

# AutoCAD® Utility Design 2012

## Questions and Answers

AutoCAD® Utility Design 2012 software delivers a Building Information Modeling (BIM) solution for electrical distribution model-based design that combines the power of 3D model-based design and documentation with rules-driven standards, workflows and analysis

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# 1. General Product Information

## 1.1 What is AutoCAD Utility Design 2012?

AutoCAD® Utility Design 2012 model-based design software delivers Building Information Modeling (BIM) for electrical distribution that combines the power of design and documentation with standards-driven workflows and analysis.

## 1.2 Who are the intended users of AutoCAD Utility Design?

AutoCAD Utility Design 2012 software is ideally suited for designers and engineers at electric utility companies and engineering and construction (E&C) firms.

## 1.3 What are the benefits of AutoCAD Utility Design 2012?

AutoCAD Utility Design can help you design, analyze, and deliver electric utility distribution designs.

- Helps drive electric distribution design productivity and consistency with easy-to-use templates and standards-driven designs and workflows.
- Helps to optimize asset selection and sizing with integrated analysis.
- Automates delivery of a more consistent and coordinated documentation and design model.

## 1.4 Where can I find further information about AutoCAD Utility Design 2012 software?

Visit the AutoCAD Utility Design webpage at [www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign](http://www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign).

# 2 Technology

## 2.1 What are the key capabilities of AutoCAD Utility Design 2012?

Capabilities	
Simplified layout and design	<p><b>Model-based design in familiar AutoCAD environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Access, integrate, and analyze CAD and GIS data.</li> <li>▪ Utilize easy-to-use templates and standards-driven workflows for overhead and underground electric distribution networks.</li> <li>▪ Design in both 2D plan and 3D profile views simultaneously.</li> <li>▪ Sketch devices and assembly units directly to scale, with the option of using customer base maps or existing cadastral data as references. Palettes are preconfigured, with assembly units and materials based on predefined standards.</li> <li>▪ Automatically associate CAD properties (layers, line styles, and symbols).</li> <li>▪ Assign all associated labels and materials, and establish connectivity</li> </ul>

Capabilities	
	<p>between facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Query drawings for size, type, cost, status, load, and engineering results on all objects with all relevant standards information associated to facilities.</li> </ul>
Configure design standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Define standards for facility type and size, including wire, conduit, transformers, voltages, overhead structures, and equipment.</li> <li>▪ Define standards for design calculations including voltage drop and flicker calculation; pulling tension underground cable and conduit; overhead sag calculation; pole sizing for wind, ice, and temperature; and guying.</li> <li>▪ Support current Rural Utility Services Standards.*</li> </ul>
Engineering analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use engineering calculations to help determine optimum sized equipment.</li> <li>▪ Use engineering reports to interactively rerun calculations right in the reporting tool.</li> </ul>
Delivery of complete model, documentation, billing, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deliver design model, including staking sheets and associated construction documentation, in a single package.</li> <li>▪ Complete work orders and automatically assign jobs.</li> <li>▪ Integrate to materials and billing systems to generate a comprehensive report of material and labor cost estimates and automatically populate the construction documentation.</li> <li>▪ Use material ordering to automatically associate company construction standards to graphical layouts.</li> <li>▪ Collaborate by sharing intelligent industry models for operations and engineering</li> </ul>

\*Rural Utility Standards are driven by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Bureau which identifies the standards for electric design and engineering analysis for Rural and other small municipal utilities. Current standards include underground. Not all overhead standards are included. This is a country- and utility-specific capability. No other country-specific standards have been configured.

## 3 Installation, Configuration, and Licensing

### 3.1 What are the system requirements for AutoCAD Utility Design 2012 software?

To find the latest systems requirements for AutoCAD Utility Design, visit <http://www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign>.

### 3.2 How do I activate my software?

Through the activation and registration interface, you can activate your product 24 hours a day, seven days a week, over the Internet or via email. Either option

takes only a few steps to complete and requires your product serial number and registration number.

### 3.3 What if I have more than one computer? Can I use my software on multiple machines?

Autodesk recognizes that some users may need to operate the software when they are away from their usual work location. To accommodate this need, the product activation technology allows an employee to install the software on a second computer owned by the employee's company, provided it is for use away from the employee's usual work location, the software is used only by that employee and no other, and only one of the two copies of the software is ever in use at any one time. Consult the Autodesk Software License Agreement for details about using the software on a second computer.

### 3.4 Where can I find more information about software activation?

More information on product activation can be found at <http://www.autodesk.com/activation>.

## 4. Compatibility and Interoperability

### 4.1 How does AutoCAD Utility Design 2012 work with other products in the utility lifecycle?

- **Plan around existing conditions and better inform designs** – With AutoCAD® Map 3D 2012 software, you can access and integrate CAD and geospatial data, including information such as overhead poles, wires and transformers, underground manholes, vaults, and conduit. This existing conditions data can then be used in AutoCAD Utility Design to start the design layout.
- **Improve speed, ease of use, and accuracy of designs** – AutoCAD Utility Design 2012 software provides standards-driven, model-based design to help streamline tasks such as: properly locating assets including poles, pads, and trenches; sizing network components including transformers and cables; and delivering more consistent work across all designers.
- **Build your projects more reliably by integrating design data** from AutoCAD Utility Design 2012 software with work order and materials systems, so that when a change is made in the pole, transformer, panel, or wire type, the change is then reflected in the project estimate.
- **Manage your infrastructure information more dependably with intelligent** electric data models from AutoCAD Utility Design. You can help minimize as-built backlogs by making these models available to GIS-compatible software such as AutoCAD® Map 3D 2012, AutoCAD® Map 3D Enterprise 2012, and Autodesk® Infrastructure Map Server 2012 software. And you can make this data available to other operational systems (for example, asset management).

## 5. Training and Support

### 5.1 How do I obtain technical support?

Reference the AutoCAD Utility Design Services and Support pages on [autodesk.com](http://autodesk.com) at [www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign-support](http://www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign-support).

Visit the Autodesk Services and Support page on [autodesk.com](http://autodesk.com) for more information regarding training tools and resources as well as finding an Autodesk

Authorized Training Center (ATC) near you. Not all ATC sites are authorized for all Autodesk products, so please contact your local ATC site for details.

### 5.2 How do I get training and learn more about AutoCAD Utility Design 2012?

There are several ways you can get additional information and training on AutoCAD Utility Design software.

- Watch the AutoCAD Utility Design overview video and download the product brochure at [www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign](http://www.autodesk.com/autocadutilitydesign).
- Watch videos, engage in discussions, and learn tips and tricks on <http://wikihelp.autodesk.com>, a collaborative learning community for users.
- Contact an Autodesk Authorized Reseller.

### 5.3 Can I try AutoCAD Utility Design before I buy a license to it?

Currently, there is no trial available for AutoCAD Utility Design 2012.

## 6. Subscription

### 6.1 Is Subscription available for purchase with AutoCAD Utility Design?

Autodesk® Subscription is available for purchase with AutoCAD Utility Design.

### 6.2 What benefits does Subscription offer?

Autodesk Subscription is a comprehensive software support package that simplifies your technology upgrades and helps boost your design productivity. Purchase of Autodesk Subscription includes web support from Autodesk technical experts for all your installation, configuration, and troubleshooting questions.

To learn more about Autodesk Subscription, contact your Autodesk Account Executive or your Autodesk Authorized Reseller, or visit <http://www.autodesk.com/subscription>.

Autodesk Subscription

*Software maintenance and support program includes:*

- Access to software upgrades
- Flexible licensing rights to current and previous versions of software
- Lower total cost of ownership

### 6.3 How can I access my Subscription benefits?

Simply log in to the Subscription Center at [www.autodesk.com/subscriptionlogin](http://www.autodesk.com/subscriptionlogin) to begin accessing your Subscription benefits.

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