DoubleCAD™ Advantages

As Compared to AutoCAD LT® (2D)

	DoubleCAD™ XT PRO v3	DoubleCAD™ XT v3	AutoCAD LT® 2011
Price	**£425**	**FREE**	**£1,000+**
Full-featured 2D Drawing, Editing, and Modifying Arc tools, Array Copy, Array Fit, Chamfer tool, Circle tools, Construction line tool, Copy tool, Diameter dimension, Dimension tools, Ellipse tools, Fillet tool, Gradients, Hatches, Line tool, Linear dimension, Modify tools, Multi-line text, Points, Polygon tool, Polyline tool, Radial Copy, Radial Fit, Radius Dimension, Rectangle tool, Single line text, Snap tool, Spline tool, Tables, Trim tool, etc. All the tools you need to create professional 2D designs for any engineering, architectural, or precision design discipline.	✔	✔	✔
Based on CAD Code with Millions of Copies Sold Worldwide	✔	✔	✔
USABILITY			
Supports RedSdk Accelerated Graphic Performance for GPU Cards up to 60x faster Speed dramatically increases in wireframe and 2D mode. Larger file optimized for smooth panning, orbiting, and zooming.	✔		
Familiar CAD Environment Familiar menu bar, menu items, drawing tools, edit and modify tools, and command line.	✔	✔	✔
Familiar Intelligent Cursor Data entry points and feedback are visible next to the cursor so there's no need to look down at the command line. Speeds editing and	✔	✔	✔
Easy Polyline Editing Easily add, move, delete and modify nodes of polylines, arcs splines and Beziers with the Edit tool.	✔	✔	2011 only
Advanced Handle-Based Editing Instant access to sizing, scaling, moving, rotating, and positioning of any selected object without having to explicitly start other tools.	✔	✔	
Smart Dimension Tool Rapidly apply the appropriate dimension for the object type or for groups of objects. The Smart Dimension tool automatically selects the appropriate dimension for the type of entity (i.e., arc, line, circle) being dimensioned. No need to have to go back to the Dimension menu to select a different dimension type each time a different type of object needs dimensioning.	✔	✔	
Object Snap Prioritization Customize relative prioritization of snaps, minimizing tedious manual control.	✔	✔	
One-Step Splitting of Objects Conveniently split objects (including circles) in one step.	✔	✔	
Input Multiple Unit Types On-The-Fly Draw using a wide range of standard units of measure at anytime without having to changes options. Simply specify the unit as you input the values.	✔	✔	
True Units Retained Between Drawings with Different Unit Settings Opening or inserting a drawing created in inches into a drawing created in meters – or any other combination of units – requires no resizing or rescaling.	✔	✔	
Explode Viewports Convert the visible geometry in your viewports into flattened, editable 2D geometry within your layouts, even hidden line views. Your conceptual views are also converted into standard bitmaps.	✔		
COMPATIBILITY			
Open and Save As .DWG (AutoCAD® Release 14 to 2011) Save ACA/ADT-compatible objects and parameters for intelligent use in AutoCAD and AutoCAD LT. (DoubleCAD .DWG files with ACA/ADT-compatible objects can brought into AutoCAD products and retain their self-healing properties. For example, bring a DoubleCAD .DWG file with walls and blocks into AutoCAD LT and walls continue to self-heal within AutoCAD LT as those blocks are moved. DoubleCAD is a great way to head-start your project.)	✔	✔	✔
Open .SKP (Google™ SketchUp™) DoubleCAD imports all visible geometry, layers, and components, converts all components to DoubleCAD blocks to optimize drawing performance, and creates a paperspace from each SketchUp scene, thereby saving time by automatically creating viewports with the correct layer visibility and 2D or perspective view properties. These paperspace views are also immediately ready for dimensioning and annotation. Develop construction documents quickly from SketchUp 6 and 7 models.	✔	✔	
Open and Edit .DWF Unique and powerful because this is a read-only format.	✔	✔	
Open and/or Save As .IGES, .3DM (Rhino®), **.3DS** (3ds Max®), **.STL, .SAT, .STEP, .OBJ, & .DAE** (Collada) Mechanical drawings can be brought in for advanced detailing projects or translations from almost any MCAD application. Beyond .DWG, DoubleCAD is an excellent companion to SolidWorks, SolidEdge, Pro/E, and other CAD programs.	✔		
File Conversion Tool for Batch File Conversion	✔		
Import and Open File Formats	30	8	4
Export, Save As, and Publish File Formats	30	7	6
CUSTOMIZATION			
Fully Customizable User Interface and Preferences Change hot-key settings, menu items, toolbars, etc. Customize the program to maximize your drawing efficiency.	✔	✔	✔
Double Click Customization Specify custom function for object types when double-clicked	✔	✔	
Ruby Scripting Ruby is a programming language that anyone can use to write plugins (scripts) for DoubleCAD XT Pro. Ruby Scripts can add tools, simplify multi-step operations, and otherwise improve the way you work with DoubleCAD.	✔		
Software Development Kit Supports the development of new tools, functions, and behaviors for use in DoubleCAD XT Pro. . Specialized tools for vertical applications can be created and added. Even commercial plug-in applications may be developed and sold.	✔		
ARCHITECTURAL			
Self-Healing Walls (ACA/ADT Compatible) Self-healing walls (straight and curved, ends and intersections) are a joy to use when creating floorplans. With self-healing walls, there is no longer a need to re-edit the wall after inserting a window or door, as the wall will automatically heal to incorporate these architectural objects. Healing also works when these objects are removed from a wall.	✔	✔	
Self-Trimming Blocks Create any custom block such as a revolving door or column block and place into a wall object. The block will automatically clean-up (trim or heal) when placed, moved, or removed from the wall.	✔	✔	
Self-Aligning Blocks All blocks are correctly aligned when inserted into DoubleCAD's ADT-compatible walls. (SEE ABOVE VIDEO.)	✔	✔	
Intelligent (Parametric), Attribute-Rich Architectural Objects: DoubleCAD's Architectural Objects are all fully parametric, meaning that all geometric (i.e. height, width, depth) and style (shape, type, material) attributes can be easily adjusted when the object is selected. Doors and windows (wall-aligning), stairs, and rails can be further customized with application of materials to the different parts of each object.	✔		
Component Walls	✔		
Bottom wall modifier	✔		
Doors	✔		
Windows	✔		
Door and Window muntins	✔		
Roofs	✔		
Slabs	✔		
Stairs	✔		
Rails	✔		
Insert a window into a wall and adjust	Seconds	Seconds	Minutes
Change a single door into a double door and adjust	Seconds	Minutes	Minutes
Profiles for Doors/Windows for custom shapes	✔		
Architectural Sections/Elevations (3D-to-2D Documentation) Enormous time savings in 3D-to-2D conversion time. Architectural objects are ADT compatible. They include a full set of 3D properties that can be fully exposed and utilized for creating 2D elevations and sectional views.	✔		
Architectural Markers (Self Incrementing) Insert markers to number objects such as rooms, doors or windows in your architectural plans. Great for creating legends, call-outs, or simply mapping points and adding notes to your drawings. Four different marker styles are included.	✔		
Schedule Tool and Wizard Create a schedule displaying the number of Doors and Windows used in you drawing. The Wizards allows you to create and fill the schedule table with drawing information faster and easier. Adding a window or door into a drawing dynamically updates the schedule. User has complete control over how text will appear.	✔		
Style Manager Allows for complete design control of the style of each of the components of your architectural drawing; including dimensions, text, and all architectural object types. The Style Manager includes pre-defined, fully parametric styles for doors, windows, walls, dimensions, schedules, tables and text. These pre-defined styles can be customized to your preferences and new styles can be easily added.	✔		
MECHANICAL			
2D Geometric and Dimensional Constraints Variational sketching allows for quick "what if" design choice iterations. Draw quickly and clean up by forcing design rules on the drawing. Use formulaic driving dimensions. Includes new, powerful pattern constraints.	✔		
Time to rework or perform "What If" iterations	Seconds	Minutes & Hours	Minutes & Hours
Gear Contour Tool Automatically generate gears. Specify the number of teeth, diametral, and circular pitch, and pressure angle, and then with a single click, your gear is drawn. Both simple polylines and polyline with arc versions can be created.	✔		
Surface Roughness Tool Parametric symbol used to describe surface finish requirements when machining the surface of an object. Parameters that can be defined include amount of stock to be removed when finishing, lay type, maximum roughness spacing, cutoff rating, waviness height, and rating.	✔		
Weld Symbol Tool Parametric symbol used to fully describe the welding requirements of each weld in your design. Parameters include: Finish, Contour, Groove Angle, Root Opening, 17 different Arrow and Other side symbols, and Tail Reference designation.	✔		
Adhesive Symbol Tool	✔		
GENERAL PURPOSE CAPABILITIES			
Xrefs External references, or "xrefs," are one of the of the keys to efficient drafting, especially of building plans. Xrefs help you minimize duplication of geometry, thereby making editing more efficient and helping to keep drawings in synch. Xrefs also can help keep file sizes down when you use the same large components (e.g., elaborate title blocks) in multiple drawings. Also, in a multidisciplinary work environment, xrefs allow concurrent sharing of data. (Note: DoubleCAD XT Pro allows xrefs to be created from any supported file format. Xrefs whose sections are detailed using the Drafting Palette remain associative when the original file is changed and the xref is refreshed.)	✔	Import but not create	✔
Transparent and Bitmap Fills Create custom gradient fills, hatch patterns, and bitmap fills. Layering transparent fills is unique and dramatically improves presentation of design intent.	✔	✔	2011 only
Detail Section Clip 2D section of your drawing and insert and scale the clip for detail views	✔		
Hide Objects Regardless of Layer Ability to hide objects without layer dependency.	✔	✔	2011 only
Draw Order by Layer Layers can be assigned a draw order numerically.	✔	✔	
Bezier Curves Create and edit Bezier curves easily. Using weighted Bezier handles, it is simple to create Beziers with smooth and cusped nodes for more realistic organic curves.	✔	✔	
Variables Palette Define variables with preset values, formulas and relationships that can be used while drawing and editing objects.	✔	✔	
Enhanced Format Painter DoubleCAD's enhanced Format Painter matches more than 2x as many object properties as AutoCAD's Match Properties.	✔	✔	
Drawing Compare Instantly compare two DoubleCAD, .DWG, .TCW, .JPG, .BMP, or .PNG drawings for all visual differences.	✔		
Hatch Pattern Creator Allows you to easily create, modify, and combine hatch patterns with control over scaling, orientation, and position. Combined with automatic detection of repeating patterns, making new hatch patterns is now quick and easy.	✔		
Brush Style Editor Brush Style Editor for combining, layering, and creating new gradient and bitmap-fills types (even hatch patterns).	✔		
Variable Driven Parametric Constraints The DoubleCAD XT Pro Variable Palette can in conjunction with constraints, creating driving dimensions. When Auto Add Constraints is turned on, the Smart Dimension tool, or other standard dimension tools, create variables that are inserted into the Variable Palette and which are associated with the objects' dimensions inside DoubleCAD. These variables become driving dimensions. The palette is a bit like a standard spreadsheet, and formulas may be used to define relationships between different variables. A number of mathematical functions are also available to calculate dimensions.	✔		
Embed Image Files in Drawings Raster images can be embedded within the native dCD file format.	✔		
Package Related Dependencies for Encapsulation (eTransmit)			✔
Drafting & Detailing Palette	✔		
Powerful detailing and drafting tools. Use surface models or ACIS® solid models to create nested, associative sections that can be dimensioned and hatched in paperspace (i.e., cross sections of cross sections).			
Drafting Palette details of xrefs are associative when changes are refreshed.	✔		
Flatten 3D to 2D Views	✔		
Rapidly update construction documents and part detail drawings as a companion to the CAD Designer's or Architect's changes regardless of their design application if the file is saved in any importable formats.	✔		
Quickly create horizontal or vertical sections of 3D architectural objects to communicate details and design intent.	✔		
Pre-defined settings for generating horizontal and vertical sections and sectional views of imported 3D models.	✔		
Parametric Part Manager Create reusable 2D and 3D parts that are parametrically defined. Assigned parameters become a part of the object's properties.	✔		
Dynamic Blocks Create 2D blocks only.			✔
Image Manager (preload, organize and manage raster images) Manage all bit-mapped (raster) images associated with your vector drawing. Images loaded into the Image Manager can be automatically embedded or extracted from your drawing. Image visualization properties can be defined, including rendering output engine and filtering quality.	✔		
Trace Image-to-Vector Tool Raster-to-vector conversion of bit mapped images to vector images.	✔		
3D Perspective and Ortho Views Enhanced presentation quality.	✔	✔	✔
Database Tools Attach data to any object, extract data from any object, organize, compile output to tables, spreadsheets or databases.	✔		✔
SUPPORT			
Free Forum	✔	✔	✔
Includes 12-Month Premium Email	✔		
Includes 12-Month Premium Phone	✔		
Extend Functionality Through the Use of Plug-in's	✔	✔	

** Yellow indicates high-priority wish list items not available in AutoCAD LT.*