

Top ways to customize AutoCAD



AutoCAD allows you to use APIs or 1,000+ add-on apps to automate common processes or create new, custom functions. Control drawings and databases with ActiveX, VBA, AutoLISP, Visual LISP, ObjectARX, JavaScript, and .NET.

- **User profiles:** Gives the ability to share custom files and settings with your team.
- **Drawing templates:** Allows you to store common drawing elements such as layers, title blocks, symbols that help to enforce CAD standards.
- **Command aliases:** Create frequently used commands so they auto populate for faster use.
- **User interface:** Customize the user interface to access your favorite features, functions, and blocks directly from the ribbon or tool palette.
- **Scripts:** Gives a low-tech way to run customizations within AutoCAD.
- **Action macros:** Create a series of actions (commands) that you record and can be played back in an active drawing.

Automate tedious tasks with APIs

ActiveX

Automation library that can be utilized by modern object-oriented programming language

VBA

Visual Basic Applications

AutoLISP/VisualLISP

A rich set of functions that you can use to perform any activity in AutoCAD, like general programming functions for variable manipulation, decision control, loops, arithmetic operations, error handling and function handling

ObjectARX

Programming environment libraries provide versatile sets of tools with which AutoCAD API developers can take advantage of the open architecture of AutoCAD software

JavaScript

Connect to web-based applications to use with AutoCAD

.NET

Programming environment libraries that allow you to automate workflows using C# and vb.net

AutoCAD App Store

You can customize AutoCAD to fit your workflows using the tools above or you can obtain applications to help automate workflows through the AutoCAD App store. Examples of what is available:

- **Drawing Purge:** This plug-in helps to remove unused DNG lines
- **Grid Line:** Draws a grid line with automatic labeling
- **Increment:** A dialog box to increment numbers, alphanumeric, hexadecimal etc. contained in text or block attributes
- **SketchUp:** This plug-in allows you to import SKP files
- **AVCAD:** Allows the creation of accurate, detailed and well readable schemes along with all kinds of reports using simple and intuitive tools
- **CALS Tools:** Used for .sxf file imports
- **BatchInEditor:** Run common operations on a batch of drawings all at once

Want to get started customizing AutoCAD? [Learn more.](#)