

"AutoCAD 2D eBook" review by Elaine Penner is licensed under a CC BY 4.0 International licence.

Note that this review was for a different version of the book. Only the publishing platform changed, which affected the style and formatting of the book. The content itself is the same. As such, this review still applies to the new version of the book.

Review of *AutoCAD 2D eBook*

(aka *Introduction to Drafting and AutoCAD 2D*)

Date submitted

2021-06-15 18:49:38

Reviewer Information

Textbook that was reviewed

AutoCAD 2D eBook - No longer open for review
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For what level would this textbook be appropriate?
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First Year

My name

Elaine Penner

My title/position

Instructor

My institution

Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology

Comprehensiveness

The text covers all areas and ideas of the subject appropriately and provides an effective index and/or glossary.

The book covers the majority introductory AutoCAD commands. The step by step instructions are easy to follow and the index, while somewhat wordy, gives a good explanation of what you will find in each chapter. Unfortunately, the book uses some very dated methods, and covers the commands like direct input for lines much later in the book and only covers it briefly. Due to this, I would say this book is missing the mark on appropriately covering current drafting methods for the modern user.

How do you rate the book's overall comprehensiveness?

2

Content Accuracy

Content, including diagrams and other supplementary material, is accurate, error-free, and unbiased.
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The exercises provided with this book are accurate and well put together. They are clear and would make great exercise files for any classroom. The content of the step by step instructions, while thorough, use very dated methods for drafting, although they are technically functional and correct.
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Overall, how do you rate the accuracy of the content?

4

Relevance/Longevity

Content is up-to-date, but not in a way that will quickly make the text obsolete within a short period of time. The text is written and/or arranged in such a way that necessary updates will be relatively easy and straightforward to implement.

The content in this book is very dated, and I have concerns with the initial module which has students changing AutoCAD settings to Classic Menu bars and saving profiles. Throughout the book coordinate entry is used, the first instance of using ortho entry, or mouse directed input for line work doesn't occur until module 28, and then the book reverts to coordinate entry in module 29. There is no discussion in the book about the multiple methods for entering lines and the methods used for the line command and constructing objects are time consuming. There are much more efficient and up to date methods for entering AutoCAD commands. Unfortunately I find this book to be extremely dated, while images have been updated to match newer versions of AutoCAD the content reads from the mid 1990s. I think this book could certainly be updated by reworking the step by step instructions to use direct entry input and mouse commands. The exercise files are useful and could be reused with little to no modification.

Overall, how do you rate the relevance/longevity of the book?

2

Clarity

The text is written in lucid, accessible prose, and provides adequate context for any jargon/technical terminology used.

The book is very well written, the steps and instructions are extremely clear and concise. I really appreciate the authors attention to detail and well written directions. There are Authors notes and additional tips throughout which are very helpful and exceptionally well done.

Overall, how do you rate the clarity of the book?

5

Consistency

The text is internally consistent in terms of terminology and framework.

The book is very consistent and maintains its terminology and framework through the entirety of the book.

How do you rate the overall consistency of the text?

5

Modularity

The text is easily and readily divisible into smaller reading sections that can be assigned at different points within the course (i.e., enormous blocks of text without subheadings should be avoided). The text should not be overly self-referential, and should be easily reorganized and realigned with various subunits of a course without presenting too much disruption to the reader.

Yes, the book has very well divided modules, that could be interchanged at the discretion of an instructor.

Overall, how do you rate the modularity of the text?

5

Organization/Structure/Flow

The topics in the text are presented in a logical, clear fashion.

The topics follow a logical order, with the option to interchange or eliminate modules without issue.

Overall, how do you rate the organization/structure/flow of the text?

5

Interface

The text is free of significant interface issues, including navigation problems, distortion of images/charts, and any other display features that may distract or confuse the reader.

The book looks a little dated, however the writing is clear and the images are very clean, clear and large enough to view.

Overall, how do you rate the textbook's interface?

4

Grammatical/Spelling Errors

The text contains no grammatical or spelling errors.

I did not find any errors in this text.

How do you rate the grammar and spelling of the text?

5

Diversity and Inclusion

The text reflects diversity and inclusion regarding culture, gender, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, education, religion. It does not include insensitive or offensive language in these areas.

No issues.

Overall, how do you rate the diversity and inclusion of the text?

5

Recommendation

Do you recommend this book? If not, why?

I would recommend this book for its exercise files only. I would not have my students download the book itself. The dated entry methods for commands is not valuable and would cause issues for anyone going out into industry to work.