD file dialog, to copy, delete, rename and change file properties (instead of switching to Windows Explorer).

Command in Progress

When you right-click during a command in progress, a shortcut menu appears specific to that command. Below are some examples. Notice the command specific options as well as Pan and Zoom.



On the Command Line



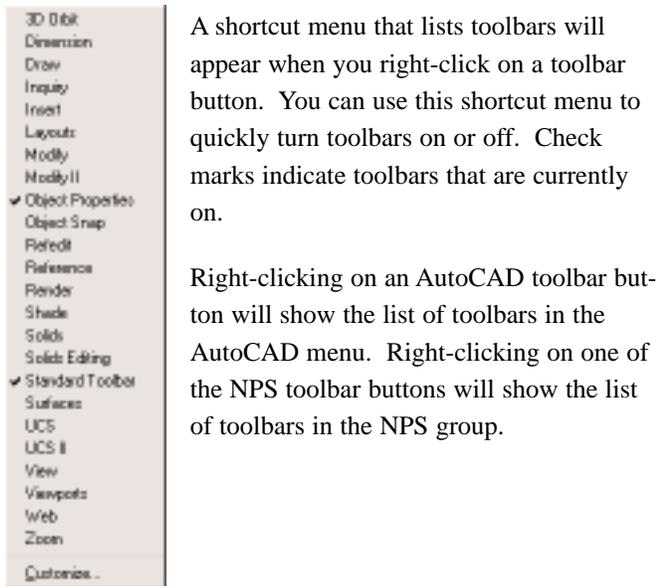
A shortcut menu that includes a list of recent commands displays when you right-click on the command line. Selecting Options in the shortcut menu displays the Options dialog.

DesignCenter

A new browsing tool, DesignCenter, makes it easy for you to find and reuse data from any AutoCAD drawing, open or not. You can access drawing content such as blocks, dim styles, layers, layouts, linetypes, textstyles and xrefs. You can drag and drop these objects from any drawing on your local hard drive, network drive or Internet site. A find feature lets you search for drawing files and drawing content, for example layers or xrefs.

DesignCenter can be toggled on/off by pressing CTRL+2, or by clicking **Tools → AutoCAD DesignCenter** from the pull-down menu. Since DesignCenter occupies a healthy portion of your screen real estate, is usually best to turn it on when needed and then back off.

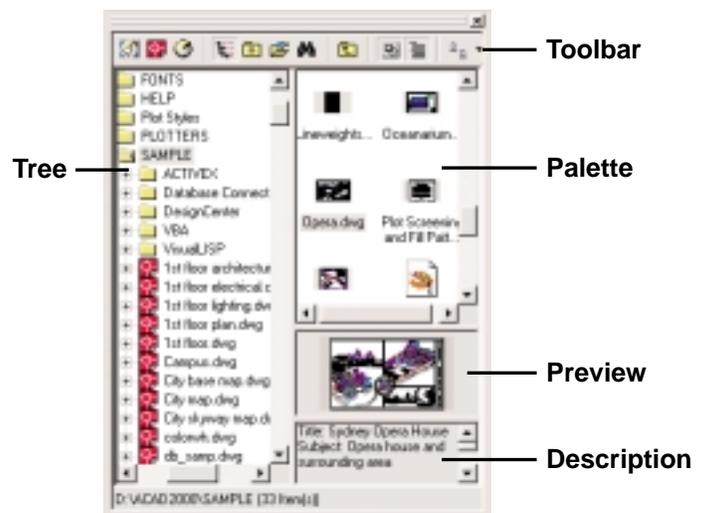
On the Toolbar



On the Status Bar

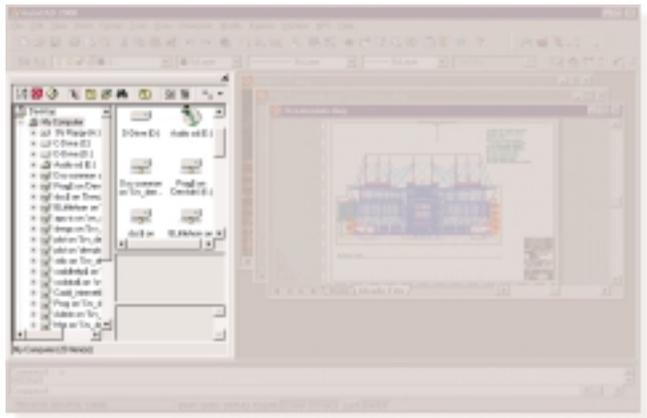


The status bar at the bottom of the AutoCAD window displays coordinates and buttons that control Snap, Grid, Ortho etc. Right-clicking on the status bar buttons displays a shortcut menu with On, Off and Settings options.



DesignCenter has its own toolbar as well as four panes - tree, palette, preview and description.

By default, DesignCenter docks (locks into the edge) in the left side of the AutoCAD window.

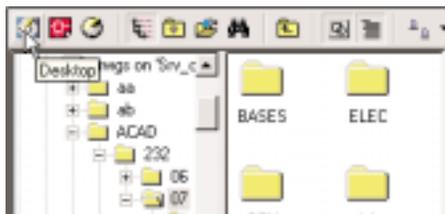


You can move DesignCenter by clicking on its top border (shown below), dragging it to another location, then releasing the mouse button. Press and hold CTRL to prevent DesignCenter from docking while dragging it.



The Tree

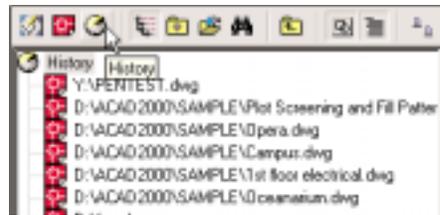
If the DesignCenter Tree button is depressed, the tree window displays folders and files.



The **Desktop** button display folders and files from local and network drives in the tree pane.



Click the **Open Drawings** button to browse content within drawings you currently have open.

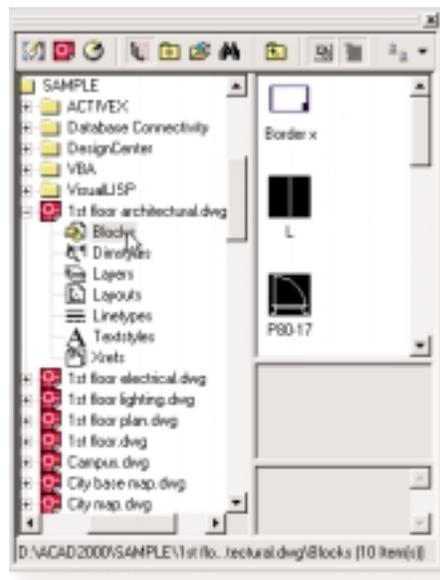


The **History** button displays a list of recently opened drawing files.

Read on to find out what to do with the list of files you see in the tree pane of the DesignCenter.

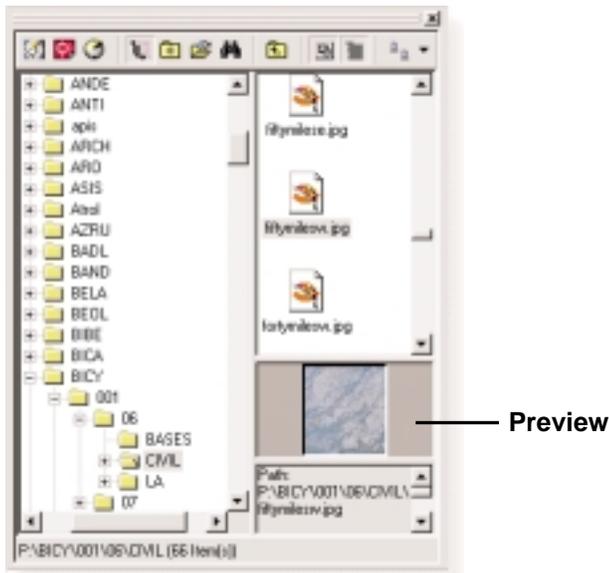
The Palette

The Palette displays the contents of whatever you've selected in the tree pane.

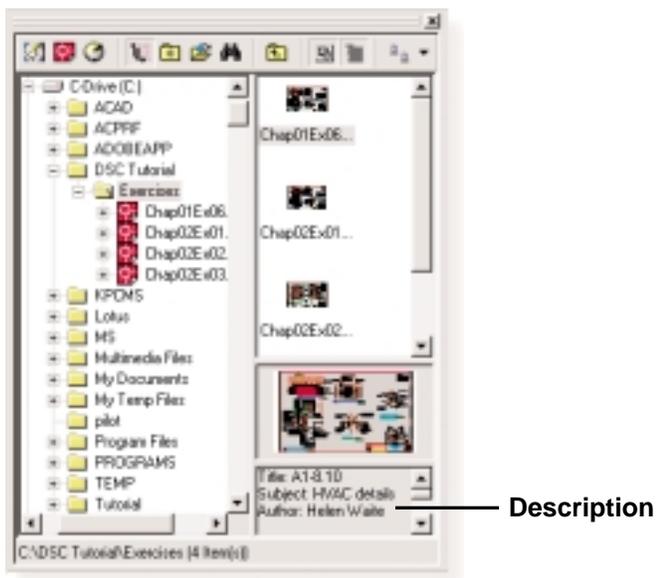


For example, if you browse to a drawing file in the tree pane, click on the + next to the file, then click on Blocks, the palette will list blocks in that drawing.

Preview & Description



The **Preview** feature lets you see a small image of the object you've selected in the Palette. The example above shows the preview of a Jpeg image.



Below the Preview pane is the **Description**, which displays information about the selected file. You use **Drawing Properties** to save this information with a drawing file - Chapter 1, exercise 6 discusses Drawing Properties.

Access Data From Any Drawing, Open or Not

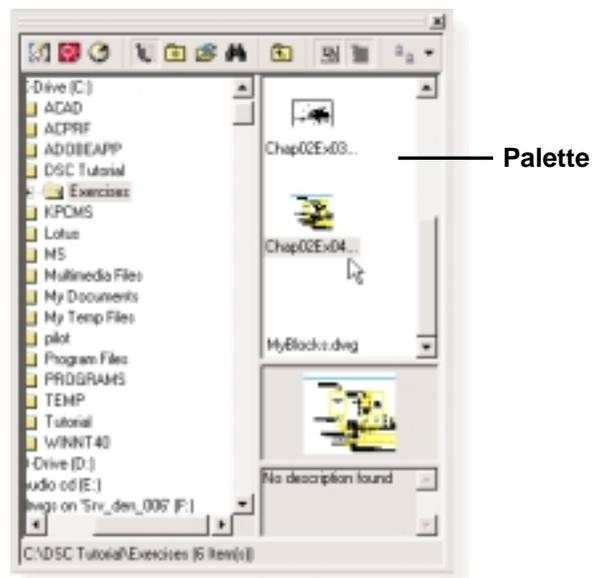
The objects you're browsing from un-opened drawing files -

blocks, dimstyles, layers, layouts, linetypes, textstyles - are available for you to insert into any drawing you have open. The exercises below show how.

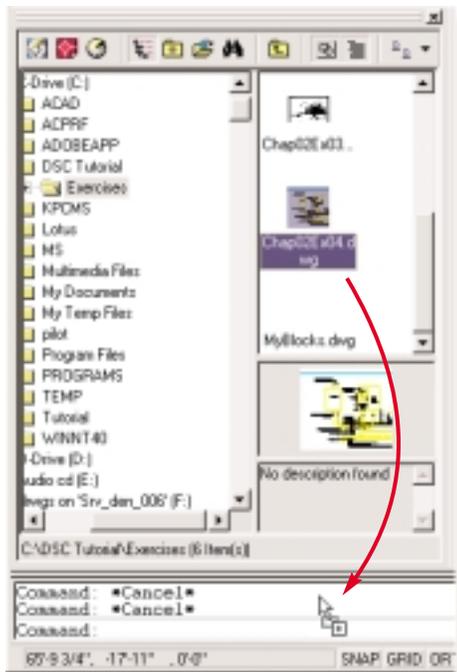
Exercise 4 - Use the Palette to open a drawing, and insert a block from another un-open drawing.

1. If you don't see the DesignCenter in AutoCAD, click **Tools** → **DesignCenter**. Note: If you have closed all drawing files, AutoCAD won't display a Tools pull-down menu. In this case, begin a new, empty drawing by clicking File → New → Start from Scratch, then choose Tools → DesignCenter.
2. In the Tree pane of DesignCenter, browse to the C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises\ folder. (C: will be near the top of the list. Double-click on C:, then double-click on Acad2000Tutorial, then double-click on Exercises.)

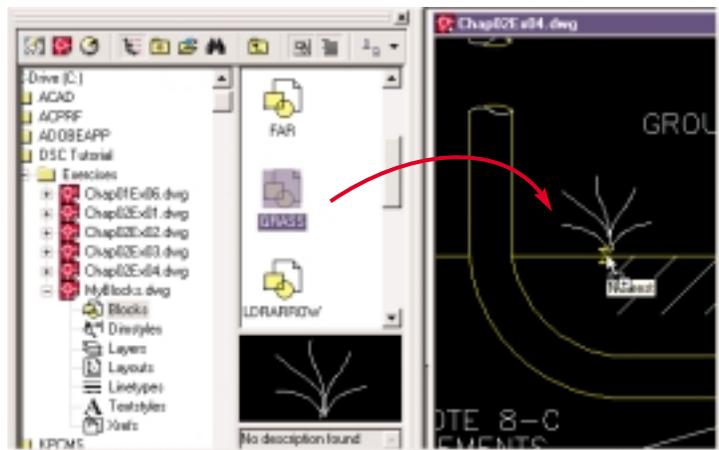
Note: If you've downloaded the files to complete this exercise, your actual folder may be different than C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises\. Use the location to the exercise drawings on your computer.



In the Palette pane, you'll see the files in C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises. See the figure above.



Open a drawing file by dragging it from the Palette to the command line.

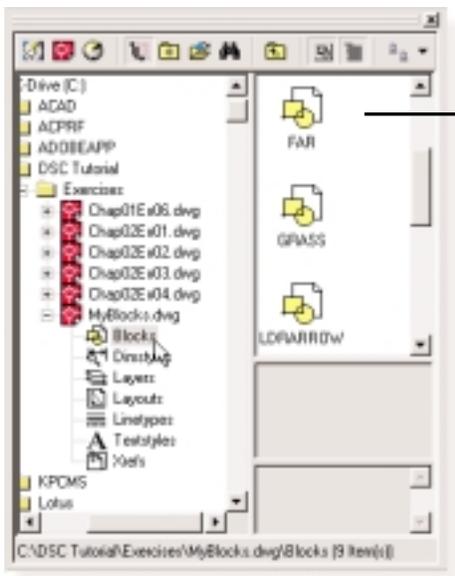


Insert a block from an un-open drawing by dragging it from the Palette to any open drawing. You'll be prompted for an insertion point.

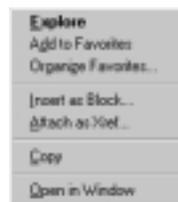
4. Open the drawing for this exercise: Drag and drop Chap02Ex04.dwg from the Palette onto the AutoCAD command line (the Command: area at the bottom).

6. In the Palette, left-click and hold on Grass, drag it to the drawing, snap it to the ground line using the nearest object snap.

This completes exercise 4. Close Chap02Ex04.dwg - no need to save the changes.



Palette, showing blocks in MyBlocks.dwg



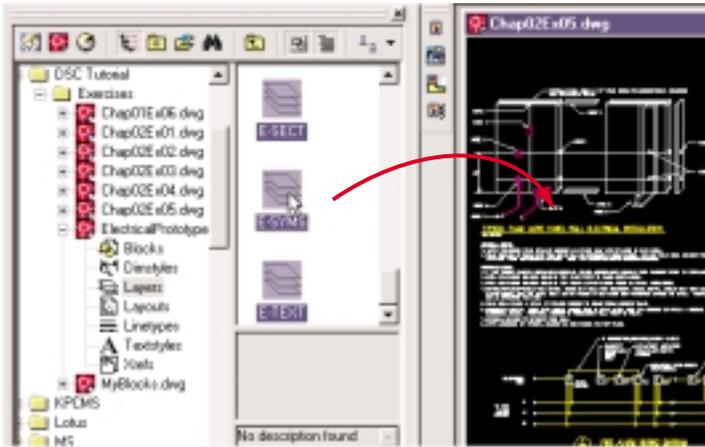
Right-clicking on a drawing file in the Palette brings up a shortcut menu, allowing you to insert, attach as xref or open the drawing. Using the Insert as Block option presents the AutoCAD Insert dialog box, which unlike dragging a file from the Palette, gives you a chance to specify scale and rotation. Try it!

Exercise 5 - Import layers from another drawing

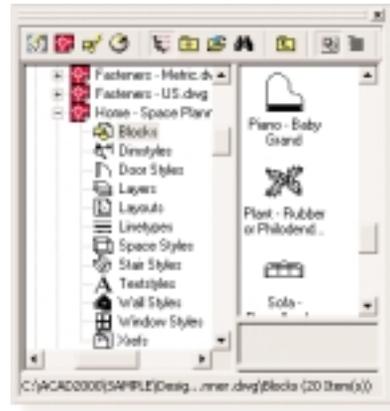
5. Now we'll insert a block from a drawing we don't have open, into the current drawing. In the Tree pane, locate C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises\MyBlocks.dwg. Click the + next to MyBlocks.dwg, then click on Blocks. You should see blocks listed in the Palette.

1. Open Chap02Ex05.dwg.
2. If you don't see the DesignCenter in AutoCAD, click **Tools** → **DesignCenter**.
3. In the Tree pane of DesignCenter, browse to the C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises\ folder. (C: will be near the top of the list. Double-click on C:, then double-click on Acad2000Tutorial, then double-click on Exercises.)
Note: If you've downloaded the files to complete this exercise, your actual folder may be different than C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises\. Use the location to the exercise drawings on your computer.
4. In the Tree pane, locate C:\Acad2000Tutorial\Exercises\

ElectricalPrototype.dwg. Click the + next to ElectricalPrototype.dwg, then click on Layers. You should see layers listed in the Palette (see figure below).



SpacePlanner.dwg, then click on Blocks.



Import layers from an un-open drawing by dragging them from the Palette to any open drawing.

5. In the Palette, select all the layers in Electrical-Prototype.dwg by clicking on the first (top) layer and while holding down the SHIFT key, selecting the last (bottom) layer. Holding SHIFT selects concurrent objects.
6. Again in the Palette, left-click and on any of the selected layers, and while holding down the left mouse button, drag the layers to the open drawing Chap02Ex05.dwg, then release the mouse button.

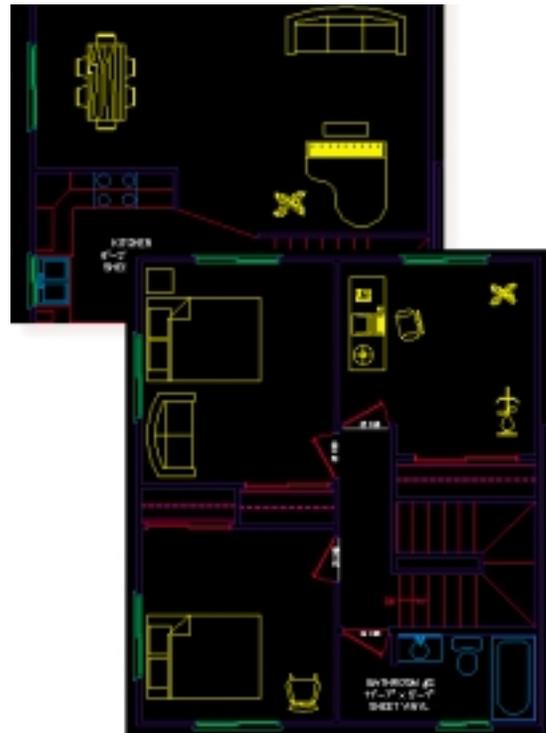
You've just imported the layers from ElectricalPrototype.dwg into Chap02Ex05.dwg. In exercise 4, we inserted blocks from another, un-opened drawing file. You can also import Dimstyles, Layouts, Linetypes and Textstyles using the same drag-and-drop method.

This completes exercise 5. Close Chap02Ex05.dwg - no need to save the changes.

Bonus Points Exercise 6 - Insert more blocks using DesignCenter

1. Open Chap02Ex06.dwg.
2. If you don't see the DesignCenter in AutoCAD, click Tools → DesignCenter.
3. In the tree pane of DesignCenter, browse to C:\Acad2000\Sample\DesignCenter\ folder. (C: will be near the top of the tree list. Double-click on C:, double-click on Acad2000, double-click on Sample, double-click on DesignCenter.)
4. In the Tree pane, click on the + beside Home-

5. Drag and drop blocks from the Palette into the floorplan, Chap02Ex06.dwg. Arrange the home as you see fit! Below is a completed example.



Using DesignCenter to Find

Using DesignCenter's find feature, you can search for drawing files using content information, such as a layer, block or xref name, or summary information.

Exercise 7 - Locate a Drawing by Author

In exercise 6 of chapter 1, we saved summary information - title, subject, author, keywords and comments - to a drawing

file. Now we'll use DesignCenter to search for that drawing using the author.

1. If you don't see the DesignCenter in AutoCAD, click Tools → DesignCenter.
2. Click on the Find button from the DesignCenter toolbar.
3. In the Find dialog, use the following settings:

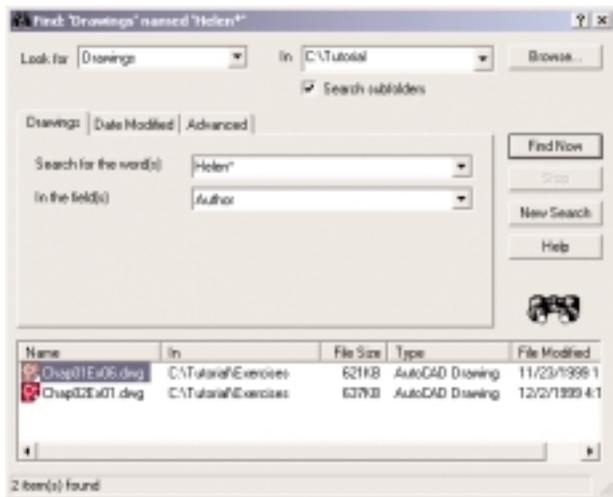
Look for: Drawings
In: C:\Acad2000Tutorial (use Browse if you want)
 Check **Search subfolder**



4. Enter Helen* in the Search for words box, and select Author from the In the fields list.

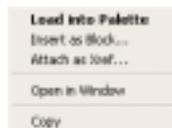


5. Click Find Now.



If you all went well, and you entered Helen as the Author in exercise 6, chapter 1, you should see Chap01Ex06.dwg listed in the list of items found.

6. Right-click on Chap01Ex06.dwg, then select Open in window, which will open Chap01Ex06.dwg in the AutoCAD drawing editor. Other options include Load into Palette, Insert as Block, Attach as Xref.



This completes exercise 6. Close Chap01Ex06.dwg.

We entered Helen* as the name to search for, since * is a wildcard character, meaning search for any author that starts with the letters H E L E N, but we don't care what comes after that. If you try the search with Helen (no asterisk), your search results would be empty, since the author was actually Helen Waite.

Blocks

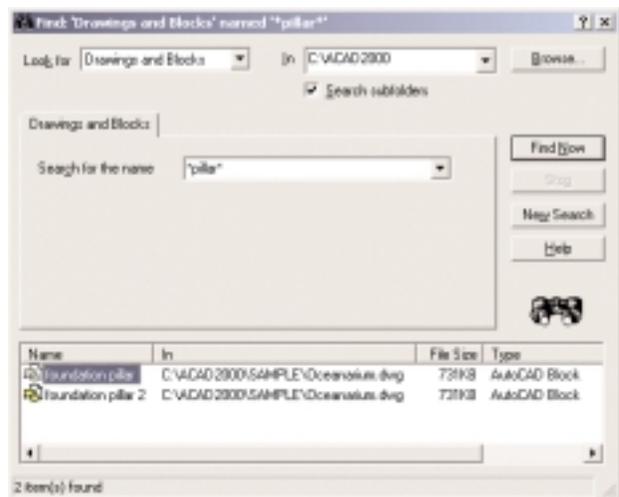
If you've ever created a block in a drawing, then tried to locate that drawing and block at a later time, you might appreciate this DesignCenter find feature: You can search across a folder and subfolders for a block name.

Exercise 8 - Locate a Block

1. Click File → New from the AutoCAD pull-down menu. Select Start from scratch, then OK to begin a new, empty drawing.
2. If you don't see the DesignCenter in AutoCAD, click Tools → DesignCenter.
3. Click on the Find button from the DesignCenter toolbar.
4. In the Find dialog, use the following settings:

Look for: Drawings and Blocks
In: C:\Acad2000 (use Browse if you want)
 Check **Search subfolders**

4. Click Find Now.



Your search results should list two blocks, both in Oceanarium.dwg.

5. Right-click on foundation pillar, then click Insert Block.



- Complete inserting the foundation pillar in your drawing.

This completes exercise 8. Close your drawing, discard changes.

You can create your own drawings with frequently used blocks, then access those drawings using Design Center. Be sure to store such drawings on your M: drive, since your C: drive is not backed up.

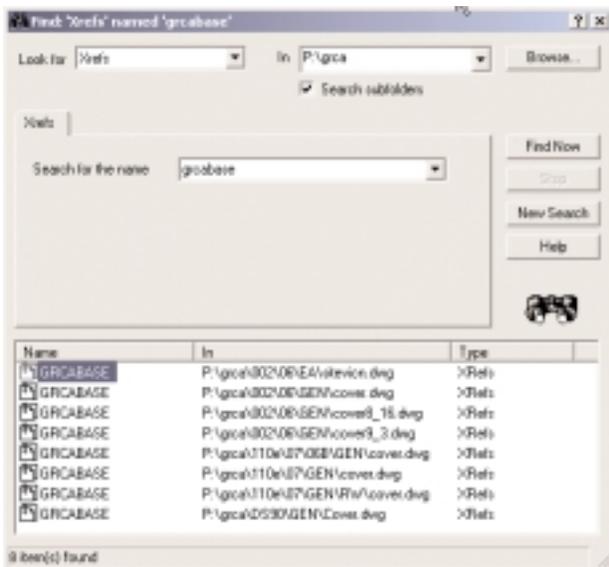
Xref's

DesignCenter's Find feature can be used to locate drawings with specific xrefs attached. For example, let's say you were going to move a drawing, grcabase.dwg, and you know this is an xref base sheet. If you move grcabase.dwg drawing to another folder, any other drawings that have grcabase.dwg attached as an xref would lose their link to grcabase.dwg.

Using DesignCenter, you can find all drawings that have grcabase.dwg attached as an xref. Once you know these drawing names, you could move grcabase.dwg, then open each drawing and redirect the xref to the new path.

The example screen below shows the settings used to find all drawings under P:\Grca that have an xref attached named grcabase.dwg.

- Look for:** Xrefs
- In:** P:\Grca (or other folder of your choice)
- Check Search subfolder**
- Search for the name:** grcabase

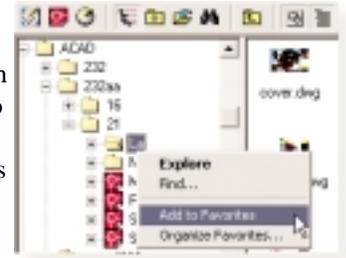


Favorites

Just like Internet Explorer can save your Favorite locations, so can AutoCAD's DesignCenter. The following exercise shows you how to save a project folder from P: to your favorites, then access drawings from that folder.

Exercise 9 - DesignCenter Favorites

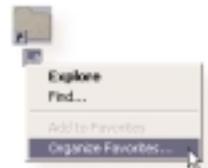
- If you don't see the DesignCenter in AutoCAD, click Tools → DesignCenter.
- In the Tree pane of Design-Center, navigate to a folder location which you would like to save to your Favorites. P:\Acad\232aa\21\La was used in this example.
- Again in the Tree pane, right click on the folder, then choose **Add to Favorites**.



Now that we've save P:\Acad\232aa\21\La as one of your favorite folders, let's send DesignCenter to that folder.

- Click the Favorites button  on the DesignCenter toolbar.

You should see an icon labeled La in the Palette. Since "La" is not very descriptive, let's change the name...



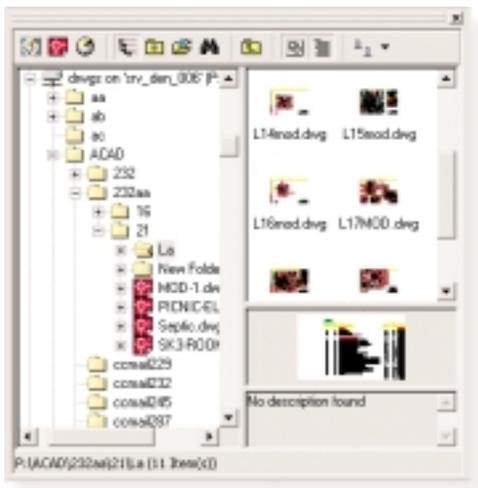
- Right-click on the La icon, then choose Organize Favorites.

When you are organizing favorites, you are actually using Windows Explorer.

- Right-click on the La icon, then choose Rename. Type in a new, more descriptive name, but remember you cannot use a colon (:) or a slash (\). I entered "Acad 232aa 21".
- Press Enter once you've typed in a new name for you shortcut. Close Windows Explorer and return to AutoCAD.
- DesignCenter will still have it's "old" information and your icon will still be labeled "La". Press F5 to refresh DesignCenter.
- Double click on your new icon in the Palette.

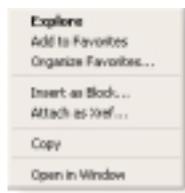


Your DesignCenter should look like this:



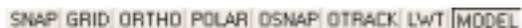
- Open one of the drawings in P:\Acad\232aa\La: Drag one of the filenames from the Palette to your AutoCAD command line, as we learned in an earlier exercise.

As an alternative, you can right-click on any of the filenames, then click Open in Window, which opens that drawing in AutoCAD.



This completes exercise 9. Close all drawings, discard changes.

Status Bar



The Status Bar at the bottom of your AutoCAD window displays coordinates (the X, Y, Z position of your mouse) and buttons. Toggle these buttons on and off by left-clicking with your mouse. Buttons that appear depressed (pushed in that is, not sad) are on. If you right-click on a status bar button, you can select Settings... from the shortcut menu.

Missing from the Status Bar is the TILE button. To switch between Tiled Model Space and Paper Space in AutoCAD 2000, use the Model/Layout tabs instead:



New to the Status Bar is POLAR, OTRACK and LWT.

We'll learn about POLAR and OTRACK in chapter 3 and LWT in chapter 4.

Status Bar Buttons

SNAP mode makes your cursor move in increments.

GRID displays dots across the limits of your drawing.

ORTHO works like a T-square - your cursor operates at 90degree intervals. Other angles can be set - right-click on ORTHO for settings.

POLAR works like Ortho only smarter, if your cursor is close to the incremental angle setting (90degree by default), but allows you to pick arbitrary angles too.

OSNAP makes your drawing accurate by snapping the cursor to object endpoints, intersections etc. Right-click on OSNAP for settings.

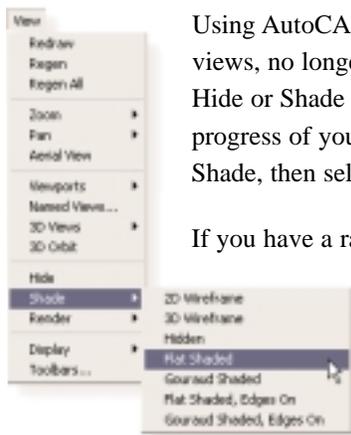
OTRACK stands for Object Snap Tracking, draws temporary tracking vectors (construction lines). To track from an osnap point, pause over the point while in a command - a tracking vector appears when you move the cursor.

LWT turns lineweight display on/off. Objects and layers can have lineweights assigned.

MODEL/PAPER toggles between Modelspace and Paperspace.

3D Improvements

Persistent 3D View

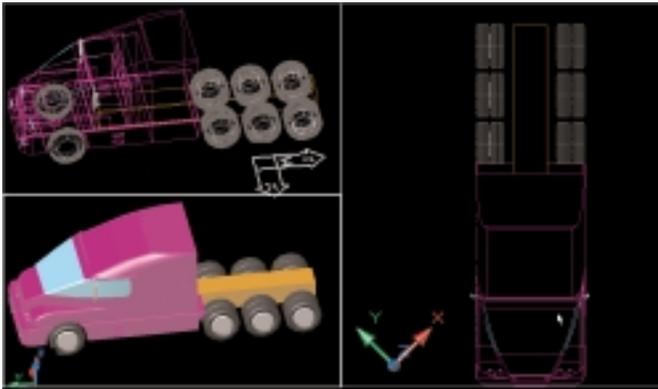


Using AutoCAD 2000's new persistent 3D views, no longer do you have to use the Hide or Shade command to check the progress of your 3D models. Click View Shade, then select one of the view modes.

If you have a raster image attached - beware - If you're in any view other than 2D wireframe, you won't see your raster image.

UCS Per Viewport

In previous releases, if you changed your UCS settings, those settings effected all viewports. In release 2000, each viewport can have its own UCS setting - if UCSVP=1. To change UCSVP, type UCSVP<enter> at the command prompt. 0 = one UCS setting for entire drawing, 1 = Each viewport remembers its own UCS setting.

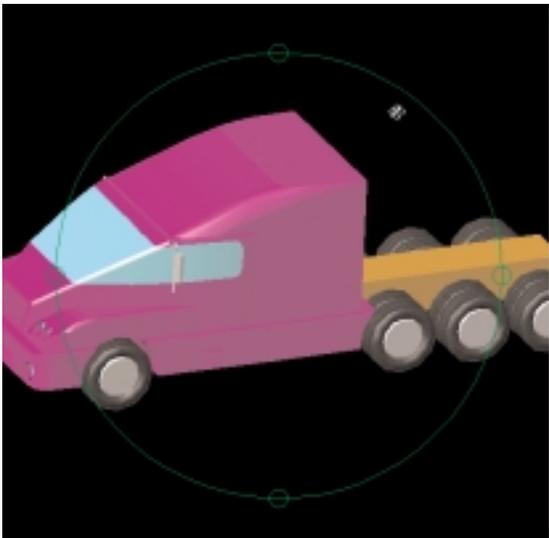


Each viewport can have its own UCS setting, as shown here (if UCSVP=1). These are Modelspace viewports - Paperspace viewports behave the same way.

3D Orbit

3DORBIT enables you to manipulate the view of 3D objects by clicking and dragging your pointing device.

Click the  toolbar button to start the 3dorbit command

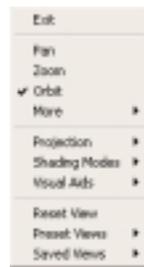


You can view your entire drawing, or select one or more objects before starting the command. Viewing the entire

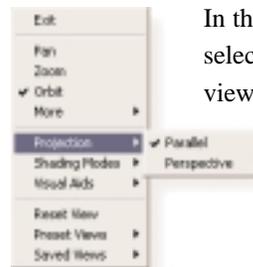
drawing may degrade the video display performance.

The 3D orbit view displays an arcball, which is a circle divided into four quadrants by smaller circles. When 3DORBIT is active, the target of the view stays stationary and the camera location, or point of view, moves around the target. The center of the arcball, not the center of the objects you're viewing, is the target point.

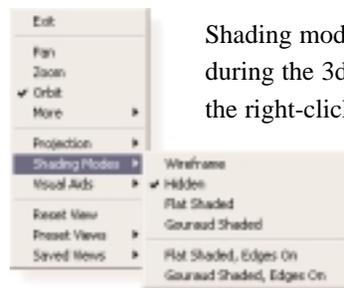
Once you start the 3dorbit command, position your mouse over the area you want to move, then left-click and drag your mouse. Imagine the center of the green circle staying put, and your mouse being the tip of your finger - you are sliding the drawing with your mouse (your finger). This command takes a little getting used to, but once you've mastered it, you'll like it.



Right-click during the 3dorbit command to display this shortcut menu. Notice you can switch to a pan or zoom mode. Reset View sets the view back to where you were before you started 3dorbit - nice if you manage to mess up your viewpoint.



In the Projection flyout you can select Parallel or Perspective view.



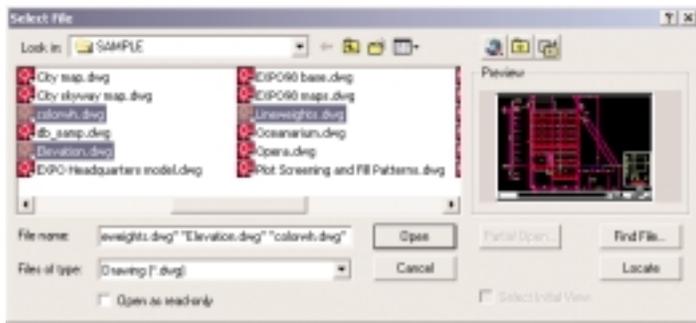
Shading modes can be changed during the 3dorbit command with the right-click shortcut men.

MDI

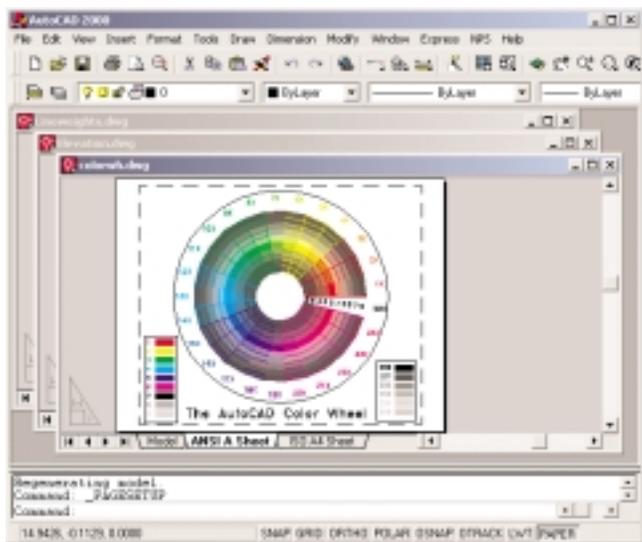
AutoCAD 2000 lets you open more than one drawing at a time, in the same AutoCAD session. This is called Multiple Document Interface, or MDI. Of course, you can turn this feature off - see Tools → Option → System Tab → Single drawing compatibility mode. You can also control Single-drawing Compatibility Mode by using the SDI system variable. Some customization or lisp routines may not be compatible with MDI.

Exercise 10 - Open Multiple Drawings

1. Close all drawings, but don't exit AutoCAD (use File → Close from the menu bar).
2. From the menu bar, click File → Open.
3. In the select file dialog, navigate to C:\Acad2000\Sample folder.



4. In the Select File dialog, highlight colorwh.dwg, Elevation.dwg and Linewghts.dwg, then click Open. To select more than one file, press and hold CTRL. (Press and hold Shift to select files are are concurrent.)



5. Now that we have more than one drawing open, use the Window pull-down menu to select a particular drawing or:

Cascade: Arrange all drawings, overlapping each other.

Tile Horizontally: Arrange all drawings with edges touching, one above the other.

Tile Vertically: Arrange all drawing with edges touching, one beside the other.

Arrange Icons: (icons are drawings that are minimized).



6. Press CTRL+Tab to switch between open drawings. If your drawings are overlapping, notice how each active drawing windows come to the top.

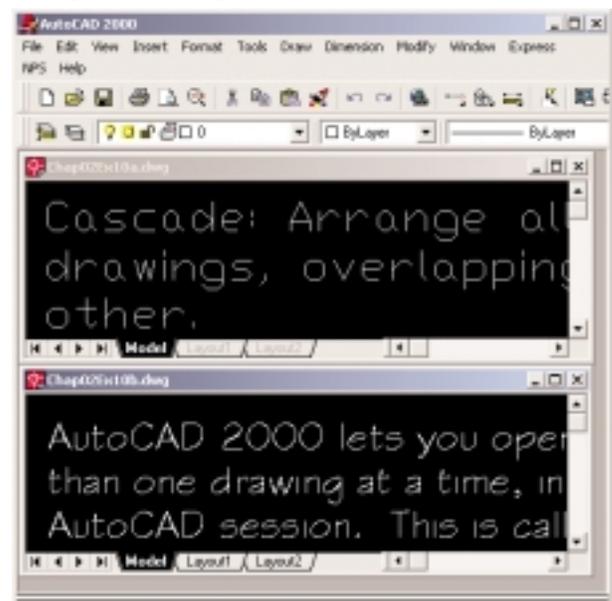
This completes exercise 10. Close all drawings, discard changes.

Exercise 11 - Use Match Properties Across Multiple Drawings

This exercise illustrates how you can use the MATCHPROP (Match Properties) command to make objects in one drawing inherit the properties from an object in another drawing.

Properties that can be copied include color, layer, linetype, linetype scale, lineweight, thickness, plot style, and in some cases, dimension, text, and hatch.

1. Open Chap02Ex11a.dwg and Chap02Ex11b.dwg.
2. Arrange your screen as shown below. You can use Window → Tile Horizontally from the menu bar to arrange the drawings.



The text in Chap02Ex11b.dwg uses a Stylus font. Our goal in this exercise is to make the text in Chap02Ex11a.dwg appear the same.

3. Click the  toolbar button to start the MATCHPROP command
4. When prompted to 'Select source object', click on the Stylus font text in Chap02Ex11b.dwg.
5. When prompted to 'Select destination object', click on the text in Chap02Ex11a.dwg, then press Enter.

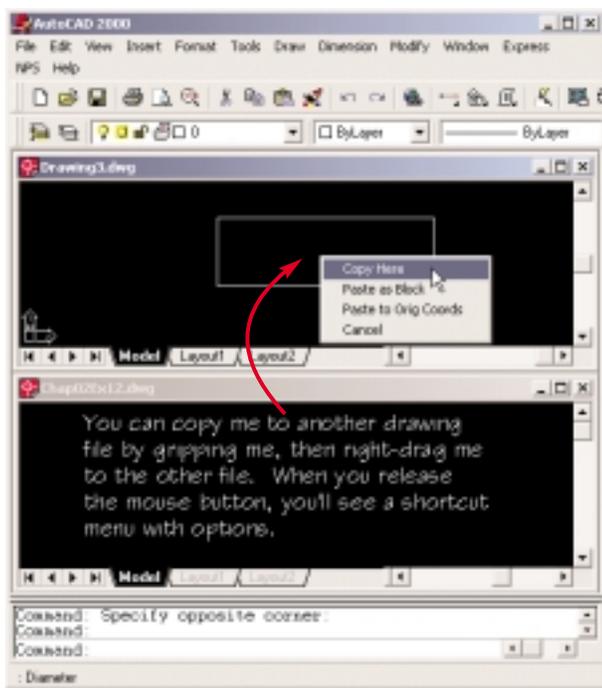
Match Properties can be used to make a series of drawings more consistent, as well as save time.

This completes exercise 11. Close both drawings, discard changes.

Exercise 12 - Drag and Drop Objects Between Drawings

In this exercise, we'll drag objects from one drawing into another. In exercise two, we learned how to right-click copy using the clipboard - this drag and drop method is simply another way to copy object between drawings.

1. Open Chap02Ex12.dwg.
2. Start a new, empty drawing.
3. Arrange your screen to see both drawings, as shown below.



4. Click on the text in Chap02Ex12.dwg to enable grips (blue boxes at each corner).
5. With your mouse pointer over the text, press and hold your right mouse button, then drag the text over the empty drawing.
6. When you release the mouse button, click Copy Here from the shortcut menu. If you drag quickly from one drawing to another, you will not be presented with the shortcut menu - the copy here option will automatically be used.

The shortcut menu present the following options:

Copy Here: Copies the selected objects at the current mouse position. Placement is not exact.

Paste as Block: Copies the selected objects at the current mouse position, but the new objects are actually an unnamed block.

Paste at Original Coords: Copies the selected objects to the same coordinates as in the source drawing.

Cancel

This completes exercise 12. Close all drawings, discard changes.

Concurrent Command Execution

If you open more than one drawing at a time, you can begin a command in one drawing, and while that command is still active, switch to another drawing. When you return to the first drawing, that command will still be waiting to be completed. For what it's worth, this is called concurrent command execution.

The Mouse

AutoCAD 2000 supports Microsoft IntelliMouse and compatible pointing devices with real-time Pan and Zoom features. Rotating the IntelliMouse wheel performs a real-time zoom; clicking and dragging the wheel performs a real-time pan and double clicking the wheel performs a zoom extents function. With these operations, drawing navigation proceeds smoothly and transparently - even in the middle of a command.

IntelliMouse - Wheel Mouse

If you have a two button mouse with a wheel between-

Zoom in/out: Rotate mouse wheel forward to zoom in, backward to zoom out. ZOOMFACTOR system variable is zoom percentage (default is 10 - try 25 or higher instead).

Real-time Pan: Press the wheel button and drag the mouse.

Zoom Extents: Double-click the wheel button.

Object snap menu: Press Shift+right-mouse

Three Button Mouse

If you have a mouse with three buttons-

Real-time Pan: Press the middle button and drag the mouse.

Zoom Extents: Double-click the middle button.

Object snap menu: Press Shift+right-mouse

To display the Object Snap shortcut menu with the middle or wheel button (disable the pan and zoom extents), set MBUTTONPAN system variable to 0.

This completes Chapter 2.