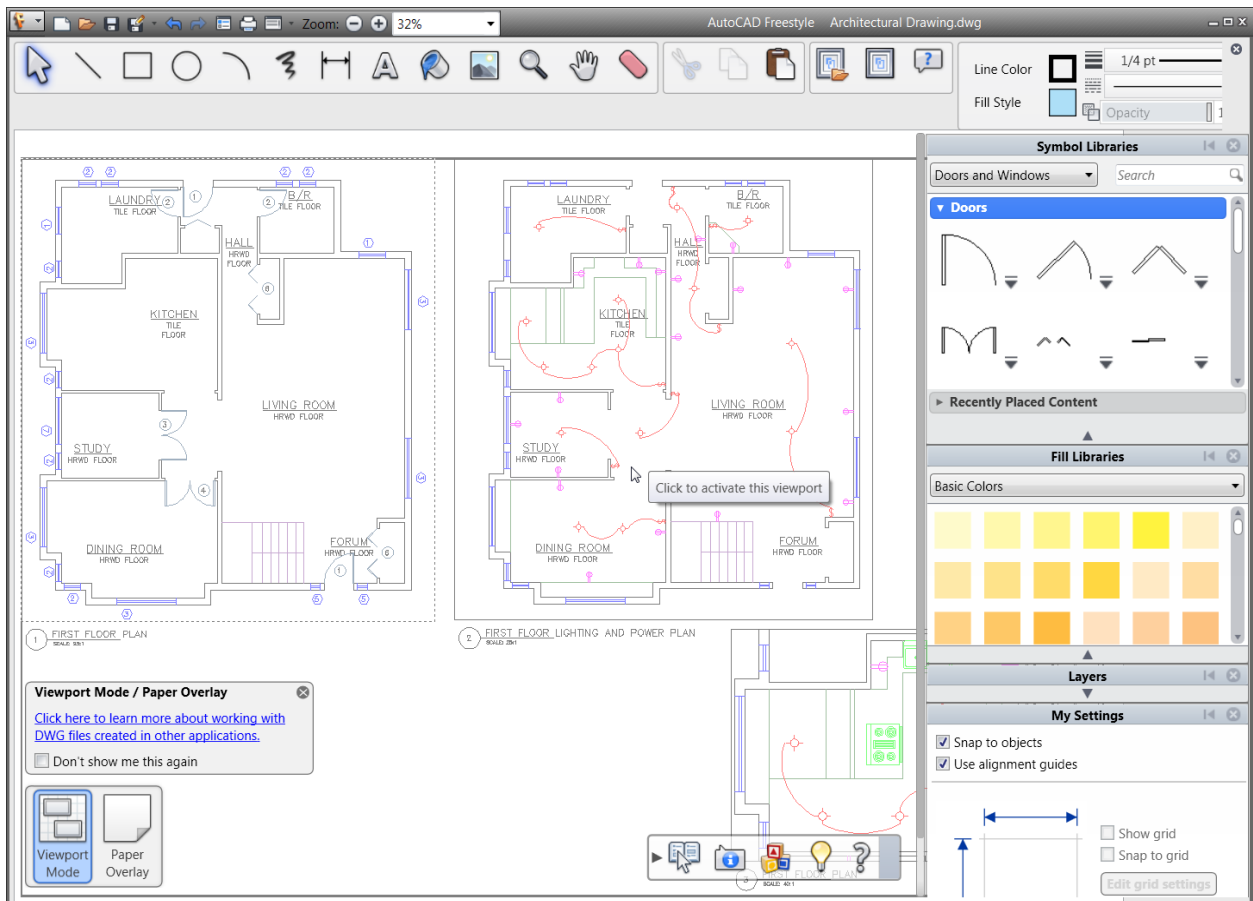AUTOCAD® FREESTYLE

Working with DWG Files

Working with DWG™ files from other products in AutoCAD® Freestyle

AutoCAD® Freestyle software is a 2D drafting, drawing, and sketching solution from Autodesk that provides a simple set of drawing tools in an easy-to-use interface. This application is intended for entry-level and infrequent users who do not have time to learn technical drawing and/or technical software. As such, the way that AutoCAD Freestyle opens DWG™ files created in other applications has certain limitations.

AutoCAD Freestyle is useful in many professional workflows:

- Drawings created in AutoCAD Freestyle can be opened in AutoCAD® and other DWG-based applications for 2D visual communication between nontechnical and technical colleagues.

- DWG files created in other applications (such as AutoCAD) can be opened in AutoCAD Freestyle so that you can add sketches, notes, and drawing enhancements before sending it back to a colleague. It should also be noted that AutoCAD Freestyle is not intended to be an application used for editing DWG drawings or for printing and plotting of large drawings sets. For that purpose, you

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may be better served by professional-level applications such as Autodesk® AutoCAD LT® or AutoCAD.

Here is how the AutoCAD Freestyle DWG round-trip process works:

- When a DWG file from another application is opened in AutoCAD Freestyle, the original objects cannot be edited. That is, all geometry and text are on a locked layer. This helps to preserve the integrity of the original drawing when it is opened in AutoCAD Freestyle.

- AutoCAD Freestyle only opens one paper space layout at a time. If a DWG file created in another application contains multiple paper space layouts, the user can select a single layout to use. The other layouts are retained in the file and can be opened later in other applications as well as in AutoCAD Freestyle.

- If the DWG file from another application contains only model space information, AutoCAD Freestyle displays all model space objects in its workspace.

- Because AutoCAD Freestyle is a 2D application, DWG files created in other applications that contain 3D views may be somewhat limited in their functionality when opened and viewed in AutoCAD Freestyle.

- All text, geometry, and fill elements added to a file using AutoCAD Freestyle are automatically placed on new, AutoCAD Freestyle-specific layers.

If you are an AutoCAD (or other DWG-based software application) user, and you plan to send a DWG file to a user who is unfamiliar with DWG drawings, the best approach is to create a DWG file with a single viewport in a paper space layout.

To learn more about working with DWG files from other applications in AutoCAD Freestyle, you can read an article online at www.autodesk.com/autocadfreestyle-essentials.