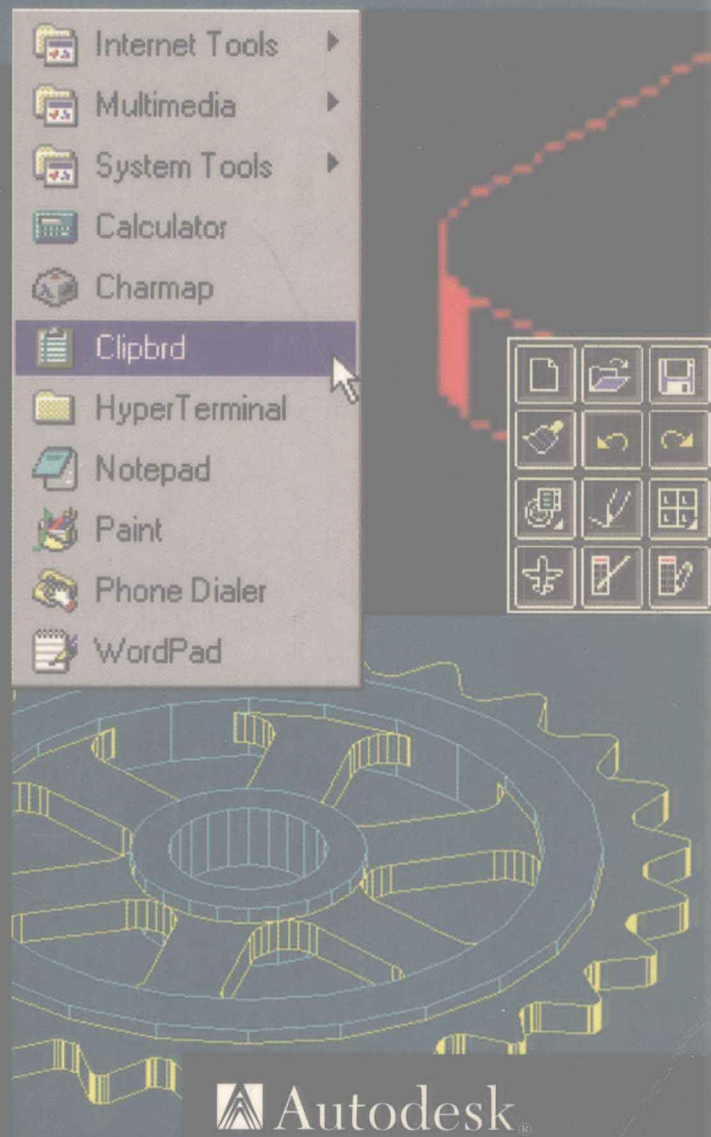
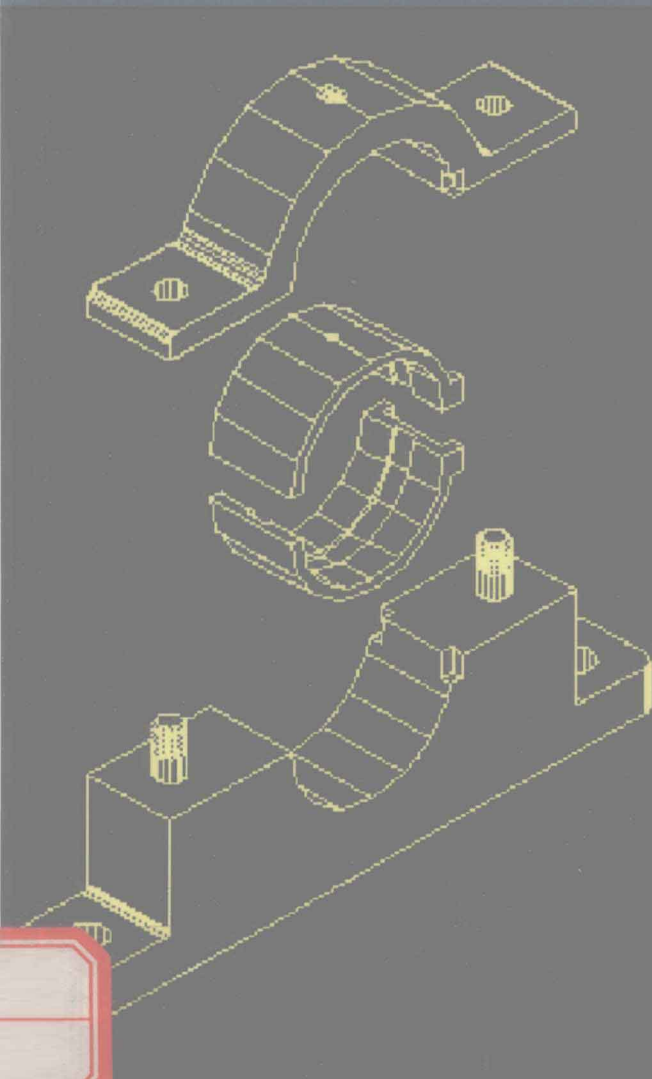
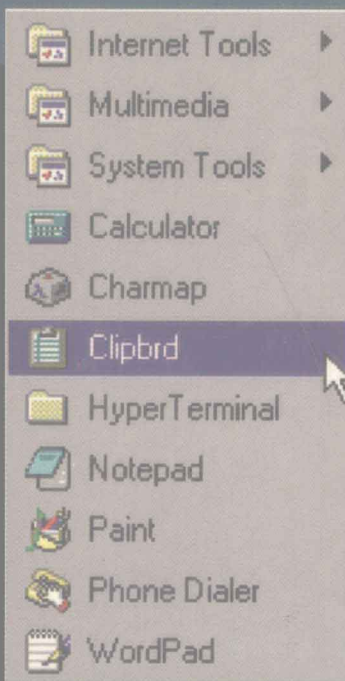


AUTOCAD LT

for Windows 95



 Autodesk®
Registered Developer

A Y a r w o o d

An Introduction to AutoCAD LT for Windows 95

A. Yarwood



Autodesk.

Registered Developer



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Preface

AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 (Release 3) is primarily a 2D computer-aided design (CAD) software package which operates under Windows 95 or Windows NT. As with other applications operating within the Windows environment, screen type, settings and colours can be altered. Similarly it incorporates features such as: Object Linking Embedding (OLE), allowing AutoCAD drawings to be included in documents created in applications such as word processors and DTP applications; the ability for AutoCAD drawings to be saved as bitmap (*.bmp and *.wmp) files and to be transferred via the Windows Clipboard to other applications.

The package has a limited three-dimensioned (3D) capability in that, while not being able to create 3D meshes or faces, the creation of 3D lines, polylines and 3D elevations is possible. 3D solid models created in AutoCAD 11, 12 or 13 can be loaded into AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 to be viewed from a variety of angles and to be partly edited.

Unlike AutoCAD proper, the package does not include languages such as AutoLisp or any of the files associated with the AutoCAD Development System (ADS).

Taking into consideration that the vast majority of drawings in mechanical, electrical and electronics engineering, as well as in building and architecture, are two-dimensional (2D), AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 represents a major step forward for Autodesk.

The package is suitable for industrial and commercial use as a supplementary package to AutoCAD Release 13. Of particular interest to the author is that, because of its comparatively low cost, the purchase of AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 is possible by schools and colleges (within their limited budgets), allowing them to run courses aimed at AutoCAD proper.

Hardware and software requirements

PC fitted with a 486 or Pentium CPU, or similar.

If the CPU is a 486 SX, then an 80387 co-processor must be fitted.

A minimum of 16 Mbytes RAM.

At least 30 Mbytes of free hard disk space to allow AutoCAD LT files to be installed, with a further 32 Mbytes available.

VGA or, preferably, higher display monitor and video card.

A mouse.

Note: No hardware lock (dongle) is necessary.

Windows 95 or Windows NT operating system.

Aims of the book

To provide a text covering sufficient details of the use of AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 to make it suitable for students in further or higher education, or for CAD beginners wishing to learn how to use AutoCAD.

A. Yarwood
Salisbury 1996

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A. Yarwood is a Registered Developer and a Master Developer with Autodesk Ltd.



Registered Developer

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Introduction

Equipment for working with AutoCAD LT Release 3 Software

Release 3 of AutoCAD LT runs within Microsoft Windows 95 or Windows NT. Thus two items of software are necessary to operate this release of AutoCAD LT:

The AutoCAD LT Release 3 software, which can be purchased either on 3.5 inch floppy disks or on a CD-ROM.
Microsoft Windows 95 or Windows NT.

Hardware

The minimum hardware requirements for running AutoCAD LT R3 are:

PC fitted with a 486 or Pentium CPU, or similar.
If the CPU is a 486 SX, then an 80387 co-processor must be fitted.
A minimum of 16 Mbytes RAM.
At least 30 Mbytes of free hard disk space to allow AutoCAD LT files to be installed, with a further 32 Mbytes available.
VGA or, preferably, higher display monitor and video card.
A mouse. A three-button mouse or a digitising table and puck can also be used, but this book only deals with a two-button mouse as a digitiser.
Note: No hardware lock (dongle) is necessary.

Figure 1.1 shows a typical setup for running AutoCAD LT Release 3. The computer shown has a desk-type case. The VDU shown has a 17 inch screen, but if costs allow, it is preferable to work with any CAD package on a larger screen – 20 inch or larger. The more common 14 inch screen can also be used if that is all that is available.

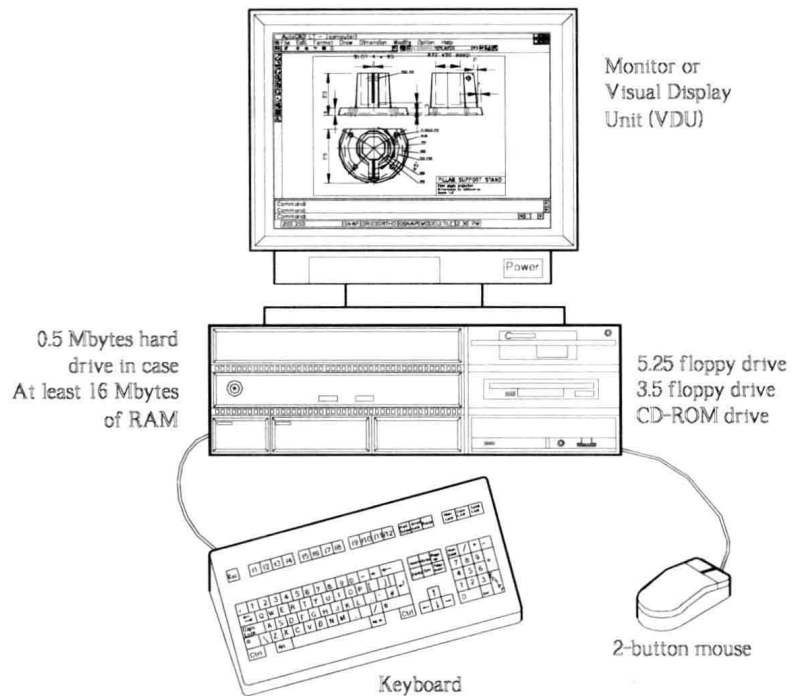


Fig. 1.1 Hardware setup for AutoCAD LT Release 3

Some terms used in this chapter

The following terms will be used when describing some of the actions when using a two-button mouse:

Cursor: When in the graphics area of the AutoCAD LT screen the cursors are a pair of hair lines, usually a vertical and a horizontal line. As the mouse is moved so the hair lines move in response. The intersection of the lines is the *pick* point. When the mouse movement takes the cursor into the menu bar or on to a toolbar, the cursor changes to an arrow form.

Left-click: Move the cursor on to a feature and press and release the left-hand button of the mouse.

Drag: Move the cursor under mouse control on to a feature, hold down the left-hand button and move the mouse. Some features can be moved by this dragging.

Dock: Toolbars can be *dragged* to either side or to the top or to the bottom of the window. They will then assume the position of the edge – vertical or horizontal and fit right up to the edge, where they will remain until dragged back into the graphics area.

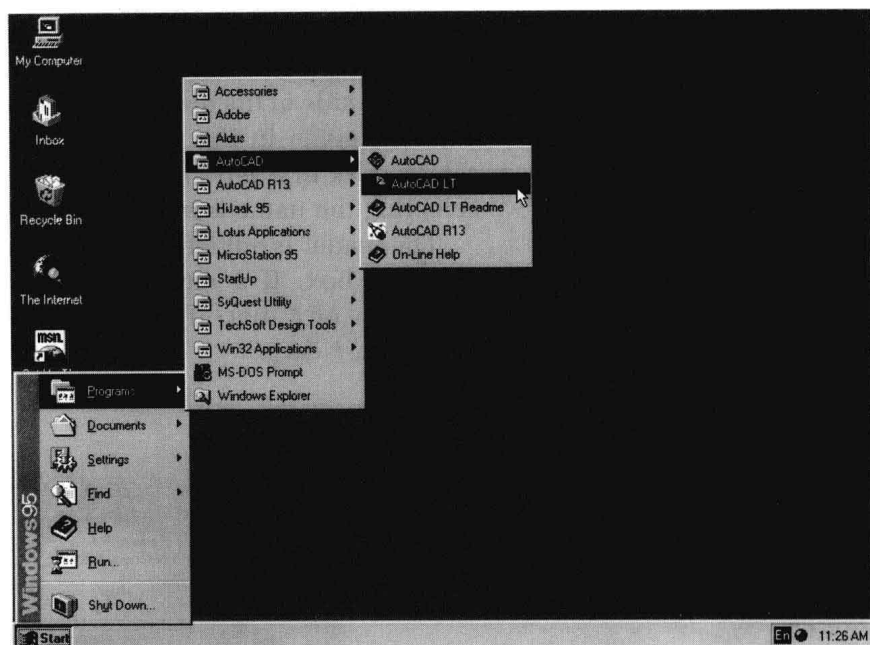


Fig. 1.2 The Windows 95 desktop, showing the **Start** button and the **AutoCAD** icons

Starting up AutoCAD LT Release 3

When a computer running under Windows 95 is switched on, the first window to appear is the desktop window, which includes the Windows 95 **Start** button at the bottom left of the screen. To start up AutoCAD LT R3, *left-click* on the **Start** button, which brings up a list. Another *left-click* on **Programs** in this list, followed by another *left-click* on **AutoCAD**, brings up another list showing the AutoCAD icons and program names (Fig. 1.2). Yet another *left-click* on **AutoCAD LT** and an AutoCAD LT Release 3 icon will appear on screen. After a delay of a few seconds, the AutoCAD LT R3 window opens showing the **Start Up** dialogue box (Fig. 1.3).

Note

In the example of the AutoCAD icon list shown in Fig. 1.2 it will be noted that there are three AutoCAD programs loaded on my computer – the top icon shows **AutoCAD**. This is Release 12 for Windows. Also shown is AutoCAD R13. Two icons are LT 3 icons and it is the one labelled **AutoCAD LT** which is used to start up the program. I also have R13 loaded in a different form as will be seen by reference to Fig. 1.2. On the computer being used by the reader the **AutoCAD** icon in the **Program** menu may read **AutoCAD LT** from which only the two icons **AutoCAD LT** and **AutoCAD LT Readme** may be available.