Creating and Presenting 3D Models
Autodesk® Official Training Courseware
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Published By: Autodesk, Inc.
111 McInnis Parkway
San Rafael, CA 94903, USA
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Introduction

Welcome to the AutoCAD 2008: Creating and Presenting 3D Models Autodesk Official Training Courseware (AOTC), a training course for use in Authorized Training Centers (ATC®) locations, corporate training settings, and other classroom settings.

Although this courseware is designed for instructor-led courses, you can also use it for self-paced learning. The courseware encourages self-learning through the use of the AutoCAD® Help system.

This introduction covers the following topics:

- Course objectives
- Prerequisites
- Using this courseware
- CD contents
- Completing the exercises
- Installing the exercise data files from the CD
- Imperial and metric datasets
- Notes, tips, and warnings
- Feedback

This courseware is complementary to the software documentation. For detailed explanations of features and functionality, refer to the Help in the software.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- Represent a design by creating solid primitives, solid or surface models from cross-sectional geometry, or composite models from multiple solid models.
- Complete a solid model design by adding the necessary features to detail, duplicate, and position 3D models.
- Convert 2D objects to 3D objects.
- Document a 3D design by creating 2D drawings for production and visualization.
- Communicate your design ideas using visual styles, lights, model walk-through tools, and renderings.
Prerequisites

This course is designed for the AutoCAD user who possesses an introductory-level knowledge of AutoCAD or has been using AutoCAD for some time and understands the basics of working with AutoCAD. Terminology and instructions assume this level of experience when concepts, procedures, and exercises are discussed.

It is recommended that you have a working knowledge of:

- Microsoft® Windows® 2000 or Microsoft® Windows® XP.
- The current or a previous release of AutoCAD.

You should also know how to create and edit basic AutoCAD objects, and create and work with layouts.

Using This Courseware

The lessons are independent of each other. However, it is recommended that you complete these lessons in the order that they are presented unless you are familiar with the concepts and functionality described in those lessons.

Each chapter contains:

- **Lessons**
  Usually two or more lessons in each chapter.

- **Exercises**
  Practical, real-world examples for you to practice using the functionality you have just learned. Each exercise contains step-by-step procedures and graphics to help you complete the exercise successfully.

CD Contents

The CD attached to the back cover of this book contains all the data and drawings you need to complete the exercises in this course.
Completing the Exercises

You can complete the exercises by using the book or working online.

- **Use the book**

- **Onscreen**
  Click the AutoCAD 2008 Creating and Presenting 3D Models AOTC icon installed on your desktop from the CD, and follow the step-by-step exercises onscreen. The onscreen exercises are the same as those in the book. The onscreen version has the advantage that you can concentrate on the screen without having to glance down at your book.

After launching the onscreen exercises, you might need to alter the size of your application window to align both windows.

Installing the Exercise Data Files from the CD

To install the data files for the exercises:

1. Insert the courseware CD.
2. When the setup wizard begins, follow the instructions on screen to install the data.
3. If the wizard does not start automatically, browse to the root directory of the CD and double-click `Setup.exe`.

Unless you specify a different folder, the exercise files are installed in the following folder:

`C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Autodesk Learning\AutoCAD 2008\Creating and Presenting 3D Models`

After you install the data from the CD, this folder contains all the files necessary to complete each exercise in this course.
Imperial and Metric Datasets

In exercises that specify units of measurement, alternative files are provided as shown in the following example:

- Open i_stair_settings.dwg (imperial) or m_stair_settings.dwg (metric).

In the exercise steps, the imperial value is followed by the metric value in parentheses as shown in the following example:

- For Length, enter 13'2" (4038 mm).

For exercises with no specific units of measurement, files are provided as shown in the following example:

- Open c_stair_settings.dwg (common).

In the exercise steps, the unitless value is specified as shown in the following example:

- For Length, enter 400.

Some exercise may be provided with only a metric or imperial version. In those instances, you will be asked to enter the appropriate value, as described previously.

Notes, Tips, and Warnings

Throughout this courseware, notes, tips, and warnings are called out for special attention.

- Notes contain guidelines, constraints, and other explanatory information.

- Tips provide information to enhance your productivity.

- Warnings provide information about actions that might result in the loss of data, system failures, or other serious consequences.

Feedback

We always welcome feedback on Autodesk Official Training Courseware. After completing this course, if you have suggestions for improvements or if you want to report an error in the book or on the CD, please send your comments to AOTC.feedback@autodesk.com.