



Top 10 Autodesk AutoCAD Apps for under \$100

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AC5145 Take a walk through Autodesk® Exchange for AutoCAD and see the Top apps for under \$100 in action. In this class, we present a mix of free, paid, and Autodesk apps that are sure to help any AutoCAD user or CAD manager eliminate repetitive design tasks as well as create higher quality designs. See some fun, delightful and surprising apps too!

Learning Objectives

At the end of this class, you will be able to:

- Quickly find several great AutoCAD productivity enhancing apps in Autodesk Exchange
- Easily use several great AutoCAD productivity enhancing apps in Autodesk Exchange
- Use Autodesk Exchange to find immediate solutions to pressing needs
- Explain how Autodesk Exchange is a safe place to get great productivity enhancing add-on apps

About the Speakers

Jim Quanci

With more than 25 years of engineering and design experience, Jim Quanci has spent the past 20 years developing relationships for Autodesk with leading technology partners around the world. He oversees an international network of over 4000 software partners – third-parties who customize, complement and extend Autodesk solutions. Along with founding the “Autodesk Developer Network”, and current worldwide responsibility for software partnerships at Autodesk, Jim’s experience working with Autodesk software partners includes stints managing partners in the Americas and Asia. Prior to Autodesk, Jim worked at Sun Microsystems and General Electric. With a BS in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in International Marketing, Jim is a frequent presenter and consultant to leading design and engineering software firms on software development technologies.

Stephen Preston

Stephen Preston has been a member of the Autodesk Developer Technical Services (DevTech) team since 2000, starting as a support engineer and now as global manager for the Developer Technical Services Worldwide team – part of the Autodesk Developer Network team. In those roles, his responsibilities have included supporting the AutoCAD APIs, including ObjectARX and AutoCAD .NET, as well as AutoCAD OEM and RealDWG technologies. Stephen started his career as a scientist, and has a Ph.D. in Atomic and Laser Physics from the University of Oxford.

The Apps

Here is a list of apps that will be demonstrated in the class. Note that this list is subject to change.

Blocks Smart Explosion by PT

PRISMA TECH srl

[\\$ 0.99](#)



This product allows AutoCAD users to explode unexplodable block references. Click the command, pick the block reference and the block is exploded!

COINS Translate

COINS

[Free](#)



Throw those websites and external tools away and translate text and mtext directly inside of AutoCAD! This plug-in uses the Microsoft Translator service to translate from one language to another.

AutoRebar

Paolo Locatelli

[Free](#)



Reinforced Concrete Detailing and automatic Bar Bending Schedules.

DimensionPatrol

JTB World

[\\$ 2.00](#)



This plug-in highlights dimensions in a drawing for which the user has customized the dimension text.

Once loaded, the DIMPATROL command can be used to turn on (and off) the highlighting of potentially problematic dimensions: dimensions whose text has been overridden and therefore may not match the actual dimension. To change the color used to highlight the dimension, use the DIMPATROLCOLOR command or for command line usage -

DIMPATROLCOLOR. To change the transparency used, use the DIMPATROLTRANSPARENCY command.

Increment

Gilles Chanteau

[Free](#)



Tools to increment numeric, alphabetic, alphanumeric, hexadecimal or roman numerals values contained in texts, mtexts or block attributes.

SSMPropEditor

comsSavelt!

Massimo Cicognani

[\\$ 3.00](#)



Ever skipped a Save dialog and pressed No instead of Yes?

Savelt ! Will monitor your saving and closing. If you close a modified drawing without saving it, Savelt ! will save it anyway in a local folder you specified. If you realize that you skipped a file saving, you can recover it from the local folder and restore it without any loss of time!

The plug-in will load at startup (it's very small and you won't notice a delay) and only one command is available: the command that will allow you to specify the saving folder. If you specify a valid folder, the plug-in will be enabled. If you specify a null folder(i.e. an empty name), the plug-in will be disabled.

Savelt ! Will not save unchanged drawings. If you load a drawing and just change the view, maybe to look at something, Savelt ! Will not save the drawing even if AutoCAD will ask you to confirm when closing it. Savelt ! will work only when an actual drawing change is detected.

Savelt ! Will not save drawings already saved in the temporary folder specified for Savelt ! savings.

Savelt ! will not overwrite any file even in the temporary folder. If a file with the same name already exists in the destination folder, Savelt ! will append a date-time tag to the name, thus preventing any file overwrite.

CADstudio Sure-Save

CAD Studio

[\\$ 3.00](#)



Make sure you don't lose any DWG content even when standard Save or AutoSave fails.

BatchinEditor

CADManagerTools

[Free](#)



Editor based Batch Process tool with built-in commands for AutoCAD® and Verticals.

FILTERSIMILAR

LanloyLISP

[\\$ 4.99](#)



Filter similar objects in either Current Space, All Layouts, Entire Drawing or Selection on Screen.

PdfImport

3/5/2012 DotSoft LLC

[\\$ 85.00](#)



This tool is used to import PDF files directly into AutoCAD. If the PDF file contains vector geometry, it will result in polylines in AutoCAD. If the PDF contains text annotations, they become mtext objects. Images embedded in the PDF are extracted and placed as IMAGE references. Features

- Visual preview before importing.
- Optionally insert object as a block.
- Handles multiple page files with ease.
- Generates paths as polylines for smaller file size.
- Embedded images become AutoCAD Image references.
- PDF text objects become AutoCAD Mtext.
- Runs as true 64bit in AutoCAD 2008 or higher on 64bit OS.

Important Notes: This product imports but does not convert PDF objects.

- What appears as linework in a PDF may be a raster image. During import they will remain as raster images, they are not vectorized. If your PDF came from a scanner, you have an image! Sometimes high resolution scans look like vectors but they are not. To check for yourself, open the PDF in Adobe's free viewer and zoom to 800%+ to see the rough edges confirming an image.
- What appears as Text in a PDF may be vectors or filled paths. During import they will remain as such, they are not converted to text objects. To check for yourself,

open the PDF in the Adobe free viewer and use the find tool on what appears to be text. If the viewer highlights it, your results will be mtext objects. Evaluation Request
mailto:sales@dotsoft.com?subject=PdfImport Evaluation Request (Autodesk Exchange)"

PDFin

Visual Integrity

[\\$ 59.00](#)



Allows you to open and edit PDF files directly within Autodesk® AutoCAD®. Free Trial version also available (includes watermark).

CAD-Earth

ARQCOM

[Trial](#)



Import & export objects between Google Earth™ and AutoCAD®

SketchUp Import

Autodesk

[Free](#)



The SketchUp Import plug-in adds two ways to get SKP files into your AutoCAD drawings. Use the IMPORTSKP command to convert a SketchUp file, stored in a local or shared folder, and insert the model into the current drawing. The GETMODEL command allows you to browse or search the Google 3D Warehouse and download SketchUp models directly into your drawing.

Revision Polyline

Mark Dubbelaar

[\\$ 0.49](#)



Turns a polyline into a revision cloud while maintaining the original polyline geometry, this allows easy modification by grips or the PEDIT command.

Tanks 3D

SoftDraft LLC

[\\$ 10.00](#)



Tanks 3D Creates Vertical Tanks and Horizontal Vessels as 3D Solid. Tanks 3D provides a parametric library including five vertical tank styles, and three horizontal vessel types. The program has a simple dialog box interface allowing the user to specify the dimensions before placement. Vertical Tank Styles include Bevel, Arc, Elliptical, and Flat Top. Horizontal Vessel Types Elliptical, Arc, and Round Heads at each end.

Featured Apps

Autodesk

[Free](#)



Stay up-to-date on the latest and greatest in the Exchange with this plug-in that adds a tab to the ribbon that displays recommended apps. Apps displayed in the ribbon will change from time to time as recommended apps in the store are updated.