AutoCAD 2019 FAQs

AutoCAD 2019 is now available, and G-W has revised the *AutoCAD and Its Applications* texts to address the new software. This document provides information about the new software release.

**Key Points:**

- **When will the *AutoCAD and Its Applications* texts be available?**
  The 2019 editions of *AutoCAD and Its Applications—Basics* and *AutoCAD and Its Applications—Comprehensive* are now available in print and online versions.

- **What are the new software features in AutoCAD 2019?**
  Autodesk has incorporated a number of changes in AutoCAD 2019. The primary enhancements are associated with AutoCAD 2D drafting commands. The most significant update is the new **COMPARE** command used to compare drawing files. There are also new tools for working with viewports and managing external reference files. (See general explanations of AutoCAD software changes starting on page 2.)

- **What changes have been made to the *AutoCAD and Its Applications* texts?**
  Both texts have been completely updated to reflect software changes. *AutoCAD and Its Applications—Basics* covers enhancements to commands and functions associated with the 2D drafting environment in AutoCAD. The **Advanced** portion of *AutoCAD and Its Applications—Comprehensive* covers enhancements related to the 3D modeling environment in AutoCAD.
**Frequently Asked Questions** (Click on a link below to jump to a specific section.)

What are the changes for the new software?
How do the software changes impact the *AutoCAD and Its Applications* texts?

<<Back to Frequently Asked Questions>>

**What are the changes for the new software?**

1. **COMPARE command.** The new **COMPARE** command is used to compare the contents of two drawing files. The files selected for comparison, designated DWG 1 and DWG 2, are overlaid in a newly created comparison drawing. Objects that are different between the two drawings and objects that are the same are displayed in preselected colors. By default, objects that are unique to the first drawing (DWG 1) are green and objects that are unique to the second drawing (DWG 2) are red. Objects that are common to each drawing are gray. The default colors and other display options can be changed using the **Compare** contextual ribbon tab.

In the comparison drawing, objects that are unique to DWG 1 and DWG 2 are organized into areas called change sets. By default, revision clouds are drawn around the change sets. In the comparison drawing below, the change sets indicate the refrigerator has been moved and a different window has been specified in the kitchen, the dining and living rooms have been redesigned with vaulted ceilings, and an entry wall and broom closet have been enlarged.
2. **Viewport enhancements.** In AutoCAD 2019, a named view can be inserted as a floating viewport in a layout in a single step. A quick way to apply this option is to select a named view from the **Insert View** drop-down list in the **Layout Viewports** panel of the **Layout** ribbon tab. Once a view is selected for insertion, the boundary of the view attaches to the cursor. The default scale of the viewport can be changed by right-clicking and selecting from the shortcut menu. If the desired view does not already exist in the drawing, the **New View** option can be used to create a new view and insert it as a viewport. The new view is defined by picking the two opposite corners of a boundary in model space. Inserting a view as a viewport automates the process of creating and activating a floating viewport, making a named view current, setting the scale, and adjusting the size of the viewport boundary.

Floating viewports now have move and scale grips for modifying the viewport location and scale. To move a viewport, pick the filled-square center grip. To scale a viewport, pick the filled-triangle scale grip. Select the desired scale from the shortcut menu.
3. **Autodesk ReCap Pro.** Autodesk ReCap Pro is a separate application program used to work with raw scan files and point cloud files. The *Point Clouds* chapter in the *Advanced* portion of *AutoCAD and Its Applications—Comprehensive* covers new features in the Autodesk ReCap Pro interface.

4. The AutoCAD 2019 software also contains various other, smaller changes that are reflected in the 2019 editions of the *AutoCAD and Its Applications* texts.
How do the software changes impact the AutoCAD and Its Applications texts?

Basics—We have updated chapters throughout the text to cover the new features affecting the 2D AutoCAD environment. For example, Chapter 1 covers changes to the graphical user interface. Chapter 5 covers new options for layers in the Layer Settings dialog box. Chapter 15 provides detailed coverage on the new COMPARE command. Chapter 29 covers new controls used to identify layers with property overrides in the Layer Properties Manager. Chapter 31 provides coverage on new features available for managing external references.

Comprehensive—We have updated chapters throughout the Advanced portion of the text to cover the new features affecting the 3D AutoCAD environment. For example, Chapter 15 covers enhancements made in Autodesk ReCap Pro for working with scan files and point cloud data. Chapter 20 covers updates to the New View/Shot Properties dialog box used for creating shots and views.

For more information, please click here, contact your G-W Educational Consultant, or email custserv@g-w.com.